

Smooth blue aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*): This aster has beautiful flower heads, attractive foliage and erect stems that provide a color boost at the end of the growing season. Nectar and pollen attract butterflies, moths, and bees. Like goldenrod species it is an important late season food source, especially to the migrating monarch butterfly. Birds also eat their seeds. It is also a larval host for the Pearl crescent butterfly. Blooms August through October.

