



***Symphyotrichum oolentangiense* – Sky-Blue Aster**

COMMON NAME: Sky-Blue Aster or Azure Aster

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Symphyotrichum oolentangiense* – the name comes from the Greek words *symphyssis* “junction” and *trichos* “hair” plus the Oolentangy River in Ohio.

FLOWER COLOR: Slightly purplish blue or azure blue

BLOOMING PERIOD: Late August to mid-October or a severe frost

SIZE: Medium-sized aster between 2 to 3 feet tall.

BEHAVIOR: Spreads by seeds. May become considerably taller under cultivation.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Grows on moderately dry to dry prairies and meadows with sandy, loamy soil. Requires full sun.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Attractive flowers. Foliage turns reddish in fall; seeds are used by juncos and other winter birds.

SUGGESTED CARE: Water well during first season. Be sure to plant in full sun.

NATURAL RANGE: Throughout Wisconsin, western New York and southern Ontario westward to Minnesota, south to Georgia, Louisiana and Texas.

COMPANION PLANTS: little bluestem, beach wormwood, butterflyweed, flowering spurge, June grass, rough blazingstar, showy goldenrod and spiderwort.