



***Eutrochium purpureum** – Sweet Joe-Pye Weed**

COMMON NAME: Sweet Joe Pye Weed

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Eutrochium purpureum* comes from the Greek word “trocho” meaning wheel-like, referring to the whorled leaves and “eu” that means well or truly. *Purpureum* refers to the color of the stem nodes.

FLOWER: This plant has compound flowers that form a dome-like cluster with pale pink flowers that may be vanilla scented.

BLOOMING PERIOD: mid-summer to early fall

SIZE: The plant is 3 to 7 feet tall, needing about 3 feet of space

BEHAVIOR: This plant needs space. It is erect and forms clumps. The roots are shallow.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Light shade to partial sun with moist soil. It is found in woodlands, savannas, borders and thickets.

NATURAL RANGE: Most of eastern North America, from Ontario south to Florida and west to Oklahoma. In Wisconsin it is native to the southern third of the state.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The tall stems have whorls of 3-4 dull green leaves that are about 6” long. Stems have a purple hue where the leaves branch. Attracts butterflies and bees. The flowers last about one month and make a good cut flower. Native Americans used this plant to cure fevers.

SUGGESTED CARE: It is recommended to cut the stems to the ground in late winter. It needs adequate water and not too much sun.

COMPANION PLANTS: Plants from Wisconsin’s wetland communities such as marsh aster, marsh milkweed, large goldenrod, wild bergamot, coneflowers, phlox, sunflowers, daylilies, grasses

*The genus and species of this plant were formerly identified as *Eupatorium purpureum*.