



Image: James L Reveal, Lansing, NY 1905

Wild Bergamot *Monarda fistulosa*

- 2-4 ft tall, winter-dormant perennial, native: NJ & NE US
- Blue/lavender flower heads bloom July to August
- Prefers average to moist soil, full sun to part shade
- Good rain garden plant: Minty foliage makes nice tea
- Spreads by seed or rhizome to form clumps
- Attracts hummingbirds, bees, butterflies
- Host plant for 10 species of butterfly and moth caterpillars
- Tolerates clay, drought, deer
- Collect dry brown seed heads September – October seed
- Allow to dry in a bag, then shake/rub out the seeds
- Store seeds cool and dry to maintain dormancy
- Press into moist soil surface to sow, in pots or in garden bed
- Treat seeds 4 weeks moist at 40°F to break dormancy, indoors or out
- Move pots to 70°F with light to germinate