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*Phlox divaricata*

[Synonyms : *Phlox canadensis*, *Phlox laphamii*]

**COMMON PHLOX** is a semi-evergreen perennial. Native to eastern North America (from south-central United States to Quebec) it has slightly fragrant, blue or lavender to white flowers.

It is also known as Blue phlox, Blue woodland phlox, Sweet william, Wild blue phlox, Wild sweet william, Woodland phlox, and Wood phlox.

The flowers are pollinated by humming birds and butterflies.

This phlox is viewed as endangered in the wild in the state of New Jersey, United States.

*Divaricata* means ‘spreading or straggling’

It was the noted American botanist, John Bartram (1699-1777) who is credited with introducing common phlox to Britain in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century – a plant destined to be a parent of many of the cultivated varieties now popular there.