

2005



This year marks Delaware Nursery & Landscape Association's Eleventh Annual Plant of the Year selection.

The 2005 Herbaceous plant is Aster oblongifolius 'October Skies'. The 2005 Woody plant is Thuja plicata 'Green Giant'. These plants were chosen because they are particularly well suited to thrive in Delaware.

### *Thuja plicata 'Green Giant'*

Thuja plicata 'Green Giant' (Western Arborvitae) - Lustrous rich medium green summer foliage and a broad pyramidal habit with a mature height of 30-40 feet make this arborvitae useful as a specimen or a screening hedge or grouping. It is a fast grower that does well in both full sun and partial shade. 'Green Giant' is one of the few evergreens we can grow in partial shade that also has some deer tolerance.

*Photo by Susan Barton*



UNIQUE PLANTS FOR DELAWARE LANDSCAPES

### *Aster oblongifolius 'October Skies'*

Aster oblongifolius 'October Skies' (Aromatic Aster) - It is hard to beat this aster for color impact in the fall garden. 'October Skies' grows to a mounded height of about 2 feet and is completely covered in medium blue, fine-textured flowers in late September through October. It is self-facing with branches that swoop to the ground so it works well at the edge of a border. Its drought tolerance and highly competitive growth habit make 'October Skies' a low maintenance perennial with almost no weeding requirements once established.

*Photo by Rick Darke*

