



## Desert Marigold (*Baileya multiradiata*)

The Desert Marigold is an annual wildflower that blooms from March to November. A member of the Asteraceae family, the flower resembles an intense yellow daisy. Although known to be poisonous to goats and sheep, desert marigold flowers provide excellent browse for cattle and horses.

**Description:** The radiant desert marigold is a perennial wildflower. Growing up to approximately 12 to 18 inches tall, the desert marigold sprouts slender, leafless grey-green stems. Flowers are intense yellow and become thin and frail with maturity. The wildflower grows in clumps with sometimes dozens of stems sprouting from the same root.



**Uses:** The desert marigold moth utilizes the flower to build a ball-like cocoon. Bees, butterflies and other insects feed off of the desert marigold's nectar. Birds consume the small seeds during the fall season. The brilliant yellow wildflower plant is used for desert landscapes throughout the southwestern United States.

**Location:** Desert marigold expands across southern Arizona, southern Nevada, southwestern Utah, Sonora Mexico, and through the Chihuahuan Desert. These desert wildflowers thrive in extremely dry soils as they are susceptible to crown rot, a fungal disease caused by exceptionally wet soil. Seedlings need a duration of cold dormancy to begin budding.

### Sources:

"Baileya multiradiata." *Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center*. 31 Jan. 2019. [https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=bamu](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=bamu)

"Desert Marigold." *Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum*. 31 Jan. 2019. <https://www.desertmuseum.org/kids/oz/long-fact-sheets/Desert%20Marigold.php>

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