



photos: Arthur Haines

# BLUE WOOD ASTER

*Symphyotrichum cordifolium*

A lovely keystone species which can thrive in a variety of habitats from meadows to woodlands or the spaces in between. It spreads vigorously by seed, so it's best suited for naturalized landscapes. Also called Heart-leaved Aster.

## Growing Information

**Sunlight** Part shade, part sun  
**Soil Type** Sand/loam, dry, moist, well-drained, acidic-neutral  
**Height** 1-4'  
**Flowering calendar** August-October

## Benefits for People

### Natural Habitat

Woodlands, grasslands, forest edges

## Benefits for Wildlife

**Leaves** Yes, caterpillars  
**Flowers** Yes, pollinators  
**Fruit**  
**Seeds** Yes, songbirds and small mammals

### Host to 10 caterpillar species

(common names) including: Aster Flowerhead Caterpillar; Aster-head Phaneta; Hoffman's Cochlid Moth; Essex Phaneta

