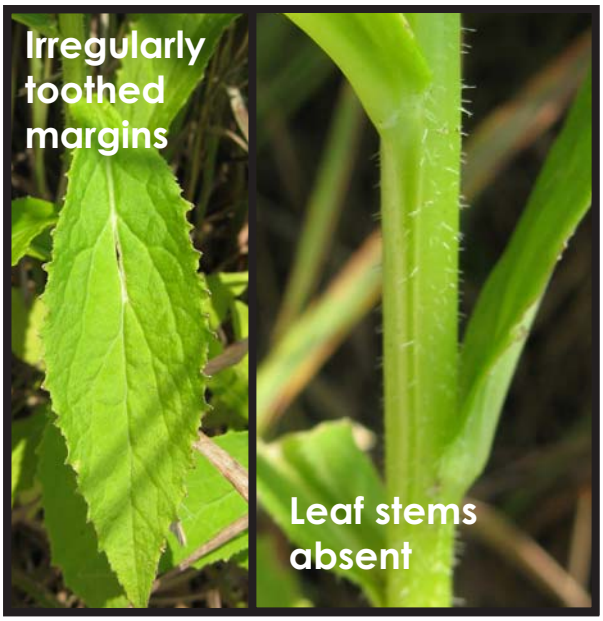
Great blue lobelia

Lobelia siphilitica

Minnesota C-Value: 5

Wetland Indicator Status: FACW+

Native



Leaves: Alternate, oblong or oval, stalkless leaves becoming smaller toward the top of the stem. 6-12 cm long and 1-3 cm wide. Margins are irregularly toothed.

Stems: Stout and erect, 1-4 ft tall. May be slightly hairy.

Flowers and fruit: Dark blue, tubular flowers are divided into an upper lip of 2 lobes and a lower lip of 3 lobes. Flowers arranged in crowded raceme. Fruit is a cup-shaped capsule.

Plant communities: Swamps, thickets, floodplain forests, streambanks, calcareous fens, wet meadows.

Comments: Perennial, tends to be taller and have wider leaves (> 1cm) than other varieties of *Lobelias*. Cardinal flower (*L. cardinalis)* looks similar vegetatively, but has bright red flowers and is more closely associatied with woodlands and streams.