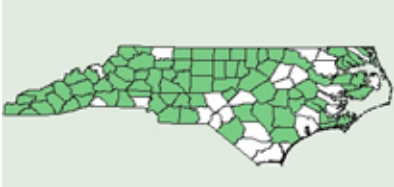


IRONWEED

Vernonia noveboracensis

A must for the butterfly garden. Ironweed has showy purple flowers that butterflies can't resist. A bit of irony: Extinct in the state for which it is named.



Description: A perennial with showy purple flowers. It gets its name from the stout stems that often persist throughout the winter.

Natural Habitat: Moist thickets and stream edges, pastures and roadsides along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Conservation Status: Extinct in New York, of special concern in Kentucky

Size: 3-6' high

Growth Rate: Fast.

Light: Full sun to part shade.

Planting and Care: Thrives in average to moist soil. Drought tolerant

Ornamental Value: With its tall stems covered in numerous willowy leaves, it bears eye-catching intense purple flowers in the late summer that are particularly effective as cut flowers.

Landscape Usage: Mass along borders and in butterfly gardens.

Wildlife Benefits: Flowers attract bees, butterflies.