

Florida Native Plants

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Information on plant species from

Native Florida Plants (1999) Robert G Haehle, Joan Brookwell. Gulf Publishing, Maryland.



Fenflower Milkweed (*Asclepias lanceolata*)
Growing 2-4 feet this summer perennial grows in savannahs, moist ditches and brackish marshes. Located at the top of the stem are 1-3 Umbels each producing 5-12 bright orange yellow flowers. Its leaves are narrow opposite facing and around 6-8 inches long.



The Beach/Dune Sunflower (*Helianthus debilis*)

As its name suggest is a 2 inch yellow sunflower with a brown center, flowering all year round, is mostly found at beaches or dunes. Its leaves are triangular, hairy and alternated along the trailing stems.



Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea*)

The slender often-solitary square stem defines this species, which usually grows 2-5 feet tall. Flowering from July to October the 2 lipped flower (hairy on upper side) is usually 0.5-1 inch long and blue, growing terminal spikes in numbers of 2-8. This flower



Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

This native perennial is 1-3' tall. The flowers grow individually or grouped in 2-3. The flower has 5 petals, 5 petal-like sepals, and strongly exerted stamens and styles. Each petal is yellow and rounded toward the tip, but its base consists of a long nectar spur that is pale red to purplish red



Dayflower (*Commelina erecta*)

This plant grows about 8-10 inches in sandy areas and fields. The 1-inch flower has two large sky blue petals and one small white one, centered yellow. They appear in clusters on an erect stem, blooming most of the year.



Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

This daisy like 3-inch flower grows 2-3 feet tall. Usually borne singly on a hairy stem, they have red-purple rays and a reddish-brown, cone shaped center. They bloom from early summer through fall. Its leaves are coarse, prickly, oblong and alternate to 6 inches in length. Their preferred habitats are fields, disturbed areas and dry woods.



Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*)

Growing in the sun to 1.5 feet tall, the Zinnia-like flowers are usually orange or maroon with yellow tips and a dark center disc, colors are known to vary. Flowers appear singly on long stems that may sprawl or remain upright. Its preferred habitats include, beaches, roadsides or open waste sites.



Greeneyes (*Berlandiera subacaulis*)

Growing up to 18 inches the solitary daisy like flower has eight petals. Measuring 2 inches in diameter the yellow rays and green center make this species distinct. They are borne singly on hairy stems. Their leaves are lobed and somewhat hairy in a rosette at the base of the plant each 4-5 inches long.



Ground Cherry (*physalis spp.*)

A coarse-leaved plants with nodding, shallow-lobed, bell-like axils or forks in the stem. There leaves alternate, and a sweet yellow, reddish, or purplish berrylike fruit are enclosed in a papery bladder formed by the sepals. Yellow flowers with purple centers are produced singly on the ends of flower stalks. The preferred habitats are dominated by sandy soils but are also found by roadsides disturbed areas.



Scarlet Hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*)

This shrubby herbaceous perennial dies back in winter and re-sprouts in spring. Matured they can reach 7-feet tall. The flower has five petals brilliant crimson red in color and measure 6-8 inches. Each lasts only a day but new ones continue to open all summer and fall. The leaves are divided palmately (like the fingers on a hand) into 3-7 narrow, pointed, serrated lobes. This plant occurs naturally in swamps, marshes and ditches



Marsh Pink (*Sabatia spp*)

Height varies with species but can be from a few inches to 3-feet tall. Flowers are usually white to deep pink with a yellow eye. There are usually 5 petals, however some species have up to 8. The flowers are small and appear from spring to early winter at the tips of the stems, which are usually branched. The leaves are commonly long and narrow. This species prefers marshy meadows or low pinewoods.



Florida Paintbrush (*Carphephorus corymbosus*)

Growing to 3-feet in sunlight the bloom of this plant is fragrant and has flat heads of small pink/purple rayless, blooming in late summer and fall. The leaves (1-3 inches) are light green, alternate and are oval in shape, which become smaller and narrower as they ascend down the hairy stem. The native range is the coastal plain from the Carolinas to north and central Florida as this species prefers dry sandy sites as well as pine woods.



Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia* spp)

This carnivorous plant's hollow leaves trap insects, which are digested, supplying the plant with nutrients. The entire group of pitcher plants is fascinating, and consequently they have been collected from the wild to the point where they are rare and endangered. In Florida (*S. flava*) is widespread and yellow in color. Limited to the northern section are hooded pitcher plants (*S. Minor*) and a few red flowered forms such as *S. rubra*. Pictured is the white hooded pitcher plant (*S. leucophylla*), which is one of the showiest species, with large leaves up to 35 inches tall that catches the light and seems to glow from within. The leaves are green with white splotches and purple to green venation. The showy flowers have brick red to paler rose-red sepals and petals.