



FORT TICONDEROGA

National Historic Landmark

Flower of the Week

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Common Name:	Tall Garden Phlox
Botanical Name:	Phlox paniculata
Family:	Polemoniaceae
Plant Type:	Herbaceous Perennial Flower
Season of Bloom:	Summer

Phlox paniculata is known as garden phlox, summer phlox, perennial phlox, or autumn phlox. This tall garden phlox is just one of 67 species of the genus Phlox.

It was exported to England by the great naturalist and plant explorer John Bartram in the early 1700s, and the varieties cultivated there appeared in American nurseries about 1800. Phlox's popularity in the U.S. reached its height by the middle of the 19th century.

There are many Phlox species that are native all over this country, but in the eastern U.S. three are noteworthy: *P. paniculata*, also called Garden or Border Phlox, *P. subulata*, known as Moss Phlox, and *P. Drummondii*, a low-growing annual Phlox discovered in Texas about 1830.

The range of color, height, and bloom is astonishingly large. It is a delight to all gardeners because it has a long bloom season. For this reason, Phlox was, and still is, a staple of American gardens. Many landscape designers call it "the backbone of the summer border."



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