

Black Eyed Susan



Rudbeckia fulgida v. fulgida

- **Use:** A low maintenance and resilient wildflower with shiny deep green foliage. Striking summer and autumn flowers are beloved for their golden orange rays and chocolate brown cones. Butterflies flock to the blooms and songbirds relish the seeds in sunny sites with average soil. Looks amazing with grasses. Great for cutting. Stunning paired with Fountain Grasses. Habitats are typically in moist woods, meadows, savannas and swamps.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers full-part sun It's fairly drought tolerant and needs little water once established. Good drainage is a must.
- **Growth:** Grows to a height of 2-3' tall and 1-2' wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 5-9; Perennial and Reseeds. Very heat and drought tolerant!
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Stems are sturdy and pubescent with narrow shiny deep green leaves. The blades are consistent in size unlike other species that have upper leaves reduced in size.
- **Flower:** Flower heads are borne in profusion almost covering the foliage. Each daisy-like head averages 2" across with golden-yellow rays that encircle a robust dark brown cone loaded with disc florets. Flowering is among the latest of the black-eyed susans continuing for almost 3 months from summer until autumn. Dense chocolate colored seed heads form and remain into early winter. Deadheading can extend the season of bloom but will remove the seed that are savored by songbirds.

Occurs in the eastern United States from New York to the Florida panhandle and west to Illinois and Mississippi.