

***Liatris cylindracea* – Dwarf Blazingstar**

COMMON NAME: Dwarf blazingstar

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Liatris cylindracea*

FLOWER: One or more heads, each made up of many magenta colored flowers. Each flower has 5 small lobes that curl outward.

BLOOMING PERIOD: July to August

SIZE: 8-24 inches

BEHAVIOR: This is the smallest of the blazingstar plants found in our area.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Needs dry soil and full sun. It will not grow in rich moist mesic soil. It is found on steep limestone slopes with dry, shallow soil and dry, sandy or rocky prairies.

NATURAL RANGE: Western New York and southern Ontario to southern Ohio, west to Minnesota and south to northern Arkansas. In Wisconsin it is found mostly in the southern part and along the Mississippi River.

SPECIAL FEATURES: This is an excellent plant for rock gardens. The flowers attract butterflies and hummingbirds. It can be used as a cut flower.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant only in full sun and dry soil. It can be difficult to establish because it needs to be protected from small animals.

COMPANION PLANTS: Little bluestem, prairie dropseed, white aster, shooting star, birdsfoot violet, old-field goldenrod.