



## ***Zizia aptera* – Heart-leaved golden Alexanders**

COMMON NAME: Heart-leaved golden Alexanders

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Zizia aptera* - This name honors Johann Baptist Ziz, a German botanist of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. *Aptera* means “without wings.”

FLOWER COLOR: Bright yellow

BLOOMING PERIOD: Mid May through June

SIZE: 1-3 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: The stems are hairless and rather shiny. The leaves are compound with finely serrated margins. The flowers occur as rounded umbels at the ends of the stems.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: The preference is for full to partial sun although light shade under trees is tolerated. It prefers dry prairies unlike its close cousin, *zizia aurea*.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Provides good early color and the flowers are attractive to many kinds of insects and some butterflies. The leaves at the base are heart-shaped, undivided and coarsely toothed.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant in full sun, water well during the first growing season.

NATURAL RANGE: Nearly all of Canada, Maine to Florida, west to Oregon and Washington, but not the southwestern states.. In Wisconsin it occurs in the southeastern counties and occasionally elsewhere.

COMPANION PLANTS: Leadplant, little bluestem, thimbleweed, silky aster, sideoats grama, pale purple coneflower, flowering spurge, purple prairie clover, prairie phlox, yellow coneflower, prairie dropseed.