

smooth aster

Symphyotrichum laeve

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 36 inches. This member of the aster family has smooth stems with a blue-green appearance to the stems and leaves. Leaves clasp the stem. The flower heads have violet-to-blue ray flowers.

BEHAVIORS

Smooth aster is found in prairies, roadsides, fens and on rock ledges statewide. Flowers are produced from July through October. Pollinators are attracted to the pollen and nectar of the flowers.

ILLINOIS RANGE





Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

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