

# ***BLAZING STAR***

*Liatris spicata*

**A handsome purple spiked flower that is very hardy once established. Also known as Gray Feather.**



**Description:** Widely grown as a commercial cut flower, this is selected from one of our native prairie wildflowers. Plants form a low clump of grassy looking leaves, bearing tall spikes of bright magenta-purple flowers beginning in midsummer.

**Natural Habitat:** In the coastal plain region in moist pine barrens and savannahs.

**Size:** 3' tall

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Light:** Full sun

**Planting and Care:** This plant does not like soggy soil during the winter so good drainage is extremely important. Once established, it is fairly drought tolerant. It will develop mildew if it doesn't have sufficient sunlight and air circulation, so be sure to give it plenty of room. Clumps may be easily divided every 3 to 4 years in the spring. Plants may need to be staked.

**Ornamental Value:** Striking pale purple flowers.

**Landscape Usage:** Is especially striking in a sunny border, in meadows of mass planting or in cut floral arrangements.

**Wildlife Benefits:** Attracts bees and butterflies.