

Dog Fennel

Genus/species *Eupatorium capillifolium*

Family **Asteraceae**

Distribution **Southeastern US** Massachusetts southward to S Florida
 Florida westward to Texas
 Texas northeastward to Massachusetts

Comments This species reaches its best development on the coastal plains, and is most often found on disturbed sandy soils although it can grow on a variety of sites. Although typically 4 to 5 feet in height, it may become as tall as 9 feet. Dog Fennel sends new shoots each spring from a woody base. It has very finely-divided leaves whose lobes are very narrow; these are alternate (at least on the upper sections of mature plants). This plant blooms from late August to early November, depending upon location, and shaded plants typically bloom later than those receiving full sunlight. Pollination is achieved mainly by wind. Interestingly enough, many closely-related species in the same genus (such as Joe-Pye weed) are favorite sources of nectar for bees, butterflies and other insects.

