



**Scientific name:** *Ratibida columnifera*, *R. columnaris* var. *pulcherrima*

**Common name(s):** Prairie Coneflower, Mexican Hat

**Family:** Asteraceae (Sunflower)

**Native:** CO, West, Midwest, East

**Habitat:** Prairie, plains, meadows, foothills, roadsides

This long-blooming, drought-tolerant, easy to grow perennial provides nectar for bees, butterflies and other insects and seeds for birds. Combine with other native perennials like Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), Blanketflower (*Gaillardia aristata*), Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Dotted Gayfeather (*Liatris punctata*), Narrow-Leaf Coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*), Purple Prairie Clover (*Dalea purpurea*), Hairy Golden Aster (*Heterotheca villosa*) and Prairie Zinnia (*Zinnia grandiflora*).

**Plant type:** Perennial (short-lived; reseeds)

**Elevation:** Native range to 9000'

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4

**Exposure:** Full sun

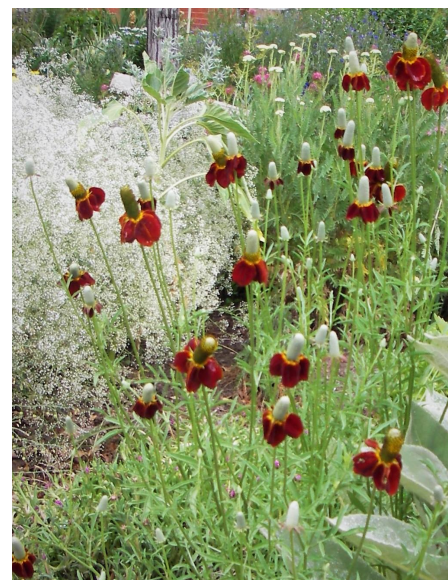
**Soil:** Clay, loam, sandy (not fussy; prefers good drainage)

**Moisture:** Moderate, low, dry, xeric

**Flower color:** Yellow, orange, brick red, maroon

**Bloom time:** Summer

**Mature size (height x width):** 12-30" x 12-18"



**Propagation:** Easy to grow from seed. Sow seeds outside in fall or cold stratify (moist, 40°F) for 90 days. Sow, cover lightly. Seeds germinate in 8-21 days at 70°F. Seed-grown plants may bloom the first or second year.

