Native Plant Spotlight: New York Aster

by Lyn Chimera

Enjoy beautiful purple against red-and-yellow fall leaves this season with the New York aster (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*), a native flower found across northeastern North America.

In the wild, New York aster is found from seaside marshes to inland wetlands; in a garden, it prefers sunny spots in moist soil.

With many cultivars, aster flowers might show a purple, pink, or white color.

They are a favorite of butterflies, growing fast in clusters that may reach as much as six feet tall!

Pollinators such as butterflies and moths benefit from feeding on aster leaves in the caterpillar stage of their life cycle.

This native perennial will grow back for you to enjoy year after year.

Check out DEC's native plant fact sheets (PDF) https://tinyurl.com/42nr5wuf and learn more about New York aster (PDF) https://tinyurl.com/3rwumb6s.



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