

rough blazing-star *Liatris aspera*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Asterales

Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

A single plant may attain a height of up to 30 inches. This member of the aster family has unbranched stems with alternate leaves. The leaves decrease in size from the bottom of the stem to the top. Both the leaves and stem are hairy. Flowers are blue-purple to red-pink and develop in clusters of 25-40 with the clusters either attached directly to the stem or on a very short stalk. Bracts below the flower heads are rounded with definite, curled margins.

BEHAVIORS

Rough blazing-star is found statewide in black soil prairies and savannas. Flowers are produced from July through September. Pollinators are attracted to the nectar and pollen from this species.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; dolomite prairie; gravel prairie; hill prairie; shrub prairie

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