

golden Alexanders

Zizia aurea

FEATURES

Golden Alexanders is also known as golden meadow parsnip. This perennial herb has doubly pinnately compound leaves, with three leaf divisions that are further divided into three to seven leaflets. The lance-shaped leaflets are toothed along the edge. Leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. The stem may have a red tint. The yellow flowers develop in umbrellalike clusters at the stem tip. The fruit is hard and dry, splitting at maturity. This plant may attain a height of one to two feet.

BEHAVIORS

Golden Alexanders may be found statewide in Illinois but is more common in the northern three-fourths of the state. It grows in moist prairies, meadows and open woods. Flowers are produced from April through June.

TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Umbellales
Family: Apiaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

ILLINOIS RANGE





plants and flowers

Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

coniferous forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie