

‡ The Garden and Lawn. ‡

☞ SOME HANDSOME AUGUST-BLOOMING WILD FLOWERS.



THE two coneflowers are very showy, well worthy of cultivation in the flower garden. The variety most widely disseminated is the ORANGE-COLORED CONEFLOWER, *Rudbeckia hirta*, Linn. It begins to bloom in July, continues through the month of August, and often to the middle of September. The ray florets are of a flaming orange color, varying in length from half an inch to an inch; the cone-shaped centre, or disc, is of a deep, rich purple, contrasting most effectively with the bright rays. It is to be found in open meadows and sunny spots on the borders of thickets. The plant is rough, hairy on leaf and stem, grows to the height of one to three feet, often a straight, simple stem, but in good soil is frequently branched from near the base. The flower heads are borne singly on long stalks, well adapted for cutting, and last in water for a week.

The leaves on the stalk are few, widely separated, and without petiole or leaf-stalk; the lower leaves are petioled.

The YELLOW CONEFLOWER, *Rudbeckia laciniata*, Linn, may be readily distinguished from the preceding by its light yellow rays, greenish disc, smooth stem, branching habit, taller growth, and lacinate, or jagged leaves. It grows to a considerable height in rich, moist bottom lands, but usually from five to seven feet. The May florets are often two inches long, narrow in proportion to their length, and drooping. Their color is a clear, bright yellow. The heads are borne on long stalks, and keep in water for a week when cut. This species is usually found growing in low thickets, and is specially vigorous in the flats of the Humber River, not far from Toronto.

There are two species of *Liatris* to be found growing in Ontario, known in some places by the name of Blazing Star. THE CYLINDRICAL BLAZING STAR, *Liatris cylindrica*, Willdenow, is quite common in the vicinity of Toronto, growing to the height of twelve to eighteen inches; the stem is slender, upright and rigid; the leaves long, narrow, grass-like. The flower heads are set alternately on the stem, in the axils of the leaves, and borne on stout stalks. The form of the flower heads is cylindrical, and there are from eight to twelve heads on a stem, containing from sixteen to twenty rosy-purple flowers in each head. It is to be found in dry soils, usually on the slopes near lakes or streams, growing from a bulbous or corm-like root; these corms can be easily taken up in the autumn and transferred to some dry, sunny spot in the garden, where they will flourish with but little care.

LIATRIS SPICATA, WILLDENOW, is much like the one just described, growing