

Seaside goldenrod

(*Solidago sempervirens*)

For definitions of botanical terms, visit en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_botanical_terms.

Seaside goldenrod is generally the most available of the four native goldenrods that are grown commercially. It blooms in very showy masses on dunes, in swales and brackish marshes, on sandy soils in coastal areas, and occasionally inland throughout the state. Its nectar attracts a variety of butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. The plant also attracts birds searching for insects.



Photo by Mary Keim

Seaside goldenrod has golden-yellow tubular blooms that densely cover long inflorescences born on the tips of the stem. It retains its long strap-shaped, somewhat-fleshy basal leaves year-round. Leaves gradually become smaller as they ascend stems.

Goldenrod is often mistakenly blamed for triggering allergies, but it is ragweed, which blooms heavily around the same time, that is actually to blame. Goldenrods have been used medicinally since Roman times or earlier. Seaside goldenrod was used by Seminoles to treat wounds.

Family: Asteraceae (aster, composite, or daisy family)

Native range: Coastal Panhandle, most peninsular counties

To see where natural populations of Seaside goldenrod have been vouchered, visit www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu.

Lifespan: Perennial

Soil: Moist, well-drained sandy soils

Exposure: Full sun to minimal shade

Growth habit: 1–2' tall; 4–6' when in bloom

Propagation: Division, seed

Florida regions of landscape suitability: North, Central, South

Garden tips: Seaside goldenrod is easy to retain in the landscape. It spreads by rhizomes to make dense colonies over time. Plant it where it can make a big show in the garden, or allow it a large space in the landscape. It needs lots of sun to bloom prolifically, but it will tolerate some shade. Seaside goldenrod is salt tolerant.

Seaside goldenrod seeds may be available through the Florida Wildflower Growers Cooperative at www.FloridaWildflowers.com. Plants are often available at nurseries that specialize in native plants. Visit www.PlantRealFlorida.org to find a native nursery in your area.

SCAN FOR FULL
PLANT PROFILE:



FLORIDA
Wildflower
FOUNDATION

Florida Wildflower Foundation • P O Box 941691, Maitland, FL 32794-1691 • 407-622-1606 • www.FlaWildflowers.org

