



Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

Common Name: Common dandelion, Dandelion, Faceclock, Blowball

Scientific Name: *Taraxacum officinale*

Plant Family: Asteraceae

Identifying Characteristics:

Size: 30 to 90 cm (1 to 3 ft) tall

Leaves: Toothed leaves grow in a rosette

Flowers: Each solitary flower head is made up of numerous yellow ray flowers, and is on top of a hollow, leafless stem with a milky juice.

Habitat: Very common and widely distributed in sunny locations.

Bloom time: Early spring

Information sources:

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Database

(wildflower.utexas.edu/plants/result.php?id_plant=TAOF)

USDA Plants Database (plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=TAOF)



Photograph by Gary A. Monroe @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



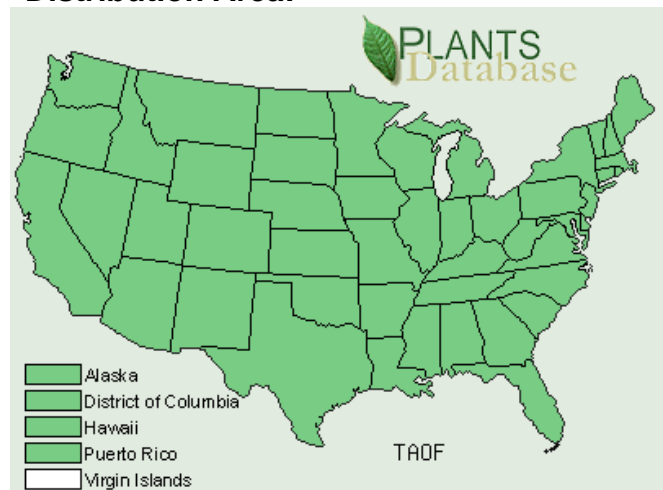
Photograph by Larry Allain @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Did you know? The popular name comes from dent de lion, French for "lion's tooth," referring to the teeth on the leaves. The tender young leaves, rich in vitamins and minerals, make good salad or cooked greens. The delicate yellow flowers can be added to fritters and pancakes or made into wine. The mildly laxative and diuretic leaves have been used in medicinal teas, digestive aids, diet drinks and rustic beers.

Phenological observation:

First Flower

Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)