



# Black-eyed Susan

*Rudbeckia hirta*

**Plant Description** – native, herb/wildflower, deciduous, perennial – biennial - annual

**Height:** 2 - 3 ft **Width/Spread:** 1 – 2 ft



## Leaves

**Shape:** ovate

**Arrangement:** alternate

**Margin:** serrate

**Form:** simple

**Leaf Description:** basal leaves (leaves at the base of the stem) have a stalk, are ovate, and are covered in bristly hairs; some leaves along the stem have stalks and others don't, they are elliptical, serrate or entire, and hairy; up to 3" wide and 4" long

## Flower/Bloom

**Flower Color:** yellow

**In Bloom:** Jun - Oct

**Flower Shape:** radiate/ ligulate

**Flower(s) Description:** 2-3" wide flower occurs singly atop 1-2-foot long rough stems; disk florets (tubular, fertile floret that forms disk) form brown central cone; showy golden-yellow ray florets (narrow, petal-like, infertile floret that surround the disk) create daisy-like flower heads



## Fruits & Seeds

**Spreads via:** Seeds

**Seed Type:** Dry seed pod

**Seed Season:** Summer - Fall

**Fruit and Seed Description:** center disk becomes head of dry, dark brown-black, 4-sided, elliptical seeds lacking tufts of hair

## Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Caterpillars (Gorgone Chekerspot), Native Bees, Other Pollinators, & Other Birds

## Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; flowers second year; prefers average watering (*water two times per week during the summer and once per week during the rest of the year*)