

# Black Eyed Susan



This cheerful, widespread wildflower is considered an annual to a short-lived perennial across its range. Bright-yellow, 2-3 in. wide, daisy-like flowers with dark centers are its claim-to-fame. They occur singly atop 1-2 ft. stems. The stems and scattered, oval leaves are covered with bristly hairs. Coarse, rough-stemmed plant with daisy-like flower heads made up of showy golden-yellow ray flowers, with disk flowers forming a brown central cone.

This native prairie biennial forms a rosette of leaves the first year, followed by flowers the second year. It is covered with hairs that give it a slightly rough texture. The Green-headed Coneflower (*R. laciniata*) has yellow ray flowers pointing downward, a greenish-yellow disk, and irregularly divided leaves.

Hardiness: Winter hardy to USDA Zone 4-9

Colorado Native

Cold Hardy: Excellent

Drought Tolerance: Good

Alkali Soil Tolerance: Good

Windbreak Suitability: Poor

Wildlife Benefit: Excellent

Mature Height: 3-5 ft

Mature Width: 1.5 ft

Growth Rate: Moderate

Highest Elevation: 9000 ft