

Helianthus salicifolius

‘First Light’

North American Native Cultivar



Helianthus (hee-lee-an-thus) From Greek *helios*, the sun, and *anthos*, a flower.

salicifolius
Meaning willow-leaved.



Zones: 5 – 9 **Flower Color:** Golden yellow **Height:** 4’ **Spacing:** 24”

‘First Light’ Blooms golden yellow with dark brown eyes in mid fall. It is a self-supporting plant with narrow elongated foliage growing about 4’ tall, which makes it great for back of the bed planting. Try leaving the stalks and seed heads up in the winter for interest and the birds. PP13150.

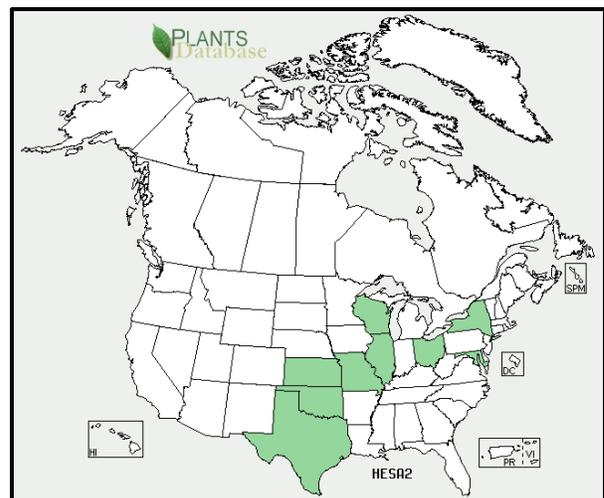
About the Species:

Common Name: Willow-leaf sunflower

Family: Asteraceae

Helianthus are the real sunflowers, producing seeds beloved by birds everywhere. The narrow, willow leaves are handsome and topped with golden yellow or lemon yellow flowers.

Habitat: Native to prairies of the mid –west.



USDA Plants Database

In the Garden: At 4-8’ tall, these sunflowers are definitely back of the border plants. Late summer into fall flowering they blend well with *Phlox paniculata*, *Asters*, and *Echinacea*. By cutting them back before late June, they will be stronger and shorter and not need staking.

Helianthus x 'Lemon Queen'

North American Native Cultivar



Helianthus (hee-lee-an-thus) From Greek *helios*, the sun, and *anthos*, a flower.

Hybrid of U.S. natives *Helianthus pauciflorus* var. *subrhomboideus* and *Helianthus tuberosus*.

Zones: 5 – 9

Flower Color: Lemon yellow

Height: 5 – 8'

Spacing: 24"



'Lemon Queen' is a tall and stately perennial sunflower that will reach 5-8' high and flowers July-September. Single layered lemon yellow flowers are 2" across offering masses of simple daisies.

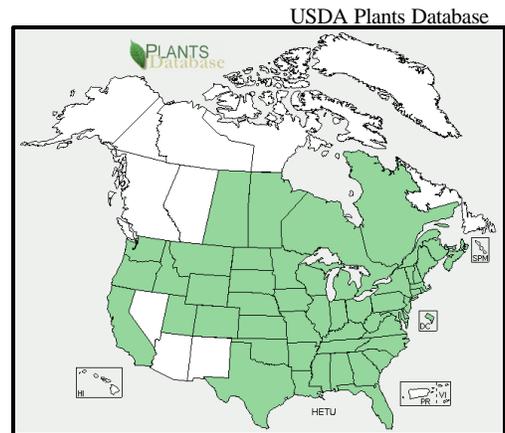
About the Species (*H. tuberosus*):

Common Name: Jerusalem Artichoke **Family:** Asteraceae

This western native sunflower reaches 6-10', and is widespread in North America, partly due to spreading through cultivation by Native Americans.

Habitat: Native to thickets, opened fields, and woodlands borders.

In the Garden: Plant in moist to dry soil in the back of the perennial border, along fences, in meadow gardens, and in the naturalized garden. Birds are attracted to the seed heads and, along with other wildlife, use the foliage for shelter.



Other Uses: Many Native American tribes enjoyed the tubers of *Helianthus tuberosus* in raw form, or cooked like potatoes.

