

# Oakleaf fleabane

(*Erigeron quercifolius*)

For definitions of botanical terms, visit [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary\\_of\\_botanical\\_terms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_botanical_terms).

Also known as Southern fleabane and Daisy fleabane, Oakleaf fleabane is a delicate, short-lived perennial wildflower. Its small blooms (about 1/4-1/2" in diameter) consist of many thin, white to pinkish-purplish ray florets surrounding a broad, dense cluster of yellow disk florets. Its leaves are mostly basal and are lobed, resembling the leaf shape of some oak species (hence the common name "Oakleaf fleabane," and the scientific name *quercifolius*, which is Latin for "oak-like foliage"; *Quercus* is a genus of oaks). The leaves and stems are covered in tiny, fine hairs.



Photo by Emily Bell

Oakleaf fleabane typically flowers in spring and summer. It occurs naturally in sandhills and moist hammocks as well as in disturbed sites and along roadsides. A variety of pollinators are attracted to its blooms.

**Family:** Asteraceae (Aster, composite or daisy family)

**Native range:** Nearly throughout, from Central Panhandle to the Keys

To see where natural populations of Oakleaf fleabane have been vouchered, visit [www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu](http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu).

**Lifespan:** Short-lived Perennial

**Soil:** Dry, sandy soils to moist soils

**Exposure:** Full sun to moderate shade

**Growth habit:** 12-24"

**Propagation:** Seed

**Florida regions of landscape suitability:** North, Central, South

**Garden tips:** Oakleaf fleabane is best utilized in a meadow or naturalistic setting. It is easily propagated by seed. It does have a tendency to get weedy if left to its own devices.

Oakleaf fleabane is occasionally available at nurseries that specialize in Florida native plants. Visit [www.PlantRealFlorida.org](http://www.PlantRealFlorida.org) to find a nursery in your area.

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