

***Eupatorium maculatum* var. *bruneri*** (Gray) Breitung

spotted Joe-Pye weed  
Asteraceae (Aster Family)

***Eupatorium maculatum* var. *bruneri***

spotted Joe-Pye weed

**Status:** Possibly Extirpated

**Rank:** G5T4T5QSH

**General Description:** Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1955):

*Eupatorium maculatum* var. *bruneri* is a large, stout, fibrous-rooted perennial that is 2 to 6½ feet (up to 2 m) tall. The leaves are whorled, mostly in 3's or 4's, lance-elliptic to lanceolate or lance-ovate, gradually or abruptly narrowed to the petiole, mostly 2 1/2 to 7¾ in. (6-20 cm) long and ¾ to 2¾ in. (2-7 cm) wide, sharply serrate, and densely covered beneath with short, spreading, curly hairs. The heads are clusters of rather flat-topped inflorescences, with 9-22 purple flowers in each head. The involucre is ¼ to 1/2 in. (6.5 to 9 mm) long and often purplish.

**Identification Tips:** This is a distinct plant that reaches heights of 2 to 6½ feet (up to 2 m), and has brilliantly purple flowers.

**Phenology:** Throughout its range the taxon is identifiable from July through September; in Washington this taxon has been found from late August to early September.

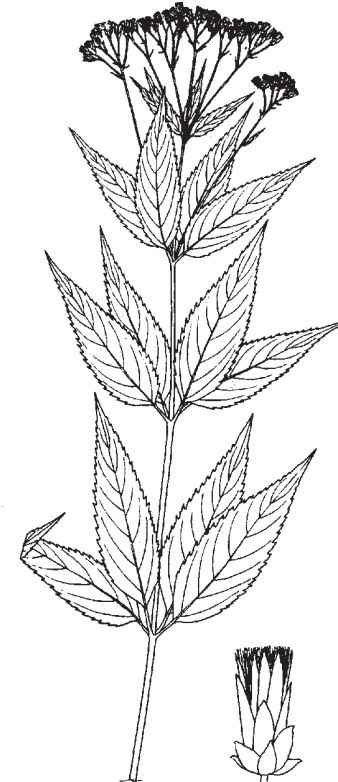
**Range:** The taxon is known from Idaho and Montana south to Arizona and New Mexico, and from North Dakota and Minnesota south to Kansas and Missouri, and in Wisconsin and Michigan. It is also known from British Columbia to Newfoundland. In Washington it was found in Whatcom County.

**Habitat:** There are no documented elevations or associated species for this taxon in Washington.

**Ecology:** The taxon typically occurs in swamps and other moist open places, from the high plains to sea level.

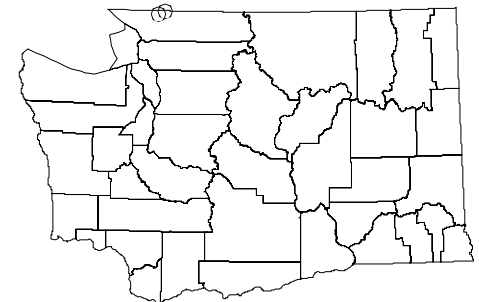
**State Status Comments:** This taxon was originally collected in 1937, then again in 1943. Since then no extant individuals have been observed in Washington.

**Inventory Needs:** Swamps in Whatcom County should be surveyed for possible individuals.



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Illustration by Dr. John H. Rumely

Known distribution  
of *Eupatorium maculatum*  
var. *bruneri* in Washington



● Current (1980+)  
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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Wisconsin State Herbarium

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**Threats and Management Concerns:** Agriculture and the spread of canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) have changed much of the habitat for this taxon.

**References:**

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, J.W. Thompson.  
1955. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest Part 5: Compositae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA. 343 pp.

Kartesz, J.T. & C.A. Meacham. 2003. *Synthesis of the North American Flora, Version 2.0*.