

Plant Profile

Joe Pye Weed

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Latin name: <i>Eutrochium dubium</i> 'Little Joe' ¹²	Texture: coarse ¹⁸
Common name: Joe Pye weed ¹²	Growth rate: fast ³
Flowers: small purple flowers in flat, compound inflorescences; July to September ¹²	Light: full sun to part shade ¹²
Fruit: inconspicuous ¹²	Moisture: medium ¹²
Height & Width: 3-4'/2-3' ¹²	Soil*: average, medium moisture ¹²
Type: herbaceous perennial ¹²	Zones: 3 to 9 ¹²
Habit: clump ¹²	Origin: eastern North America ³
Wetland indicator category**: FACW ¹⁷	Ecosystem benefits: attracts butterflies ¹²

(Numbers identify sources listed on page 2-3)

Image source: Missouri Botanical Garden Kemper Center for Home Gardening. *Plant finder*. Retrieved from <http://www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder/Alpha.asp>

Historic medicinal uses: Joe Pye weed was named for a Native American healer from New England who used the plant to treat fevers and kidney stones. The plant is also said to have been used to treat typhus¹².

Features: A cultivar of the native North American wildflower Joe Pye weed. Attractive, purple inflorescences that have a pleasant fragrance and attract butterflies. Smaller than the native *E. dubium*, making it more suitable for smaller gardens¹².

Siting: Does best in soils with medium moisture and full sun to part shade. Will not do well in dry soil, but is tolerant of deer, clay soil, and wet soil¹².

Care: Plant crown at soil level¹⁸. At planting, water the roots and surrounding area slowly and deeply. Keep soil moist until plant is established, then apply enough water to thoroughly moisten the root zone when the soil is dry or during drought. Modify water recommendations to reflect site drainage and rainfall. Apply 3" of mulch over the planted area. Do not allow mulch to touch the plant stems¹⁸. Cut stems back in late winter¹².

Pests: Plants are relatively pest resistant if cultural preferences are met. Keep moist to prevent leaves from scorching¹².

This plant does not appear on the following invasive plant lists on 16 September 2015:

✗ USDA SC Invasive Plant Species Web site at <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/main.shtml>

✗ SC Exotic Plant Pest Council Web site at <http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/>

*Soil pH is determined using a professional soil test. Contact your Clemson University County Extension service for assistance www.clemson.edu/extension/. Click on "local offices".

**2012 Plant Wetland Indicator categories (quantitative derived) <http://plants.usda.gov/wetinfo.html>

Indicator Code	Indicator Status	Comment
OBL	Obligate Wetland	Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands
FACW	Facultative Wetland	Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands
FAC	Facultative	Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte
FACU	Facultative Upland	Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands
UPL	Obligate Upland	Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands