

blazing-star

Liatris spp.

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

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

FEATURES

Blazing-star is a perennial herb. Several species of blazing-star grow in Illinois. The plant's alternate leaves are hairy, long and thin, up to one-half inch wide. The upright, unbranched stem is hairy and two to five feet tall. Its tubular, tufted flowers are purple. These five-lobed flowers are clustered into short heads that are further crowded into spikes. A spike may be one and one-half feet long. Its one-seeded, dry fruit does not split open at maturity and is elongated, with a tuft of hairs at the tip.

BEHAVIORS

Blazing-star may be found throughout Illinois. It grows in dry to moist prairies and dry woods. Flowers are produced from June through October.



prairie blazing-star

ILLINOIS RANGE



flower



Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie