

Eupatorium perfoliatum



boneset

Family	Asteraceae		
Origin	Native		
WIS Code	FACW	CoC	5

DESCRIPTION

This tall herbaceous perennial (0.5 to 1.5 m) has a stout hairy branching stem. A key character is its opposite leaves that appear to “wrap” around the stem (perfoliate) so that the stem appears to pass through the leaf bases. The rough lance-shaped pointed leaves (5 to 20 cm long) have toothed margins and softly hairy undersides.

FLOWERS AND FRUITS

July through September. Creamy white flat-topped flower heads are at the top of the stem and also smaller flower heads arise from the upper leaf axils (where leaf meets stem).

HABITAT

Floodplain forests, stream banks, marshes, bogs, fens, wet meadows and disturbed sites.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Dipsacus fullonum, Fuller’s teasel, a non-native also has lance-shaped toothed perfoliate leaves that can be confused with *E. perfoliatum* when in the vegetative stage. It differs in the very prickly hairs on stem and leaves, and distinct globose flower head.



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Dipsacus fullonum, leaves and flowers