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 20th 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.

New England Aster

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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clients on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.
### 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.finegardening.com/all-about-asters](http://www.finegardening.com/all-about-asters)

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