

## Golden Elf Coneflower



### Golden Elf Coneflower *Rudbeckia fulgida 'Golden Elf'*

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 15 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Orange Coneflower, Black Eyed Susan

#### Ornamental Features

Golden Elf Coneflower has masses of beautiful gold daisy flowers with dark brown eyes at the ends of the stems from early summer to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its serrated pointy leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Golden Elf Coneflower is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Golden Elf Coneflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

#### Planting & Growing

Golden Elf Coneflower will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!



*Golden Elf Coneflower flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Golden Elf Coneflower is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.