

Prairie fleabane

(*Erigeron strigosus*)

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

Also known as Daisy or Rough fleabane, Prairie fleabane is a petite wildflower that occurs naturally in dry open woodlands, roadsides and other disturbed sites. Its abundant white and yellow flowers are a valuable nectar source for small butterflies and bees.

Prairie fleabane has slender, ribbed, light green cymose stems with appressed white hairs. Numerous, less-ribbed lateral stems branch out from the upper half of the plant.

Its composite flowers are about ½ inch across, with white to very light pink or purple-tinted ray florets and bright yellow disk florets. Leaves are alternate and linear, with mostly entire margins, though some may be slightly toothed, especially at the base. The upper leaf surfaces are generally hairless, while the undersides are pubescent along the central vein.



Photo by Emily Bell

Family: Asteraceae (Aster, composite or daisy family)

Native range: Panhandle into peninsular Florida to DeSoto and Highlands counties

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

Lifespan: Annual to short-lived perennial

Soil: Dry sandy soils

Exposure: Full sun

Growth habit: 1-3 feet tall

Propagation: Seed

Florida regions of landscape suitability: North, Central

Garden tips: Prairie fleabane is best utilized in a meadow or naturalistic setting. It is easily propagated by seed and may become weedy if left to its own devices.

Seeds are often available from the Florida Wildflower Growers Cooperative at www.FloridaWildflowers.com.

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PLANT PROFILE:

