



Chocolate Boneset

Eupatorium rugosum 'Chocolate'

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: White Snakeroot; Joe Pye Weed

Ornamental Features

Chocolate Boneset has masses of beautiful plumes of lightly-scented white flowers at the ends of the stems from late summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive large serrated narrow leaves emerge purple in spring, turning dark green in color throughout the season. The fruit is not ornamentally significant. The burgundy stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Chocolate Boneset is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Chocolate Boneset is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Chocolate Boneset will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years.



Chocolate Boneset flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Chocolate Boneset foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Finder



This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

