



**Common Name:** BROADLEAF TICKSEED

**Scientific Name:** *Coreopsis latifolia* Michaux

**Other Commonly Used Names:**

**Previously Used Scientific Names:** *Leiodon latifolius* (Michaux) Shuttleworth

**Family:** Asteraceae/Compositae (aster)

**Rarity Ranks:** G3/S1

**State Legal Status:** Rare

**Federal Legal Status:** none

**Federal Wetland Status:** none

**Description:** Perennial **herb** with unbranched **stems** up to 5 feet tall (1.5 meters). **Leaves** 4 - 8 inches (10 - 20 cm) long and 2 - 4 inches (5 - 10 cm) wide, mostly opposite, broadly oval with pointed tips and tapering bases, smooth except for a few hairs on the lower surface, margins toothed, with leaf stalks up to 1 inch long. **Flower heads** about 1½ inches (4 cm) wide and less than ½ inch (1 cm) high, with two series of bracts underneath: **outer bracts** 5 per head, narrowly oblong, spreading or curved backwards; **inner bracts** erect, not overlapping, broadly oblong, usually longer than the outer bracts. **Ray flowers** 4 - 5 per head, up to ⅞ inch (2 cm) long, yellow, with pointed tips; 1 or 2 rays may be underdeveloped, giving the head a lopsided look. **Disk flowers** 10 - 18 per head, yellow or orange. **Fruit** less than ⅜ inch (7 - 9 mm) long, seed-like, flattened, ribbed, and without wings.

**Similar Species:** Broadleaf tickseed is distinguished from other tickseeds by the broad, toothed, opposite leaves. It also resembles several sunflowers (such as *Helianthus divaricatus*, *H. microcephalus*, and *H. decapetalus*) but differs in having 2 different types of bracts beneath the head.

**Related Rare Species:** See floodplain tickseed (*Coreopsis integrifolia*) on this web site.

**Habitat:** Moist hardwood forests in mountain coves, usually in canopy gaps, near openings, or along trails and forest roads.

**Life History:** Broadleaf tickseed reproduces vegetatively by sprouting from underground stems (rhizomes). It also reproduces sexually, attracting bees and other pollinators to its brightly colored flower heads. Its fruits lack the wings and bristles that aid in seed dispersal which are characteristic of other tickseed species.

**Survey Recommendations:** Surveys are best conducted during flowering (August–September).

**Range:** Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, and North Carolina

**Threats:** Logging; conversion of habitat to residential development; trail, campground, and road construction.

**Georgia Conservation Status:** Eight populations have been observed, 7 on state park or national forest land. The Union County population may have been destroyed.

**Conservation and Management Recommendations:** Avoid disturbing plants during construction and maintenance of trails and roads. Avoid clearcutting in hardwood forests.

#### **Selected References:**

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**Date Compiled or Updated:**

L. Chafin, Oct. 2007: original account

K. Owers, Jan. 2010: updated status and ranks, added pictures

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