

# ***BLACK-EYE SUSAN***

Rudebecki hirta

***AKA: gloriosa daisy, yellow oxeye***

**Description:** A member of the huge aster or composite family, has the typical daisy-like flowers consisting of an outer ring of ray florets and a central receptacle composed of many disk florets. Black eyed Susan's typically stay in a basal rosette their first year, and then produce upright branching stems with flowers in their second year. Flowers in summer to fall.

**Natural Habitat:** dry fields, open woods, along road shoulders and in disturbed areas.

**Conservation Status:** None known.

**Size:** 2 - 3 ft. tall

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Light:** Full sun

**Planting and Care:** Grows in average, well-drained soil. Once established, black-eyed Susans are fairly drought tolerant, but perform best with regular watering in soil that does not completely dry out. Removal of dead/old flower heads will extend the flowering season.

**Landscape Usage:** Best in the naturalized, semi-wild garden as a border, or in flowerbeds and in the cutting garden.

**Wildlife Benefits:** Butterflies of many species are attracted to black-eyed Susan.