

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



***Vernonia fasciculata* – Ironweed**

COMMON NAMES: Ironweed, prairie ironweed, smooth ironweed

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Vernonia fasciculata* Named for William Vernon (1666-1715) who was an English botanist who collected plants in Maryland. *Fasciculata* means “bundles”.

FLOWER COLOR: Violet-purple

BLOOMING PERIOD: July to September

SIZE: 2 to 6 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: Erect plant

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Full sun in wet to moderate moisture. Found in prairies, meadows, pastures with sandy, loamy soil. Too aggressive for a small area. Needs competition.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Beautiful flowers attracting butterflies and bees.

SUGGESTED CARE: Easy to grow, but a tall plant that needs lots of space. In a garden the flower heads should be cut after blooming to keep the seeds from dispersing over the area.

NATURAL RANGE: New York, Ohio west to Montana, south to Kentucky, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Colorado. Mostly in southwestern Wisconsin.

COMPANION PLANTS: Cord grass, blue joint grass, Joe-pye weed, blue vervain, boneset, Culver’s root.