

## Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

OD LEUC VUL

Erect, short-lived perennial herb up to 1 metre tall. Often grows in dense clumps due to creeping root system. Introduced from Eurasia as an ornamental and as a contaminant in seed.



### Distribution

Found throughout the Southern Interior.

### Quick ID

Showy, daisy-like flowers.

Short creeping roots.

Stem leaves have clasping bases; basal leaves are stalked.

Leaves with wavy to lobed margins.

### Interesting Facts:

Often included in popular seed mixes. Flowers have an unpleasant odor, reminiscent of stale perspiration.

### “Look-Alike” Species

Native Asters, *Aster spp.*, and Fleabanes, *Erigeron Spp.*, such as *Erigeron caespitosus*, resemble Oxeye daisy, but typically have undivided leaf margins, without lobes or teeth. Seeds of Asters and Fleabanes also have a pappus while Oxeye daisy seeds do not.



**Manual Treatment:** Hand pull or dig entire plant before seed set, removing as much of the fibrous roots and rhizomes as possible to prevent regeneration. If flowers have already gone to seed, pick flower heads, bag and remove. Mowing during or after flowering will disperse seeds.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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**Flowers:** A single, daisy-like flower head, composed of yellow disk flowers in the center surrounded by 20 to 30, notched, white ray flowers. Flower develops on the end of each stem branch. Green floral bracts with brown margins appear in several overlapping rows.



**Leaves and Stems:** Spoon-shaped basal rosette leaves are 5 to 12.7 cm long, attached to the stem by long narrow stalks, and have wavy, scalloped margins. Stem leaves are arranged in an alternate pattern and progressively reduce in size upward on stem. Upper stem leaves are narrower and lack stalks.



**Seeds:** Ovate, dark brown to black seeds, 3 mm long. Each plant can produce 500 or more seeds and are viable for 20 years.

**Roots:** Short, fibrous creeping roots.

**Reproduction and Dispersal:** By seed, underground creeping roots, and root fragments. Quickly forms dense and expansive populations due to rhizomatous nature.

**Habitat Preference:** Found in disturbed areas, fields, meadows, roadsides and forest openings. Tolerates a wide range of environmental conditions.

