



False aster (*Boltonia asteroides*)

Sharon Bodie, UMN Extension Crow Wing County Master Gardener Volunteer

Boltonia asteroides is an herbaceous rhizomatous perennial from the family Asteraceae. It has small white flowers (1 inch across) with white rays and yellow center disks. Upright, branching stems have lance-shaped, gray-green leaves. Plant in naturalized areas, cottage or native plant gardens

Type	Native, Herbaceous perennial
Hardiness Zone	3 - 10
Sun	Full sun to partial shade
Bloom Time	August through October
Height	4'
Spread	2' - 4'
Tolerance	Clay soil
Attracts	Butterflies, wasps, flies, skippers, moths, beetles, long and short tongued bees

Soil and Site Recommendations

- Tolerates a variety of soil types but prefers medium to wet soil, for example wet meadows, marshes, pond borders and rain gardens. Easily grown in average, well-drained soil, but will tolerate clay soil.

Planting Recommendations

- Type: easily grown from seed, bare root plants, or started plants.
- When to plant: bare root plants may be started in spring or fall
- Spacing: 2' - 4' apart
- Spread: slowly spreads by rhizomes
- Division/transplant tips: divide in the spring, every 3 to 5 years or when overgrown.

Maintenance

- Pinching/deadheading: plants may need support to keep them from flopping over - this may be avoided by pinching back by 1/3 in May.

Common Problems

Disease: may be susceptible to powdery mildew

Insects: no serious problems



Resources

Questions or problems: check “What’s wrong with my plant” at:

<https://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/>

Visit us at crowingmastergardeners.org, on Facebook @CWCMasterGardeners and on Instagram @cwcmastergardener.