



photo: Dan Jaffe

NEW ENGLAND ASTER

Symphotrichum novae-angliae

This pollinator magnet produces a riot of daisy-like blue to purple, and sometimes pink, flowers with yellow centers from late summer to early fall.

Growing Information

Sunlight	Full sun
Soil Type	Prefers moist, well-drained soils
Height	3–6'
Flowering calendar	August, September

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves	Host plant for 10 butterfly and moth species
Flowers	Since it blooms late in the season, it provides a critical fall nectar source for monarchs and many other pollinators
Fruit	No
Seeds	No

Host to 10 caterpillar species:

(common names) Aster Flowerhead Caterpillar; Aster-head Phaneta; Essex Phaneta; Hoffman's Cochlid Moth; Coleophora triplicis; Goldenrod Gall Moth; Speyer's Cucullia; Clemens' Clepsid Moth; Pale-Banded Dart; Blackberry Looper Moth

Benefits for People

- Used by Wabanaki peoples for many medicinal purposes, including treatments for pain, diarrhea, fever, and to revive unconscious people

Natural Habitat

- Meadows

