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Liatris aspera

[Synonyms : *Lacinaria aspera*, *Lacinaria scariosa*, *Lacinaria scariosa* var. *aspera*]

ROUGH BLAZING STAR is a perennial. Native to eastern North America it has usually purple-pink (rarely white) flowers.

It is also known as Blazing star, Button blazing star, Button snakeroot, Large button snakeroot, Large button snakeroot, Tall blazing star, and Tall gayfeather.

Unusually the flowers open from the top of the spike downwards.

Aspera is Latin (rough to the touch).

When it is young rough blazing star is grazed by cattle.

The flowers are sometimes dried for inclusion in flower arrangements.

Medicinally, herbalists treated children suffering from diarrhoea with a decoction of the corm and leaves (and Plains Indians used a similar mixture for stomach pains).