

sweet black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia subtomentosa*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Asterales

Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

A single sweet black-eyed Susan plant may attain a height of up to 48 inches. This member of the aster family has stems that are hairy on their upper portions and smooth nearer the base. The lower leaves have three divisions while the upper leaves are entire. The flower heads are yellow (ray flowers) with dark centers (disk flowers). Several flower heads, each on its own stalk, are produced at the top of the plant.

BEHAVIORS

This species, also known as fragrant coneflower or sweet coneflower, is found in prairies, open woods and thickets statewide. Flowers are generally present from July through September. Pollinators are attracted to the pollen and nectar of the flowers.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; dolomite prairie; edge; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie; shrub prairie

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