

# Mistflower

(*Conoclinium coelestinum*)

For definitions of botanical terms, visit [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary\\_of\\_botanical\\_terms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_botanical_terms).

Mistflower, blue mistflower, wild ageratum, pink eupatorium, hardy ageratum, and blue boneset are just some of the many common names used to identify this eye-catching Florida native wildflower.

Mistflower produces branched stems that bear dense, flat clusters of “fuzzy,” bluish-purple disk florets. It does not produce ray florets. The long stamens give the flower heads a fuzzy appearance. Leaves are oppositely arranged, almost triangular in shape, with toothed margins and faintly pubescent surfaces.

The genus *Conoclinium* was once classified in the genus *Eupatorium*, but genetic analysis revealed differences that required reclassification to its own genus.

Mistflower is very attractive to pollinators, especially butterflies and moths.

**Family:** Asteraceae (Aster, daisy or composite family)

**Native range:** Throughout Florida

To see where natural populations of Mistflower have been vouchered, visit [www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu](http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu).

**Hardiness:** Zones 7–11

**Soil:** Moist to wet, sandy, loamy and mucky soils

**Exposure:** Full sun to partial shade

**Growth habit:** 1–3'

**Garden tips:** Mistflower is perfect for a wildflower garden where they can naturalize freely, particularly in a moist setting. It does spread quickly, however, and can take over if not maintained. It is very easy to grow from seed and by division, and makes a good border plant.

Mistflower seeds are available through the Florida Wildflowers Growers Cooperative at [www.FloridaWildflowers.com](http://www.FloridaWildflowers.com). Plants are often available at nurseries that specialize in native plants. Visit [PlantRealFlorida.org](http://PlantRealFlorida.org) to find a native nursery on your area.



Photo by Stacey Matrazzo