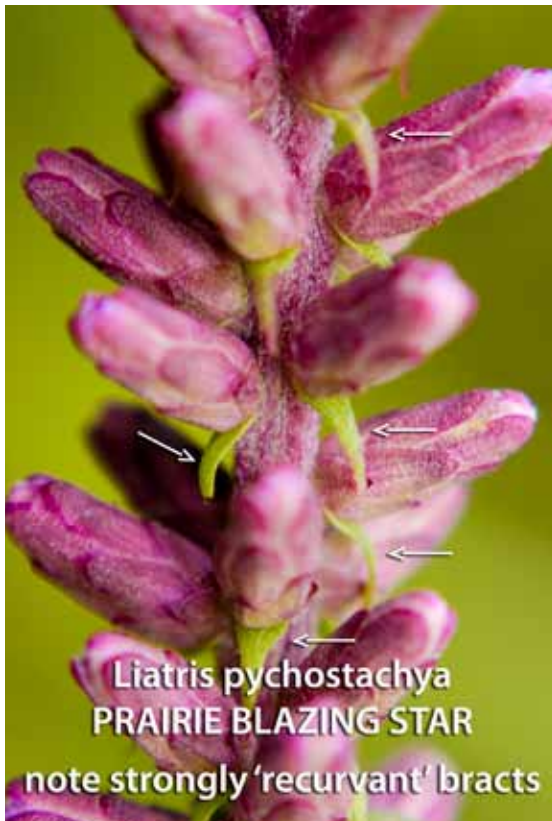
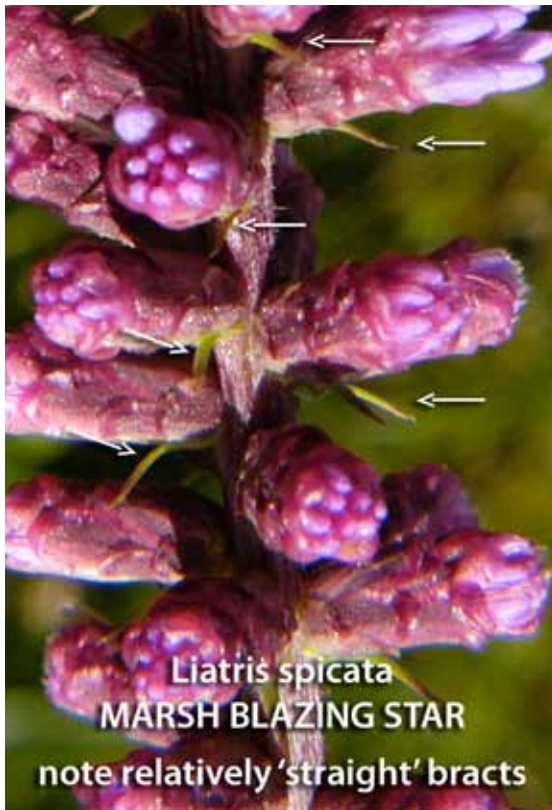


Liatris spicata
MARSH BLAZING STAR (Composite Family)

in the Peacock Prairie at the *James Woodworth Prairie Preserve*



Stem stiffly erect. 1-5' (30-152 cm) high. Stem leaves narrow or lance-shaped, lowest leaves usually over 1/2" wide. Purple flowers in dense heads, arranged in a spikelike cluster, with the heads crowded and overlapping, rounded at base, mostly stalkless. Inside of flower tube smooth. There are 5-60 small, tubular, 5-lobed flowers in each head. At the Peacock/Woodworth Prairie, blooms about the 2nd week of July through the 4th week of August. (The easiest way to tell MARSH BLAZING STAR from PRAIRIE BLAZING STAR is by examining their bracts.)

Text from *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* by Lawrence Newcomb, page 412. Photos by Frank Mayfield at black sweater art, inc.