

Drumsticks

Craspedia globosa
(*Pycnosorus globosus*)



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Craspedia globosa is a perennial wildflower native to Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania. It is often referred to by its common names, Drumstick Flower or Billy Buttons. It is found in open grasslands and eucalyptus woods, at high altitudes, in generally clay soils. Grown as a cut flower or dried flower, it was new to cultivation in the United States in 1993, although it had been grown as an unusual alpine specimen flower previously.

Foliage is linear to lanceolate, 10 to 12 inches long, silvery-gray and pubescent, forming a rosette. Flowers are tiny, lemon yellow, in a tight terminal globe, atop a 24-inch stalk. Where hardy, *C. globosa* blooms April to August. Seeds started indoors during February and March bloom in July and August (140 to 170 days). Dried flowers persist into December.

Plant *Craspedia* in full to part sun, preferably with eastern exposure. It accepts most well-drained soils, and tolerates heat and dryness.

Cultural tolerances are not precisely defined, but the following information pertains to Blue Lake, Australia, one native site for *C. globosa*. In Northeast Ohio it can be grown as an annual.

Blue Lake, New South Wales, Australia
(near Charlotte's Pass in the Snowy Mountains)

Elevation:	6200 ft
Average annual rainfall:	90.75 in (mainly snow)
Average annual minimum temp.:	22.8° F (USDA Zone 9)
Average annual maximum temp.:	62.2° F

Related species:

Craspedia variabilis
Craspedia gluaca
Craspedia paludicola

Drumsticks, Drumstick Flower
Common Billy Buttons

