

Packera aurea



golden ragwort

Family	Asteraceae		
Origin	Native		
WIS Code	FAC	CoC	4

DESCRIPTION

This herbaceous perennial has smooth stems (30-80 cm tall) growing from creeping rhizomes (underground stems). Stem and basal leaves differ in appearance. Heart-shaped leaves with rounded toothed margins are mostly clustered at the stem base on slender stalks. The few stem leaves are stalkless, elongated with deep lobes and bluntly toothed margins.

FLOWERS AND FRUITS

Early April through July. Bright yellow daisy-like flowers form in flat-top clusters on slender stalks at the upper stem tips. Fruit is a fuzzy puffball of small brown seeds.

HABITAT

Floodplain forests, stream banks, swamps, seeps, fens, wet meadows, roadsides; abundant in the mountains.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Marsh marigold and garlic mustard look similar when only basal leaves are present. Note the leaf veins for differences. *Packera aurea* veins start from the leaf midrib. *Caltha palustris*, marsh marigold, veins radiate from a single point at the leaf base. *Alliaria petiolata*, garlic mustard, leaves smell strongly of garlic.



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Stem leaves



Basal leaves

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Flower



Seedheads

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