

Plant of the Month, October 2021

Clematis tibetana v *vernayi* ? - by Joan McCaughey



At present (early October) a trellis in our garden is covered with dozens of dusky gold speckled clematis flowers intermingled with glistening silky seed heads.

Near Muktinath in Nepal in 2012 I admired a plant identified then as *Clematis tibetana* var *vernayi* growing wild. As I always enjoyed trying to grow plants I have seen on my travels, between 2016 – 2018 I sowed seeds of several clematis including *C. tibetana*, *C. ladakhiana*, and *C tibetana* ex 'Glasnevin Dusk' (the last collected by Seamus O'Brien). Germination was good with several plants given away and a collection planted under the trellis. So I cannot be sure of the exact identity of the plant pictured here but it is very vigorous, being cut down to a few inches in late spring. While not a showy plant, its many flowers make a good background to other plants with an autumnal hue.



Clematis vernayi in Nepal at 3200m

