Gamolepis chrysanthemoides African Bush Daisy

Edward F. Gilman and Linda Landrum

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 aboveground 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

Figure 1. African bush daisy

Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

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Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: lobed
Leaf shape: ovate
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

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. African 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.

Pest and Diseases
Nematodes are the biggest concern.