

# History & Fun Facts

All of the plants we sell are native to the Ohio area. That means they are adapted and ready to be a beautiful, worry free, addition to your yard!



In legend, the aster came into being from the tears of the Greek goddess Asterea. One day, Asterea looked at the earth and could not find any stars. As she wept, the Aster rose out of the soil where her tears fell. Many of the stories surrounding this flower try to describe its shape. In recent tradition, these flowers are the September birth flowers and are the flower of a couple's 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They are also known as the frost flower due to their late blooming and cold tolerance.



## PPGSA

The Plant Pathology Graduate Student Association (PPGSA) is a non-profit organization. Funding of the activities are provided through volunteer-based activities, such as charities. PPGSA is not an official part of the Ohio State University, but will nonetheless respect many of the bylaws laid forth by the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) when appropriate. These fliers are brought to you by our Outreach Committee. The main function of this committee is to both create a greater student awareness and understanding of plant pathology in order to broaden the numbers of future plant pathologists in our department and across the country as well as to increase community awareness of the general nature of plant pathology.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### Department of Plant Pathology

201 Kottman Hall, 2021 Coffey Rd.

Columbus, OH 43210

Phone: (614) 292-1375

Fax: (614) 292-4455

Email: [plantpath@osu.edu](mailto:plantpath@osu.edu)

Visit us online at: <http://plantpath.osu.edu/>

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clients on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>.

Dept. of Plant Pathology

# New England Aster

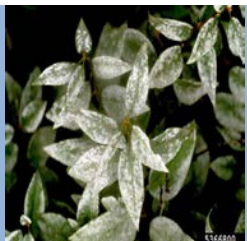


# Common Problems

It is important to know the common problems different plants in your garden may experience so that you can better manage the issues and ensure your plants are providing the aesthetics you desire.

There are two main issues that occur on New England Aster and while they may cause a lack in aesthetics, neither will kill your plants nor cause problems the following year.

The first is caused by a fungus. Powdery Mildew is your Aster's biggest threat causing a white residue to build up on the upper surfaces of leaves. The second issue is a pest called the lace bug who will suck your plants leaves dry. The symptoms of a lace bug infestation are yellowing dry leaves that eventually turn brown and fall off.



The image on the left illustrates symptoms of powdery mildew on hydrangea. Image on right is a lace bug.

## Plant Requirements and Description

**Mature Height and Spread:**  
5 feet tall

**Growth Rate:**  
Fast

**Light Requirement:**  
Full Sun or Partial Shade

**Other Requirements:**  
Planting space 2-3'  
Well drained soil

### Description:

The New England Aster is a late bloomer becoming most active from August to October. However, once it blooms, this flower is an attractant to the monarch and other butterflies as well as pollinators. When the plant is in bloom its lower leaves begin to dry. This is normal and does not mean your plant is diseased. This plant is a self-seeder as well as being drought tolerant and deer resistant.

### Management

- Keep plants well-spaced & weed free. Spacing helps reduce humidity in the foliage which prevents fungal growth.
- If you find you have a lace bug infestation, organic sprays such as horticultural oils or insecticidal soaps can be used.
- Dividing them every 1 to 3 years.
- Stake in the late summer to prevent falling from their own weight.
- Mix a small amount of fertilizer into the holes soil before planting.
- Water the plants from the bottom. Watering plants from the bottom is a wise practice no matter the plant. This prevents excess moisture on the leaves which can lead to fungal growth or scorching from the sun.
- Remove any & all infected plant parts. Make sure not to compost any infected plant parts as the fungal spores can be spread by wind or water.

## Sources

- <http://www.prairiemoon.com/seeds/wildflowers-forbs/aster-novae-angliae-new-england-aster.html>
- <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/aster-flower-facts.html>
- <http://www.sunset.com/garden/flowers-plants/new-england-aster-aster-novae-angliae>
- <http://www.finegardening.com/all-about-asters>

