

brown-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia triloba*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Asterales

Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The petallike ray flowers are yellow and surround the cone-shaped, dark brown center. Leaves are arranged alternately on the stem. The plant may reach a height of five feet. This species is similar to black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) but the flowers are smaller, have fewer rays (8-10 as opposed to 10-20) and more than one flower develops per plant. The lower leaves have three lobes.

BEHAVIORS

Brown-eyed Susan is found throughout Illinois in fields, woodlands and along streams. Flowering occurs from June through October. The flowers of this plant are important to pollinator species.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

rivers and streams

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge

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