

# Boneset Botanical name: *Eupatorium perfoliatum* (yoo-puh-TOR-ee-um per-foh-lee-AY-tum)



Photo by & grown by: John Brandauer

**Description:** A New Jersey native, reportedly found in moist woods, swamps and thickets. Recommended as a native nectar source. Stunning in mass planting. Fares quite well in clay soil, deer hardy, pest free, vigorous grower.

**Common names:** Boneset, Thoroughwort, Feverwort, Agueweed, Indian Sage

**Sun Exposure:** Sun to Partial Shade

**Height:** 36-48”

**Blooms:** White to near white flowerheads around 1/4 inch across, in large, flat clusters in late summer to early fall. I have never seen it, but blooms can be purple, although rarely.

**Soil:** Adaptable, tolerates clay, reportedly has high moisture needs. It is growing naturally here, in our full sun, dry, gravel/clay, nutrient poor soil meadow, but the height is diminished, 18”-24”.

**Propagation Methods:** By dividing the rootball, from seed; (stratify). Reportedly self sows freely, has not been an issue for us.

**Trivia:** Boneset leaves were once used in bandages for broken bones, since the appearance of the joined leaves gave people the idea that the plant would be helpful for rejoining broken bones.

*Butterflies of New Jersey, pg 102 reports that Red banded Hairstreaks prefer Bonest to Milkweed We have seen Monarchs express a preference for Boneset, over Buddleja, Echinacea, etc.*

 **Weeds for Wildlife** ©

Information compiled from the web, supplemented by our experiences.

<http://www.weedsforwildlife.com/> John and Susan Brandauer <mailto:jbrandauer@optonline.net>