Hooker’s Evening Primrose
(Oenothera elata)

Zone: 5-9
Color: Yellow
Bloom Time: June to September
Plant Type: Biennial (occasional perennial) herb
Mature Height: 2-5’ tall
Mature Spread: 2-3’ wide
Water Use: Low to high

Soil Type: Typically moist but well-drained chalk, clay, loam, sand

Range and Native Habitat: The Hooker’s Evening Primrose is native to most of the United States with the exception of the intermountain states. It grows on open slopes, road banks, and grassy areas at a wide-range of elevations.

Suggested Maintenance: Prune when needed to control ranginess. Cut back faded foliage in the fall or spring. This plant readily reseeds. Clip seed heads prior to maturing if reseeding is not desired.

Other: True to its name, the Hooker’s Evening Primrose flower opens in the evening and closes in late morning. It is pollinated by bees, moths, and butterflies — particularly, the sphynx moth. It is a prolific seeder but does not bloom until the second year. While typically occurring in wetter habitats, the species can be drought tolerant due to its deep taproot. The oil from the seeds is used in cosmetics and the majority of the plant is edible.

Wildlife Supported

Distribution Map

Landscaping Information

Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water Needs: Low to high
Summer Irrigation: Max 3x / month once established
Soil Drainage: Moderate
Propagation: By seed

Www.ag.utah.gov/farmers/conservation-division/pollinator-program