



ILLINOIS STATUS

common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.

golden ragwort

Senecio aureus

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

Golden ragwort is a perennial plant that grows to 36 inches tall. It has leaves at the base and also along the stem. The basal leaves are toothed, oval with a heart-shaped lower edge and about six inches long. The stem leaves are lance-shaped, the upper ones without a stalk, and finely divided. Flowers are produced in a large cluster at the tip of the stem. There are two kinds of flowers: some with rays (like daisies); others shaped like a tube. The petals are yellow. The fruit is a hard seed with a white tuft of hairlike structures.

BEHAVIORS

Golden ragwort may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in wet soil. Flowers are produced from April through May.

HABITATS

bottomland forests
 coniferous forest
 southern Illinois lowlands
 upland deciduous forest