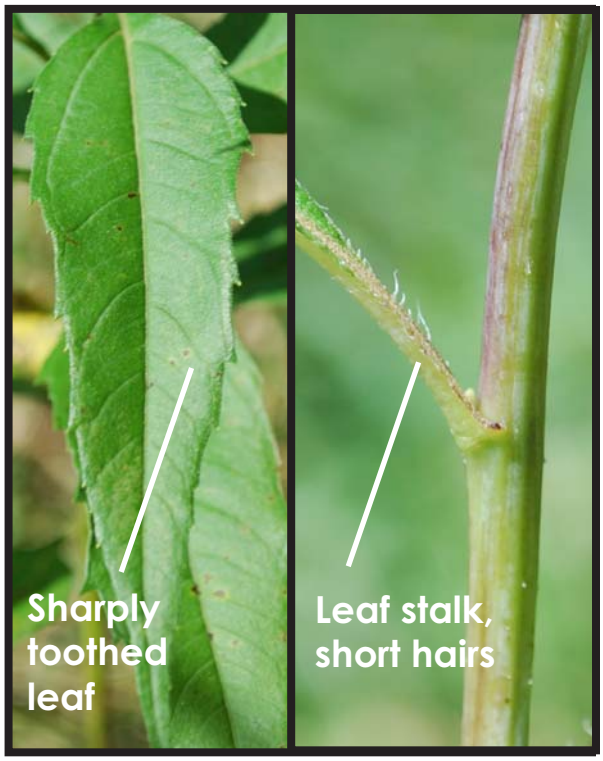
Sawtooth sunflower
Helianthus grosseserratus

Minnesota C-Value: 3
Wetland Indicator Status: FACW-
Native



Leaves: Alternate leaves 10-20 cm long and 2-5 cm wide occur on the middle to upper stem. Lower leaves opposite. Leaves are sharply toothed, lanceolate, and rough on both sides. Leaf undersides may have short hairs and are often supported by winged leaf stalks, 1-4 cm long.

Stems: 2-10 ft high. Hairless and smooth below the inflorescence. Blue-green to purple.

Flowers and fruit: Yellow with large rays 2.5-4 cm long and a central disk 3-8 cm wide. 10-20 ray flowers.

Plant communities: Wet to wet mesic prairies, inland fresh meadows, disturbed streambanks.

Comments: One of two native perennial sunflowers found in Minnesota that has alternate leaves. The other, giant sunflower (*H. giganteus*), has reddish, rough stems with sparse hairs, shorter leaf stalks, and wider, rougher leaves.