

marsh blazing-star

Liatris spicata

Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Asterales
Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

FEATURES

A single plant may attain a height of up to 60 inches. This member of the aster family has unbranched, smooth stems. The leaves are thin, much like a blade of grass. Flowers are blue-purple to red-pink and attach directly to the stem. Bracts below flower heads are sticky, long, flat and purple or have purple edges.

BEHAVIORS

Marsh blazing-star is found statewide in prairies, wet meadows and sandy soil. Flower heads are produced from July through September. Pollinators are attracted to the nectar and pollen from this species.

ILLINOIS RANGE



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Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; gravel prairie; sand prairie