## Memphis Blues Stoke's Aster





## Stokesia laevis 'Memphis Blues'

- <u>Use</u>: One of the best herbaceous perennials for attracting butterflies. This 1' tall southeastern US native with lax habit and huge blue flowers. It is very easy to grow and has a long blooming period in summer. The genus, named after Dr. Jonathan Stokes, is pronounced STOKES-ee-uh. Stoke's Aster has a moderate growth rate, is very adaptable, and is evergreen in warmer climates. Heat tolerant and can handle short period of drought and should be planted in a well drained soil.
- <u>Exposure/Soil</u>: Full to part sun. During the winter they prefer well-drained soils. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry.
- Growth: Grows 2' tall and wide wit a moderate growth rate.
- Hardiness: 5-9 Perennial
- *Foliage:* Deciduous. forms a rosette clump of strap like leathery leaves. This perennial can be divided and should be every 3 years.
- **Flower:** In late spring to early fall this perennial forms flower spikes that are 1 to 2 feet tall. The flowers are large, 3-4" in diameter, and showy. The daisy-like flowers are a vibrant purplish blue color and work great as long lasting cut flowers.



Attracts butterflies and is fairly drought tolerant!

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