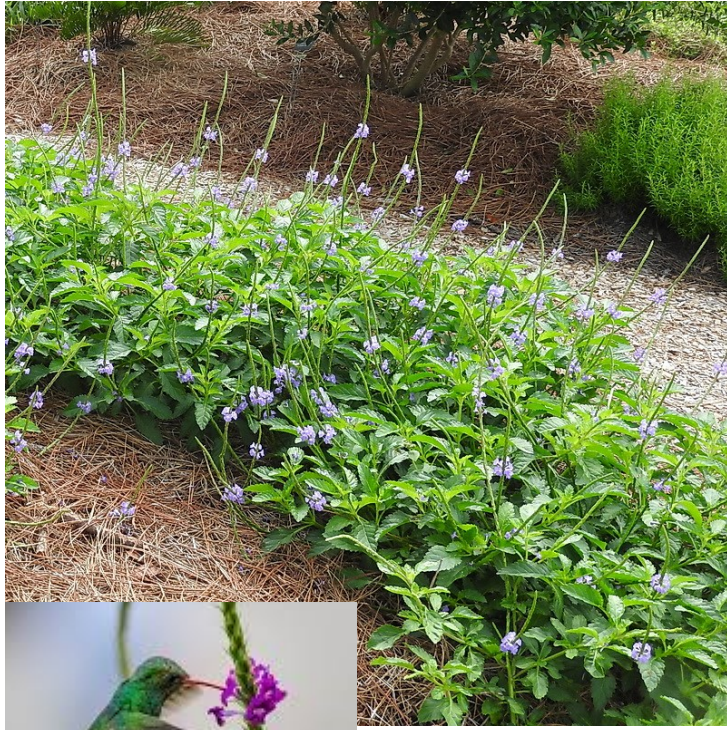


# Blue Porter Weed



**Bring back the Butterflies!**

It is an excellent addition to a butterfly garden, as it is the host plant of the Tropical buckeye (*Junonia evarete*) and is a nectar source for many butterfly species including the Clouded skipper (*Lerema accius*), Gulf fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*), Red admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) and Julia (*Dryas iulia*).



## *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*

- **Use:** Porterweeds are likely the number one favorite nectar plant for butterfly gardeners and surely for the butterflies themselves. One would be surprised to find a plant that produces a more continuous supply of nectar rich flowers from summer to frost, even most Lantana has to catch its breath from time to time during the heat of summer. This is one of the few plants that you will find consistently at nearly every butterfly conservatory.
- **Exposure/Soil:** They should be grown in well-drained soil in full sun. Use slow release or water soluble fertilizer. Must have good drainage!
- **Growth:** Fast grower - in fact, it grows like a weed (hence the name). You can keep it trimmed to about 2-1/2 to 3 feet tall.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 9b-11; Annual. Very heat tolerant!
- **Foliage:** This species has narrow 6 inch long lance-shaped leaves. Deciduous Cutting grown.
- **Flower:** Deep indigo 1/4" blooms adorn the long spike-like bloom stems from spring to frost.