

Vernonia fasciculata

Common Iron Weed

Preferred Water Depth and Inundation Tolerance

Wet prairie, sedge meadow, and shallow marsh species. Species tolerates inundation of 2-3 inches early in the season.

Wildlife Value

Serves as a nectar source for insects.

Application/Zone

Stoloniferous habit stabilizes upper shorelines and upland slope buffers.

Availability, Establishment, and Maintenance

- The germination percentage for Common Iron Weed is very low which may be because it produces many nonviable seeds. Germination rates can be increased by sowing stored seed in a seed frame outdoors in June. If soil temperature is consistently warm, germination and seedling growth are very rapid.
- Transplant seedlings to individual containers when a rosette-like cluster of 3 to 4 four leaves develop and then move plants to the site when roots fill containers.
- For cuttings, take 4-6 inch stem cuttings in June or July. Root in a 50/50 mix of peat moss and sand. They should be well-rooted in 4 to 5 weeks and may then be transplanted into 3 to 4 inch pots. When well established, they may be transplanted on site or overwintered indoors in the pots for spring planting.
- Cuttings may not be necessary because establishment from seed has been observed in restorations.
- Seed availability may be sporadic due to an insect pest.

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Mature Height

Up to 6 feet

Plant Type

Perennial herb

Indicator Status

Facultative Wet

pH

5.6-7

Nutrient Load Tolerance

Low to moderate

Salt Tolerance

Not available

Siltation Tolerance

Moderate

Flowering Color and Time

Purple

July-August

Light Preference

Full sun

Seeding Rate

.06 - .19 lbs/acre

