



***Cassia hebecarpa* – Wild Senna**

COMMON NAME: Wild Senna

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cassia hebecarpa* – This name comes from *hebe* for young man and *carpos* for fruit. *Senna hebecarpa* is also used as the scientific name.

FLOWER: Small, butter-yellow flowers that grow in a profusion at the top of the stems.

BLOOMING PERIOD: July to August

SIZE: 4 – 6 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: Wild senna has a horizontal root system that provides stabilization against high wind velocities, making this an excellent hedge choice.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Plant in full sun on sand, loam or clay. It thrives in medium to moist soils and tolerates periodic flooding.

NATURAL RANGE: Ontario, Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee and eastwards. Not found in the Gulf States. In Wisconsin it grows along the lower Wisconsin River.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Wild senna is valued for its green foliage of large compound leaves. The bright yellow flowers are an added benefit and attract butterflies and hummingbirds. The chocolate brown seedpods that follow the flowers are a favorite of birds, especially larger birds like wild turkeys. Nice autumn color.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant about 2 feet apart and water regularly.

COMPANION PLANTS: Sedge meadows and wet prairies.