Gamolepis chrysanthemoides
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Introduction

The cheerful, bright yellow flowers of African Bush Daisy are produced in great number throughout the year (Fig. 1). The loose, rounded form makes a colorful tall ground cover, small shrub, or works well in mixed flower borders. The finely-divided leaves have a lacy, fern-like appearance.

General Information

Scientific name: Gamolepis chrysanthemoides
Pronunciation: gam-oh-LEP-iss kriss-santh-ee-MOY-deez
Common name(s): African Bush-Daisy, Daisy-Bush
Family: Compositae
Plant type: perennial; shrub; herbaceous
USDA hardiness zones: 8B through 11 (Fig. 2)
Planting month for zone 8: year round
Planting month for zone 9: year round
Planting month for zone 10 and 11: year round
Origin: not native to North America
Uses: mass planting; specimen; border; container or above-ground planter; foundation; attracts butterflies
Availability: somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the plant

Description

Height: 2 to 4 feet
Spread: 3 to 4 feet
Plant habit: round
Plant density: dense
Growth rate: moderate
Texture: fine
Foliage
Leaf arrangement: alternate
Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: lobed
Leaf shape: ovate

Figure 1. African Bush-Daisy.

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Leaf venation:** pinnate  
**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen  
**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** no fall color change  
**Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

**Flower color:** yellow  
**Flower characteristic:** year-round flowering

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** unknown  
**Fruit length:** less than .5 inch  
**Fruit cover:** dry or hard  
**Fruit color:** unknown  
**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not particularly showy; typically multi-trunked or clumping stems  
**Current year stem/twig color:** green

**Current year stem/twig thickness:** medium

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun  
**Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; acidic; slightly alkaline; loam  
**Drought tolerance:** moderate  
**Soil salt tolerances:** poor  
**Plant spacing:** 24 to 36 inches

**Other**

**Roots:** usually not a problem  
**Winter interest:** plant has winter interest due to unusual form, nice persistent fruits, showy winter trunk, or winter flowers  
**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding  
**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive  
**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests
Use and Management

An excellent plant for dry conditions, African Bush Daisy requires full sun and occasional clipping to encourage dense growth. For this reason, another similar plant, *Euryops pectinatus*, is beginning to replace African Bush Daisy because it is more compact and flowers more. Bush Daisy reseeds itself readily. Plant on 18 to 24-inch centers to form a mass planting. They are often frozen to the ground in USDA hardiness zone 8b but resprout from the base in the spring.

Propagation is by seed.

Pests and Diseases

Nematodes are the biggest concern.