

Smallfruit beggarticks

(*Bidens mitis*)

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

Smallfruit beggarticks is an annual herbaceous wildflower. Its conspicuous blooms consist of eight bright yellow ray florets surrounding many yellow disk florets. Leaves are oppositely arranged and variable in shape, but are usually lanceolate. Margins may be toothed or lobed. Stems are thin, branched and weak, often bending under the weight of the flower. Fruits are achenes. Seeds are small and dark with many fine hairs, allowing them to stick to clothing, fur or feathers to be carried to a new area.

Smallfruit beggarticks typically blooms late spring through late fall, but can bloom year-round. It occurs in wet prairies and along fresh and brackish marsh edges. The flowers attract many bees and butterflies and are an important source of nectar.



Photo by Grace Howell

Family: Asteraceae (Aster, daisy or composite family)

Native range: Nearly throughout Florida, except extreme southern counties

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

Hardiness: Zones 8a–10

Soil: Moist to wet

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade

Growth habit: 2–2½' tall

Propagation: Seeds

Garden tips: Smallfruit beggarticks are best suited for wetland restoration projects.

Smallfruit beggarticks plants are occasionally available at nurseries that specialize in native plants. Visit PlantRealFlorida.org to find a native nursery on your area.