

Rudbeckia triloba

BROWN-EYED SUSAN (Composite Family)

in the **Peacock Prairie** at the **James Woodworth Prairie Preserve**



Text from
http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie_plantx/br_susanx.htm

Photos by Frank Mayfield
at black sweater art, inc.

This is a biennial or short-lived perennial plant up to 5' tall. (152 cm) It branches frequently at the leaf nodes and has a rather bushy appearance when mature. The stems are dark red and have conspicuous white hairs, particularly in the upper half of the plant. The alternate leaves are up to 4" long and 2" across. They are broadly ovate or lanceolate, slightly to coarsely serrated, and have a rough texture. Some of the lower leaves are divided into three lobes. At the end of each upper stem, a single composite flower develops with a daisy-like appearance. It is about 1½-2" across, with 6-12 yellow ray florets surrounding a brown flattened cone of numerous disk florets. The compound flowers have little or no scent.