



#### Woody and Herbaceous Plants Native to Haiti For use in Miami-Dade Landscapes<sup>1</sup>

Haiti occupies the western one third of the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic the remainder. Of all the islands within the Caribbean basin Hispaniola possesses the most varied flora after that of Cuba. The



plants contained in this review have been recorded as native to Haiti, though some may now have been extirpated due in large part to severe deforestation. Less than 1.5% of the country's original tree-cover remains. Haiti's future is critically tied to reforestation; loss of tree cover has been so profound that exotic fast growing trees, rather than native species, are

being used to halt soil erosion and lessen the risk of mudslides. For more information concerning Haiti's ecological plight consult references at the end of this document.

For present purposes all of the trees listed below are native to Haiti, which is why non-natives such as mango (the most widely planted tree) and other important trees such as citrus, kassod tree (Senna siamea) and lead tree (Leucanea leucocephala) are not included. The latter two trees are among the fast growing species used for re-forestation. The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History's



Flora of the West Indies was an invaluable tool in assessing the range of plants native to Haiti. Not surprisingly many of the listed trees and shrubs

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are found in other parts of the Caribbean with some also native to South Florida.

It is hoped that the contents of this review will be useful for both homeowners and professional designers who wish to incorporate plants from Haiti in their landscape plans. The plants reviewed below are mostly trees and shrubs (including climbers) plus a few groundcovers. While some items are quite familiar in local landscapes, others are rarely seen but deserve wider use. The trees and shrubs selected encompass the needs of all types of landscapes, from the limited space of a condo to larger public areas and parks, and can provide shade, showy flowers, attractive foliage and utility as hedges/windbreaks.

A brief description of each plant is provided; it should be noted that many exhibit good drought and/or salt tolerance making them viable choices where reducing landscape water requirements is a priority, and for use in coastal situations. As mentioned previously some are also native to South Florida - these plants marked with an asterisk \*. Also noted where known are invasive/weedy tendencies of listed plants. Items on Miami-Dade County's list of banned plants are excluded; those listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council as category I invasive plants if not excluded are indicated.

**For installation** and establishment follow UF Extension recommendations for trees and shrubs; use best management practices regarding irrigation and use of fertilizers. Some of the shrubs and trees should be available from local nurseries (including those specializing in Florida native plants). For items that are more difficult to locate, try local fairs, rambles and plant society meetings, or search on-line sources; if you feel inclined to grow your own, seeds may be available.

Plants are grouped according to family (from Acanthaceae to Zygophyllaceae) to show diversity and for use if they are tagged after installation in the landscape (e.g., a school garden). Within each family, plants are arranged alphabetically according to the currently accepted scientific name; synonyms that may be encountered in older publications are also shown. In a few instances some ambiguity exists as to a plants current standing - the taxonomic sources consulted are shown at the end of the document.

**To find a specific plant** use the index on **p. 23**; this lists all items in alphabetical order with page number. **Common names in English**, and where known in **French and/or creole**, are listed on **p. 24** and cross referenced to the current scientific name.

#### **ACANTHACEAE**

\*Avicennia germinans
Black mangrove, palétuvier,
manglier noir, mang nwa – a
medium size bushy tree; leaves opposite
often salt encrusted; white tubular
flowers; roots form thicket of numerous
pneumatophores; adapted to salt water of
tidal flats; must be carefully pruned.

#### Ruellia coccinea

**Yerba maravilla** – a small semiwoody shrub with red flowers; prefers moist soil and light to medium shade.

#### **AIZOACEAE**

 $*Sesuvium\ portula castrum$ 

Shoreline sea-purslane, pourpier-bourd-de-mer – a

sprawling, drought and salt tolerant groundcover; small fleshy leaves and semishowy purplish flowers; useful for stabilizing sand dunes.

#### ANACARDIACEAE

\*Metopium toxiferum
Poisonwood, bois mulâtre,
maximier, machandeuse – a large
shrub/small tree with attractive bark.
Possible place in natïve habitat
restoration but use otherwise strongly
discouraged due to severe allergic
dermatitis elicited by urushiols (long
chain phenolic alcohols) present on all
plant surfaces.

Spondias mombin Yellow mombin, hog plum, grand mombin franc, momben -

Fast growing, but sparsely branched, medium-sized tree grown for edible fruit (summer-early fall); deciduous during dry season.

#### ANNONACEAE

\*Annona glabra (syn Annona palustris, Annona humboldtiana)
Pond apple; mammier; coeur de boeuf, kowosol mawon – small/medium tree; requires permanently wet soil, fruit inedible.

**Annona montana** (syn. Annona marcgravii)

Mountain soursop, kowosòl – small to medium tree; fruit similar to soursop (kowosol) but smaller and usually inferior; more cold-tolerant than soursop.

**Annona mucosa** (syn. Rollinia mucosa)

**Wild soursop; candón** – a few fruit tree nurseries may have small trees; seed available on-line. Cold sensitive and needs plenty of moisture.

#### **APOCYNACEAE**

Asclepias curassavica (syn. Asclepias nivea var. curassavica)
Scarlet milkweed; herbe
madame; bouvin; ipeca d'Haiti
Short-lived perennial with showy red flowers; self-seeds; widely used in butterfly gardens (monarch butterfly).

\*Echites umbellatus (syn. Echites echites; Echites ovatus)
Wild potato – twining vine; tubular

**Wild potato** – twining vine; tubular flowers with white, propeller-like corolla lobes; drought tolerant.

\*Pentalinon luteum (syn. Urechites lutea)

Wild allamanda; corne cabrits – scandent shrub with striking yellow flowers; best if given some support (fence or trellis).

#### Pentalinon luteum



**Plumeria obtusa** (Plumeria barahonensis, Plumeria jamaicensis)

Frangipani, franchipagne – medium/large shrub; exquisitely scented white flowers ('Singapore White' a popular cultivar). More or less evergreen unlike the more familiar hybrid plumerias.

#### Plumeria obtusa



Plumeria x stenopetala (P. obtusa x P. subsessilis)

**Frangipane** - unusual frangipani native only to Hispaniola; very narrow white petal lobes; highly resistant to frangipani rust; available from at least one area nursery.

#### Plumeria x stentopetala



Rauvolfia nitida
Milk bush; bois saisiement; bois lait femelle, bwa lèt femèl
Small tree/shrub with salver form white flowers; needs shade; limestone based soil.

#### **AQUIFOLIACEAE**

\*Ilex krugiana
Krug's holly, lombay - small to
medium tree; low maintenance.

#### **ASPARAGACEAE**

Furcraea hexapetala
Cuban sisal, bois pitre,
bayonette, jenequén, pite pays –
virtually stemless succulent herb with
rosette of narrow lanceolate leaves
(margins and tip spiny); possibly invasive.

#### **ASTERACEAE**

\*Baccharis dioica
Broombush, bois laumet — woody
base; green angular stems; leaves fleshy
with entire margins; useful for ocean front
sites (may be weedy).

#### \*Borrichia arborescens

Green sea ox-eye, petal lomer – sub-shrub suited to moist coastal

locations; narrow somewhat fleshy leaves; yellow daisy-like flowers.

#### **BIGNONIACEAE**

Catalpa longissima (syn.

Bignonia longissima)

Haitian catalpa, French oak, bois chêne, chene hatien –

medium/large, showy, flowering tree; flowers white to pale pink. In Haiti native stands have been decimated for highly valued timber.



Catalpa longissima

Crescentia cujete (Crescentia arborea, Crescentia acuminata)
Calabash, calebasse, higuere – small to medium tree; large ornamental fruit (pepo) with hard shell - used as containers after pulp removed. Under local conditions needs to be hand pollinated to reliably produce fruit.

#### Jacaranda caerulea

**Boxwood** – small, evergreen, droughttolerant tree; succeeds in limestone based soils; well adapted to coastal sites; bluishviolet flowers.

Tabebuia berteroi
Hispaniolan rosy pink trumpet
tree, Poirier – a 20-30' fast growing
tree; flowers white flushed pink with

crinkled corolla lobes, suited to any free draining soil: leaf loss during dry season.



Tabebuia berteroi

#### Tabebuia heterophylla White cedar, roble blanco –

locally a 15-30' evergreen tree (some leaves may drop in winter); pale pink flowers; many seedling volunteers.

#### Tabebuia lepidota

**Bahamas cedar** – a shrubby deciduous tree to 10-15'; scattered purplish pink flowers on bare branches.

Tecoma stans (syn. Stenlobium stans, Bignonia stans)
Yellow elder, chevalier, fleur de St. Pierre – medium/large shrub, tends to sprawl; sweetly fragrant, bright yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers; numerous seedling volunteers.

#### **BORAGINACEAE**

#### \*Bourreria succulenta

 $(Bourreria\ ovata, Bourreria\ revoluta)$ 

Bahama strong-back, mapou gris, Madame Jeanne – small tree/large shrub; white flowers and orangey fruit (inedible).



Bourreria succulenta

#### Cordia gerascanthus

**Spanish elm** – tall upright tree with pointed lanceolate leaves and tight cymes of fragrant white flowers; hard dense wood valued as lumber.

Cordia laevigata (syn. Cordia nitida)

Smooth manjack; bois chapeau; bois popit — medium-size erect tree suitable for shade; shiny dark green leaves and clusters of small white flowers; attractive red drupes draw birds.

#### Cordia sebestena

Geiger tree, bois d'ine, fleurs coquelicot, kòkèliko – small tree with bright green leaves and orange flowers; nativity to Florida questioned though may have been extirpated and later re-introduced.

\*Heliotropium angiospermum Scorpion-tail, crete coq, herbe à malingres, zimbaclot – short-lived herbaceous perennial with a scorpioid inflorescence of small white flowers; can be weedy; unkempt if not maintained.

\*Heliotropium curassavicum Sea heliotrope – low growing perennial with fleshy blue/green leaves; small white flowers; suitable as ground-cover for sandy coastal locations.

#### \*Tournefortia gnaphalodes

(syn. Argusia gnaphalodes)
Sea lavender – Shrub to 6' with
narrow, succulent silvery grey leaves and
small, white flowers clustered in curved
spikes.

\*Tournefortia hirsutissima Chiggery grapes, liane chique – shrub often growing as a vine; short curved spikes of fragrant tiny white flowers.

#### \*Varronia globosa ssp. humilis

(syn. Cordia globosa)

Bloodberry, Curacao bush – small to medium dense shrub with small rough leaves, clusters of tiny white flowers followed by bright red drupes.

#### BURSERACEAE

\*Bursera simaruba Gumbo limbo, bois de' encens, chiboue, gomye – drought-tolerant brevi-deciduous tree to 50' with swollen trunk and attractive reddish peeling bark; prone to croton scale and rugose spiraling whitefly.

#### **CALOPHYLLACEAE**

#### Calophyllum antillanum

Calaba, galba, damari — a medium to large shade tree with attractive leaves and messy fruit — use controlled in Miami-Dade. (Some authorities consider *C. antillanum* synonymous with Calophyllum brasiliense)

#### Mammea americana Mammy-apple, abrikot peyi,

**z'abricot** – an erect medium to large evergreen tree sometimes likened to a magnolia; fragrant waxy white flowers;

edible fruit (seeds poisonous); prefers moist enriched soil.

#### **CANELLACEAE**

\*Canella winterana (syn.
Canella alba, Laurus winterana)
Cinnamon bark, Camille,
canella poivree, kanèl – small,
slow growing tree, bluish waxy buds open
as small dark red and yellow flowers,
small red berries (inedible).



Canella winterana

#### **CANNABACEAE**

\*Trema lamarckianum (syn.

Celtis lamarckiana)

West Indian trema, bois mahaut, mahaut piment — fast growing, soft-wooded, large shrub/small tree; long lax branches; tight clusters of small orangey drupaceous fruit borne in leaf axils. Some authorities place *Trema* spp. in the Ulmaceae or Celtidaceae.

\*Trema micranthum (syn. Rhamnus micrantha)
Florida trema, bois chique, bois de scie - A medium sized tree erect and symmetrical at first; becomes more open and untidy as it matures; leaves in two ranks along stems, dull green, upper surface somewhat scabrous; can be weedy in landscape; highly drought tolerant.

#### **CAPPARACEAE**

\*Quadrella cynophallophora (syn. Capparis jamaiciensis;

(syn. Capparis jamaiciensis; Capparis cynophallophora) -

Jamaica caper, bwa kaka, bwa dajan



Quadrella cynophallophora

Large slow-growing shrub; dense foliage; can eventually make an excellent privacy screen; attractive white to pink, fragrant flowers opening night into following morning; an occasional application of organic fertilizer beneficial; drought tolerant; good for coastal sites.

\*Cyanophalla flexuosa (syn. Capparis flexuosa) Limber caper, falseteeth, bwa kaka — large shrub with scandent growth habit; showy, fragrant (at night) flowers; fruit a capsule splits to reveal white seeds set in bright red aril.

#### **CELASTRACEAE**

 $*Crossopetalum\ ilicifolium$ 

**Christmas berry** – an attractive if slow growing groundcover with tiny holly-like leathery leaves.

Crossopetalum ilicifolium



\*Crossopetalum rhacoma (syn Myginda pallens, Rhacoma pallens)

Maidenberry, tsewai, sewal – small tree/shrub with dense crown of small leathery leaves

\*Gyminda latifolia
False boxwood, tse-wen – large
evergreen shrub to 20' with angular
stems, bright green glabrous leaves and
small white flowers.

\*Schaefferia frutescens
Florida boxwood, bois blanc,
pti-garçon, plé, bwa kapab —
small tree or shrub with stiff angular
branches and leathery leaves; ornamental
fruit. Best grown with light shade.

#### **CHYSOBALANACEAE**

 $*Chrysobalanus\ icaco$ 

Cocoplum, icaque, ikak – 15-20' densely foliated small tree/large shrub with edible fruit; most often seen as a low hedge in Miami-Dade.

#### CLUSIACEAE (includes

Guttiferae)

fig.

\*Clusia rosea

Pitch apple, autograph tree, bois pale, bwa pal, figuier maudit — slow growing small to medium tree with thick rubbery leaves; may develop stilt roots; flowers with waxy white petals tinged pink; fruit inedible (poisonous). 'Nana' is a dwarf cultivar. N.B. Potentially invasive, seeds can germinate in tree canopy like a strangler

#### Garcinia aristata

**Cuban mangosteen** – slow-growing, narrow, upright tree to 10-15'; leaves with short spiny tip, salt tolerant and adapted to calcareous soils.



Garcinia spicata

#### **COMBRETACEAE**

Bucida buceras

Black olive, gri-gri, gué-gué – medium to large tree; popular for shade; tree can stain vehicles, concrete etc.;

'Shady Lady' a smaller cultivar.

 $*Conocarpus\ erectus\ (syn.$ 

Conocapus sericea, Conocarpus erectus var. sericeus)

Buttonwood, mang nwa -

shrub/small to medium tree; silver leaved form most commonly seen (overused).

#### **COMMELINACEAE**

#### Callisia repens

Inch plant, bon dieu soleil, bon dieu mouri, mais marron – matforming creeping perennial with succulent stems and leaves. Used as a groundcover but readily grows out of bounds.

#### **EUPHORBIACEAE**

#### \*Croton glandulosus

**Tooth-leaved croton** — Low growing, herbaceous perennial; usually associated with pinelands. **N.B**. The shrubs familiar to most as crotons are from a different plant genus, *Codiaeum* native from Malaya westward to islands in the Pacific.

#### $*Gymnanthes\ lucida\ (syn.$

Ateramnus lucidus, Sebastiana lucida)

Crabwood, bois marbré, bwa mabre – small tree with flaking bark and leathery, bright green leaves.

#### Hura crepitans

Sandbox tree, arbre au diable,

**rabi** – stocky shade tree but rarely used due to large spines, poisonous sap and seeds. Not recommended.

### Jatropha multifida (Jatropha hastata)

Coral plant, médicinier des Indes, papaya sauvage, papay sovaj – small, fast growing tree, large deeply lobed leaves; terminal, muchbranched inflorescence with red stems bearing scarlet flowers; seeds poisonous. [Physic nut, feuilles médicinier (*J. curcas*) and bellyache bush, ti-mapou feuilles or médecinier batârd (*J. gossypilifolia*) both native to Haiti but less landscape appeal].

#### **FABACEAE** (formerly

Leguminosae)

#### Andira inermis

#### Cabbage bark, bois palmist,

**bwa palmis** – large slow growing evergreen tree (50 -120') with a short bole, pyramidal canopy and heavily buttressed trunk; bark scaly with unpleasant smell, deep pink flowers in large panicles,



Andira inermis

#### Canavalia rosea

Bay bean, grains ouary, pois maldioc mer, pois zombie – main stem procumbent, base becoming woody; trifoliate leaves; violet pea-like flowers; excellent for open sandy coastal sites.

#### $*Dalbergia\ ecastaphyllum$

(Hedysarum ecastaphyllum, Pterocarpus ecastaphyllum) Coin vine, liane à clous, z'herbe à clous' zèb aklou - scandent to trailing shrub with ornamental coin shaped pods.

Hymenaea courbaril (syn. *Hymenaea stilbocarpa*) West Indian locust, coubaril, gomme animee, pwa konfiti - a slow growing, potentially large tree with a spreading canopy and buttressed roots; a few specialist nurseries may have container plants but seeds are available.

\*Lysiloma latisiliquum (syn. Lysiloma bahamense, Acacia latisilqua)

Wild tamarind, taverneau medium tree with open canopy, attractive bark and foliage.

Lysiloma sabicu (syn. Lysiloma *paucifoliolum*)

#### Horse-flesh mahogany, tabèno

- small/medium tree, more storm tolerant than wild tamarind; non-invasive roots.

Parkinsonia aculeata Jerusalem thorn, Madame Naiz, Madame Yass – small spiny tree with light airy canopy and sweetly fragrant yellow flowers; coarse, fast draining soil essential; drought tolerant

#### \*Pithecellobium unguis-cati

(Pithecellobium pulchellum) **Catclaw** – sprawling shrub with vicious

spines and ornamental pods – can be used as an impenetrable security barrier.

#### Senna bicapsularis Christmas bush, bois d'anneau

 shrub with a scandent growth habit; showy winter display of bright yellow flowers; can be confused with Senna pendula listed as an invasive weedy plant in Florida and prohibited in Miami-Dade.

\*Senna ligustrina (syn. Cassia bahamensis, Cassia ligustrina) Privet senna, pis piante – small, semi-woody shrub with yellow flowers.

#### Sophora tomentosa var. littoralis

Necklace pod – pan-tropical distribution; many forms, var. truncata a Florida native; large shrub with racemes of yellow flowers.

#### GOODENIACEAE

\*Scaevola plumieri (syn Lobelia plumieri, Scaevola thunbergii) **Inkberry** – low growing shrub with succulent leaves and small fan shaped white flowers.

Scaevola plumierei



#### **HELICONIACEAE**

Heliconia bihai Wild plantain, banana marron, **bannann mawon** – large, clumping, herbaceous perennial with striking foliage; 'lobster claw' cultivars with spectacular large scarlet inflorescences; moist soil and light shade.

#### Heliconia bihai



#### LAURACEAE

\*Nectandra coriaceae (syn.

Ocotea coriaceae)

**Lancewood, cap henri, laurier** blanc, lorie blan – small to medium tree with aromatic leaves and fragrant white flowers.



Byrsonima lucida

#### **MALPIGHIACEAE**

Byrsonima crassifolia (syn Byrsonima lanceolata, Malpighia crassifolia)

Nance, bois corne – small to moderate flowering tree; edible fruit; needs fast draining soil.

#### \*Byrsonima lucida

**Locustberry** – potentially large shrub; many erect stems with small leathery leaves; racemes of flowers – white to pink then red; avoid over watering.

**Malpighia emarginata** (syn. *Malpighia glabra*)

West Indian Cherry, ti seriz petit cerise, cerise de St

**Domingue** – large flowering shrub with edible fruit high in Vitamin C; weevil damage can limit fruit production.

Stigmaphyllon sagraeanum

**Alambrillo** – twining vine; profuse clusters of yellow flowers.

#### **MALVACEAE**

Ceiba pentandra (Bombax pentandrum, Ceiba caribea)
Giant kapok, fromager, mapou coton — potentially massive tree with large buttressed roots more suited to public spaces; liable to suffer limb loss in wind storms.

#### Pseudobombax ellipticum

Shaving-brush tree – fast growing, medium size tree with swollen trunk; spreading canopy of palmate leaves; deciduous; showy red, brush-like flowers on bare branches in early spring



Pseudobombax ellipticum

#### \*Waltheria indica (syn.

Waltheria americana)

**Sleepy morning** – short-lived small shrub with fragrant orangey yellow flowers – seeds available, may be weedy.

#### **MELASTOMATACEAE**

#### \*Tetrazygia bicolor

West Indian lilac – large shrub with closely packed spikes of showy white flowers, needs limestone based soils otherwise difficult to establish.

Tetrazygia bicolor



#### **MELIACEAE**

Cedrela odorata (syn Cedrela glaziovii; Cedrela mexicana)

West Indian cedar; sèd – medium to large deciduous tree; must have free draining site; saplings prone to mahogany shoot borer damage; in Caribbean native stands now restricted to scattered sites in Puerto Rico; scented wood used for cigar boxes.



Cedrela odorata

\*Swietenia mahagoni (Cedrela mahagoni)

West Indian mahogany, acajou, kajou peyi – medium to large tree; over used locally; structural defects can render trees susceptible to storm damage.

#### **MORACEAE**

Ficus americana var. americana

West Indian laurel fig, figuier canelle – locally grows to under 40'; few if any aerial roots; 2", oblong to ovate, coriaceous leaves.

\*Ficus citrifolia
Shortleaf fig, figuier – small to
medium tree, few if any aerial roots; may
occasionally develop as a strangler fig.

#### **MUNTINGIACEAE**

#### Muntingia calabura

Capulin, bwa swa mawon – fast growing, soft wooded tree; strawberry-like flowers; small red berries very sweet but bland.

#### MYRICACEAE

\*Morella cerifera (syn. Myrica cerifera)

Wax myrtle, kanèl dous - Fastgrowing shrub to small tree with narrow, waxy, aromatic leaves; variable in appearance; forms root suckers especially dwarf forms; prefers moist slightly acidic sandy soils but can adapt if more calcareous; prone to lac scale and dieback.



#### \*Calyptranthes pallens

**Spicewood** – small shrubby tree with pleasantly aromatic leaves; suitable for use as a hedge, adapts to limestone soils.

\*Calyptranthes zuzygium (syn Myrtus zuzygium, Myrtle-of-the-river - small tree similar to spicewood but prefers moister soil.

\*Eugenia axillaris (syn. Myrtus axillaris)

White stopper – shrub/small tree; fragrant flowers; leaves with musky odor when bruised (unpleasant to some); accepts part shade; adapts to limestone soils.

#### \*Eugenia confusa

**Red-berry stopper** – Shrub/small tree; shiny leaves with markedly attenuate tip; small red berries; adapts to limestone soils; accepts part shade; susceptible to lac scale.



Calyptranthes pallens

\*Eugenia foetida (syn. Eugenia buxifolia)

Spanish stopper, malaguette, merisier, petites feuilles – small tree/shrub; small leaves with rounded apices; useful for hedges.

#### \*Eugenia rhombea

Red stopper, bois myrte, myositis, tufais – shrub/small tree; tight canopy of 2-3" shiny oval leaves with apiculate tips; slow-growing and slow to flower/fruit; well adapted to limestone based soils.

\*Mosiera longipes (syn. Psidium longipes)

Mangrove berry, long-stalked stopper - usually a low growing sprawling shrub; leaves small and shiny; can be maintained as a groundcover.

\*Myrcianthes fragrans Simpson stopper; bois d'ine, bois mulâtre, malaguette – large shrub/small tree; trunk with smooth, peeling reddish bark.



Myrcianthes fragrans

 ${\it Myrciaria\ floribunda}\ ({\it syn}.$ 

Eugenia floribunda)

Rumberry, bois mulâtre — small, slow-growing, attractive shrub with tangy edible fruit.

#### Pimenta racemosa

Bay rum, bois d'ine francais, clou de girofle, klou jiròf, myrte à feuilles de laurier –

small tree with rounded canopy; shiny leathery leaves; source of bay rum essence.

#### Psidium guajava

Guava, goavier, gouyave – a small tree with peeling bark grown widely for its' aromatic fruit; considered potentially invasive in Florida.

#### NYCTAGINACEAE

\*Guapira discolor (Guapira longifolia, Pisonia discolor)
Longleaf blolly – large shrub/small tree; insignificant flowers followed by red drupaceous fruits.

#### **OLACACEAE**

#### \*Ximenia americana

#### Florida hog-plum, croc, macaby

 small tree or spreading shrub, salt and drought tolerant; orangey red 1" drupes with sub-acid, edible flesh.

#### **OLEACEAE**

#### \*Forestiera segregata

Florida privet - Bushy shrub or much-branched tree with multiple trunks; can be used for tall hedges in place of ligustrum; volunteers readily from seed.

#### **PASSIFLORACEAE**

#### Passiflora spp.

Passion vines – there are several species native to Haiti including *P. bilobata*, two-lobed passionflower (tends to be weedy); *P. foetida*, fetid passionflower; *P. laurifolia*, water lemon, calabasique, pomme linae (showy flowers, edible fruit); *P. multiflora\** whiteflowered passionvine; *P. rubra*, dutchman's laudanum, bois coulevre, ticancon (semi-showy flowers); *P. sexflora\** goatfoot (semi-showy flower) *P. suberosa*, corky-stem passion-flower, ti-diane. Flowers of above passion-vines mostly unremarkable; some grown as butterfly attractants.

#### Turnera diffusa

**Damiana, thé bourrique** – Low growing shrubby herbaceous perennial with small yellow flowers; pleasant fragrance; widely grown as a medicinal herb.

Turnera diffusa



Turnera ulmifolia
Yellow alder, du thym, marilop,
zombi nan bois – low growing shrub
with striking yellow flowers, can be used
as a groundcover though need to control
weedy tendencies.

Turnera ulmifolia



#### **PICRAMNIACEAE**

\*Picramnia pentandra
Bitterbush, bois poison, ojo de
peje, valliant garcon, kafe
mawon — large shrub, occasionally a
small tree, with pinnately compound
leaves and dark red, extremely bitter
berries.

#### POLYGONACEAE

\*Coccoloba diversifolia
Pigeon plum, maivisse,
raisinier, zamon marron - Large
shrub to small tree with dense, columnar,
evergreen crown and attractive, peeling bark;
edible dark purple berries on female flowering
trees; weevils may disfigure leaves.

Coccoloba pubescens (syn. Coccoloba grandifolia) Grandleaf seagrape, gamelle, moralón, raisin grandes feuilles – sparsely branched tree, leaves similar to seagrape but not as stiff, much larger (to 2½') and prominently veined.

## \*Coccoloba uvifera Sea grape, raisin la mer, raisinier bord-de-mer, rezen

lamè - Large shrub/spreading tree; leaves red-veined, outsized, orbicular and leathery; edible fruit on female flowering plants; highly drought tolerant; fallen leaves can be messy and are slow to decompose. Susceptible to several insect pests.

#### **PRIMULACEAE**

#### \*Jacquinia keyensis

**Joewood** — very slow growing, medium (rarely large) dense shrub with stiff, mucronate leaves, fragrant white flowers and orange berry (inedible, poisonous); competes poorly with turf grass and tree roots; drought and salt tolerant; adapted to calcareous soils.



Jacquinia keyensis

#### **PUTRANJIVACEAE**

\*Drypetes laterifolia (syn. Schaefferia laterifolia, Drypetes crocea)

# Guiana plum, bois côtelette – large shrub/small tree with coriaceous leaves (leathery but pliable); similar to more familiar lancewood (*Ocotea coriaceae*), but lacks latter's aromatic

leaves and fragrant white flowers.

#### RHAMNACEAE

\*Colubrina arborescens
Coffee colubrina, bois de fer,
bois mabi, bwa ple – leathery ovate
leaves; younger stems covered with
reddish brown downy hairs; readily
volunteers in landscape from seeds.



Colubrina arborescens

\*Colubrina elliptica (syn Ceanothus reclinata; Colubrina reclinata; Rhamnus elliptica) Soldierwood, bwa mabi, bois mabit – small to medium tree with flaking bark.

\*Krugiodendron ferreum (syn Rhamnus ferreus)
Black ironwood, bois fer blanc, bois fait, bois petites feuilles - very slow growing medium size tree; storm tolerant; extremely hard dense wood.

#### RHIZOPHORACEAE

\*Rhizophora mangle
Red mangrove, manglier,
manglier chandelle – forms stilt
roots; prefers shallow brackish water;
useful for protected marshy coastal sites

away from immediate ocean front; will not survive if incorrectly pruned.

#### **ROSACEAE**

\*Prunus myrtifolia (syn. Prunus sphaerocarpa, Celastrus myrtifolius)

West Indies cherry, la mandit, ya ya boba, lamandye ti fey – small tree with fragrant flowers; fruit inedible (seeds poisonous).

Prunus occidentalis
Almendron, prune tree,
amandier á grandes feuilles,
lamandye gran fèy – large tree with
dense wood; prefers moist soil; most
suitable for public spaces; highly valued
for superior timber.

#### **RUBIACEAE**

\*Chiococca alba (Chiococca racemosa, Lonicera racemosa)
Snowberry, croc soris,
quimaque, kimak – sprawling
shrub; conspicuous ornamental white fruit
(a drupe), requires pruning to remain
within bounds.

## \*Erithalis fruticosa Black torch – densely foliaged medium to large shrub with white flowers.

#### \*Ernodea littoralis

**Beach-creeper** — stems woody at base, prostrate and rooting where they touch the ground; an excellent ground cover for coastal sites.

\*Exostema caribaea (syn. Cinchona caribeae) Caribbean princewood, Chandelle anglaise, quinquina pays – small tree/large shrub; stems with conspicuously enlarged nodes and white flowers.

#### Genipa americana Genip, gêne pas, genipayer -

medium to large tree; fragrant white tubular flowers; fruit consumed when over-ripe; requires rich, moist acidic soil; extremely limited cold tolerance; long term survival in local landscapes doubtful.

#### \*Guettarda elliptica (syn.

*Matthiola elliptica*)

Hammock velvet seed — similar to rough velvet seed (see below) but leaves soft not scabrous.

#### \*Guettarda scabra (syn.

Matthiola scabra)

Rough velvetseed — Small tree/large shrub; leaves scabrous, flowers white jasmine-like, inedible red berries.

Guettarda scabra



Hamelia cuprea (syn. Hamelia cuprea var haitiensis)
Coppery hamelia, Bahamas
firebush, corail – very attractive

large shrub/small tree, glossy light green leaves; orangey yellow bell-shaped flowers; salt and drought tolerant; semi-deciduous locally.



Hamelia cuprae

### \*Hamelia patens Firebush, fleur corail, koray

**wouj** – flowering shrub, occasionally a small tree, tubular red flowers attract hummingbirds (can be weedy and is somewhat overused locally).

#### Ixora ferrea

Iron wood, bois de fer, bois

mabi – small tree/shrub; rather shiny, lanceolate leaves; stems with prominent nodes from which arise clusters of small, white, fragrant flowers; wood hard and tough; found in understory of moist limestone forests.

#### \*Morinda royoc

Yellow root, cheese shrub, estologee, safran de pays — shrub with thin sprawling stems, small white flowers and yellow fruit with a cheese like odor. Widely used in butterfly gardens.

#### Palicourea croca

**Red palicourea** – large shrub; leaves similar to *Psychotria* and mostly at distal end of stem; small red/yellow tubular flowers (resemble firebush) in terminal or axillary cymose inflorescence; prefers moist soil.

\*Psychotria ligustrifolia Smooth wild coffee – similar to P. nervosa except flowers are borne on conspicuous stems.

#### \*Psychotria nervosa (syn.

Psychotria undata)

**Wild coffee** – medium shrub; leaves with prominent depressed veins; white flowers; dark red drupes – best with some light shade.

#### \*Psychotria tenuifolia (syn.

Psychotria sulzneri)

**Short-leaf wild coffee** - similar to *P.nervosa* except stems always hairy; flowers greenish white.

## \*Randia aculeata White indigo berry, croca chien, resuelesuele, kròk chen

 usually a medium, spiny shrub; fragrant white star-shaped flowers, white berries (inedible). Highly salt tolerant

Strumpfia maritima



\*Strumpfia maritima Pride-of-Big-Pine

An attractive, low growing, profusely branched shrub; leaves linear with highly revolute margins; diminutive white – pink flowers; adapted to coastal sites; rarely propagated, search for seed sources.

N.B. Listed as endangered in Florida

#### **RUTACEAE**

#### \*Amyris elemifera

#### Torchwood, bois chandelle -

Shrub/small tree in the citrus family; bark gray to brown; aromatic compound leaves; leaflets dark, shiny green: small fragrant white flowers in terminal clusters (spring to fall) followed by purplish fruit.

#### \*Amyris balsamifera Balsam torchwood, bwa

**chandèl** – small aromatic bush or small tree; opposite leaves with 3-5 leaflets; in Florida only found in Miami-Dade and Keys; source of essential oil used as a substitute for sandalwood.

#### \*Zanthoxylum coriaceum

**Biscayne prickly ash** - Extremely rare component of coastal hammocks from Palm Beach south to Keys. Similar to *Z. fagara* below but smaller and having a neater appearance.

#### \*Zanthoxylum fagara Wild lime, pine juane, pine jòn -

Large shrub or open tree with recurved spines, lime-scented pinnate leaves with winged rachis; insignificant yellow flowers attract butterflies; nursery production regulated - a host for insect vector (a psyllid) of citrus greening disease.

#### \*Zanthoxylum flavum Satinwood, misimieu – small to medium tree (more shubby in drier habitats).

#### **SALICACEAE**



Samyda dodecandra

Casearia nitida (syn. Samyda nitida)

**Smooth honey tree** – small tree with tiny, sweetly fragrant flowers and orange fruit; locally available but may be difficult to locate; drought tolerant.

#### Samyda dodecandra

Wild guave, bois d'orme – large shrub/small tree; leaves hairy with prominent veins and finely serrated margins; flowers lack petals but with 5 pink sepals; dehisced fruit orangey-red.

#### **SAPINDACEAE**

\*Dodonaea viscosa Varnish leaf, manglier petits feuilles, patavier, mang ti fèy –

large, pan-tropical shrub; leaves appear lacquered; seed capsules papery and with 2-3 wings, often tinged pink.

\*Exothea paniculata (syn. Melicocca paniculata, Hypelate paniculata)

### Inkwood, butterbough, bois mulet, quénépier marron –

medium tree with dense canopy of glossy leaves; mildly fragrant, small white flowers.

\*Hypelate trifoliata (syn. Amyris hypelata)

White ironwood, chandelle marron, gallipeau – small tree/large shrub; leaves trifoliate with small leaflets; heavy dense wood.

\*Sapindus saponaria (syn. Sapindus indicus)

Soapberry, bois savonette, grenalit, mobin batârd, savonèt

- small to medium shade tree; leaves compound with winged rachis; leathery, brown inedible drupes (poisonous) - not messy as most remain attached to tree.

#### SAPOTACEAE

Chrysophyllum cainito
Star apple, kaymit, gran
cayemite — attractive edible fruit tree, similar to C. oliviforme.(see below).

#### \*Chrysophyllum oliviforme<sup>2</sup> Satin leaf, kaymit mawon,

**caimite** - attractive bright green leaves, undersides covered with soft coppery brown indumentum; limited drought tolerance; prefers evenly moist soils. Very attractive but can be difficult /slow to establish especially on bare limestone or open sites.

#### Manilkara jaimiqui

**N.B.** Two sub-species (ssp. *haitensis* and ssp. *jaimiqui*) are found in Haiti but not in Florida where ssp. *emarginata* occurs and is commonly referred to as wild dilly (syn.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *C. oliviforme* **ssp.** *angustifolium* is found only in Haiti (Hispaniola); the **ssp.** *olivifolium* is found both in Haiti and South Florida.

Manilkara bahamensis). This latter subspecies is not found in Haiti.

#### \*Sideroxylon foetidissimum

(syn. *Mastichodendron* foetidissimum)

False mastic, ascomat — Medium to large tree; trunk flared, bark greyish brown flaking off in large thick squares; long petiolated, wavy margined leaves; bright yellow, night-fragrant flowers followed by edible berries in late winter. Slow growing with dense hard wood.

### \*Sideroxylon salicifolium (syn. Bumelia salicifolium, Dipholis salicifolium)

Willow bustic, acomat marron, caya rubia, m'panache —Large shrub/medium tree with flaky grey bark; narrow canopy of shiny, medium green lanceolate leaves; clusters of white fragrant flowers borne on usually leafless stem sections

#### **SIMAROUBACEAE**

\*Simarouba glauca (syn.

Quassia glauca)

Paradise tree, bois blanc, bois frêne, fwenn – 30' shade tree, attractive long pinnate leaves with stiff, rounded glossy leaflets (flushed orangey red on new growth); good wind resistance.

#### **SURIANACEAE**

\*Suriana maritima

Bay cedar, crisse marine, krist marinn, perce-pierre - Low evergreen shrub, or a small tree; dark brown peeling bark; leaves narrowly obovate, grey/green, sessile, fleshy, clustered at the ends of much branched stems; semi-showy yellow flowers often hidden by foliage; perfect for frontline ocean sites.

#### **VERBENACEAE**

\*Citharexylum spinosum (syn Citharexylum fruticosum, Citharexylum quadrangulare)
Fiddlewood, grenarde marron, madame claude, madam klòd – medium tree/large shrub with pendent spikes of small fragrant white flowers.



Duranta erecta

Duranta erecta (syn. Duranta repens, Duranta plumieri))
Golden dewdrop, bois jambette, mais bouilli – medium to large shrub with scattered spines; blue flowers followed by numerous yellowish orange drupes (inedible, poisonous).

Lantana involucrata



#### \*Lantana involucrata

Buttonsage, cerise — small/medium shrub with aromatic leaves and tight clusters of small white flowers, fruit (yellowish drupe) inedible.

\*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis
(syn. Verbena jamaicensis)

Porterweed, vereine, verveine
à queue de rat – low growing (1-3')
herbaceous shrub with terminal spikes of
blue flowers. Stachytarpheta
cayennensis (syn. S. urticifolia) is often
sold as porterweed but is a taller shrub; it
is native to Hispaniola but not Florida.

#### VITACEAE

\*Cissus verticillata (syn. C. sicyoides) Princess vine, possum grape, feuille cotaire, herbe à ulcéres — rampant vine with aerial roots — can easily grow out of control especially if allowed to grow into a tree.

#### **ZYGOPHYLLACEAE**

Guaiacum officinale bois saint, gaiac blanc, gaiac cardasse, gayak mal – Differs from G. sanctum in slight differences in flower structure and fruits.

\*Guaiacum sanctum (syn. G. guatemalense Lignum vitae,

#### arbre de vie, baiac batârd, gaiac official, gayak femèl

- slow growing small tree; develops an attractively gnarled and contorted trunk; striking blue flowers (mainly late winter/early spring), ornamental orangey yellow fruit.



Guaiacum officinale

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#### **INDEXES ARE BELOW:**

Plants are first listed in alphabetical order using currently accepted scientific names with family affiliation and page number.

Common names in English, French or Creole are also listed in alphabetical order and cross indexed to the scientific name index.

INDEX OF SCIENTIFIC NAMES	Dodonaea viscosa SAPINDACEAE 19
	Drypetes laterifolia PUTRANJIVACEAE 15
Amyris basamifera RUTACEAE 18	Duranta erecta VERBENACEAE 20
Amyris elemifera " 18	Echites umbellatus APOCYNACEAE 3
Andira inermis FABACEAE 9	Erithalis fruticosa RUBIACEAE 16
Annona glabra ANNONACEAE 3	Ernodea littoralis RUBIACEAE 16
Annona montana " 3	Eugenia axillaris MYRTACEAE 13
Annona mucosa " 3	Eugenia confusa " 13
Asclepias curassavica APOCYNACEAE 3	Eugenia foetida " 13
Avicennia germinans ACANTHACEAE 3	Eugenia rhombea " 13
Baccharis dioica ASTERACEAE 4	Exostema caribaea RUBIACEAE 16
Borrichia arborescens " 5	Exothea paniculata SAPINDACEAE 19
Bourreria succulenta BORAGINACEAE 5	Ficus americana var. americana
Bucida buceras COMBRETACEAE 8	MORACEAE 12
Bursera simaruba BURSERACEAE 6	Ficus citrifolia MORACEAE 12
Byrsonima lucida MALPIGHIACEAE 11	Forestiera segregata OLEACEAE 14
Byrsonima crassifolia " 11	Furcraea hexapetala ASPARAGACEAE 4
Caesaria nitida SALICACEAE 19	Garcinia aristata CLUSIACEAE 8
Callisia repens COMMELINACEAE 9	Genipa americana RUBIACEAE 17
Calophyllum antillanum	Guaiacum officinale ZYGOPHYLLACEAE 21
CALOPHYLLACEAE 6	Guaiacum sanctum " 21
Calyptranthes pallens MYRTACEAE 12	Guapira discolor NYCTAGINACEAE 14
Calyptranthes zuzygium MYRTACEAE 12	Guettarda elliptica RUBIACEAE 16
Canavalia rosea FABACEAE 9	Guettarda scabra " 16
Canella winterana CANELLACEAE 7	Gymnanthes lucida EUPHORBIACEAE 9
Catalpa longissima BIGNONIACEAE 5	Gyminda latifolia CELASTRACEAE 8
Cedrela odorata MELIACEAE 12	Hamelia cuprae RUBIACEAE 17
Ceiba pentandra MALVACEAE 11	Hamelia patens " 17
Chiococca alba RUBIACEAE 16	Heliconia bihai HELICONIACEAE 10
Chrysobalanus icaco	$Heliotropium\ angiospermum$
CHRYSOBALANACEAE 8	BORAGINACEAE 6
Chrysophyllum cainito SAPOTACEAE 19	Hura crepitans EUPHORBIACEAE 9
Chrysophyllum oliviforme " 19	Hymenaea courbaril FABACEAE 10
Cissus verticillata VITACEAE 20	Hypelate trifoliata SAPINDACEAE 19
Citharexylum spinosum VERBENACEAE 20	Ilex krugiana AQUIFOLIACEAE 4
Clusia rosea CLUSIACEAE 8	Ixora ferrea RUBIACEAE 17
Coccoloba diversifolia POLYGONACEAE 15	Jacaranda caerulea BIGNONIACEAE 5
Coccoloba pubescens " 15	Jacquinia keyensis PRIMULACEAE 15
Coccoloba uvifera POLYGONACEAE 15	Jatropha curcas EUPHORBIACEAE 9
Colubrina arborescens RHAMNACEAE 16	Jatropha multifidia " 9
Colubrina elliptica RHAMNACEAE 16	Krugiodendron ferreum RHAMNACEAE 16
Conocarpus erectus COMBRETACEAE 8	Lantana involucrata VERBENACEAE 21
Cordia gerascanthus BORAGINACEAE 6	Lysiloma latisiliquum FABACEAE 10
Cordia laevigata BORAGINACEAE 6	Lysiloma sabicu FABACEAE 10
Cordia sebestena BORAGINACEAE 6	Malpighia emarginata MALPIGHIACEAE 1
Crescentia cujete BIGNONIACEAE 5	Mammea americana CALOPHYLLACEAE 6
Crossopetalum ilicifolium CELASTRACEAE 7	Manilkara jaimiqui SAPOTACEAE 19
Crossopetalum rhacoma CELASTRACEAE 8	Metopium toxiferum ANACARDIACEAE 3
Croton glandulosus EUPHORBIACEAE 9	Moisirea longipes MYRTACEAE 13
Cynophalla flexuosa CAPPARACEAE 7	Morella cerifera MYRICACEAE 13
Dalbergia ecastophyllum FABACEAE 9	com co. vjo. w miliworionim io
_ 1 <i>v</i>	

Morinda royoc RUBIACEAE 17	Tabebuia berteroi BIGNONIACEAE 5
Muntingia calabara MUNTINGIACEAE 13	Tabebuia heterophylla " 5
Myrcianthes fragrans MYRTACEAE 13	Tabebuia lepidota " 5
Myrciaria floribunda MYRTACEAE 14	Tecoma stans " 5
Nectandra coriaceae LAURACEAE 11	Tetrazygia bicolor MELASTOMATACEAE 11
Palicourea croca RUBIACEAE 17	Tournefortia gnaphalodes
Parkinsonia aculeata FABACEAE 10	BORAGINACEAE 6
Passiflora bilobata PASSIFLORACEAE 14	Tournefortia hirsutissima " 6
" foetida " "	Trema lamarckiana CANNABACEAE 7
" laurifolia " "	Trema micrantha " "
" multifolia " "	Turnera diffusa PASSIFLORACEAE 14
" rubra " "	Turnera ulmifolia " 15
" sexfora " "	Varronia globosa ssp. humilis
" suberosa " "	BORAGINACEAE 6
Pentalinon luteum APOCYNACEAE 3	Waltheria indica MALVACEAE 12
Picramnia pentandra PICRAMNIACEAE 14	Ximenia americana OLACEAE 14
Pimenta racemosa MYRTACEAE 13	Zanthoxylum coriaceum RUTACEAE 18
Pithecellobium ungus-cati FABACEAE 10	Zanthoxylum fagra " "
Plumeria obtusa APOCYNACEAE 4	Zanthoxylum flavum " "
Plumeria x stentopetala " 4	
Prunus myrtifolia ROSACEAE 16	
Prunus occidentalis ROSACEAE 16	INDEX OF COMMON NAMES
Pseudobombax ellipticum MALVACEAE 11	Use the list of scientific names to find page
Psidium guajava MYRTACEAE 14	numbers.
Psychotria ligustrifolia RUBIACEAE 18	
Psychotria nervosa " "	Abrikot peyi Mammea americana
Psychotria tenuifolia " "	Arbre au diable Hura crepitans
Quadrella cynophallophora	Acajou Swietenia mahagoni
CAPPARACEAE 7	Acomat marron Sideroxylon salicifolium
Randia aculeata RUBIACAE 17	Almendron Prunus occidentalis
Rauvolfia nitida APOCYNACEAE 4	Amandier á grandes feuilles
Rhizophora mangle RHIZOPHORACEAE 16	Prunus occidentalis
Ruellia coccinea ACANTHACEAE 3	Arbre de vie Guaiacum sanctum
Samyda dodecandra SALICACEAE 19	Ascomat Sideroxylon foetidissimum
Sapindus saponaria SAPINDACEAE 19	Autograph tree Clusia rosea
Scaevola plumieri GOODENIACEAE 10	Bahama strong-back Bourreria succulenta
Schaefferia frutescens CELASTRACEAE 8	Bahamas cedar Tabebuia lepidota
Senna bicapsularis FABACEAE 10	Bahamas firebush Hamelia cuprae
Senna ligustrina FABACEAE 10	Baiac batârd Guaiacum sanctum
Sesuvium portulacastrum AIZOACEAE 3	Balsam torchwood Amyris balsamifera
Sideroxylon foetidissimum SAPOTACEAE 20 Sideroxylon salicifolium " 19	Banana marron Heliconia bihai
	Bannann mawon " "
Simarouba glauca SIMAROUBACEAE 20 Sonborg tomontoes FABACEAE 10	Bay bean Canavalia rosea
Sophora tomentosa FABACEAE 10 Spandiga mombin ANACAPDIACEAE 2	Bay rum Pimenta racemosa
Spondias mombin ANACARDIACEAE 3 Stachytarpheta jamaicensis	Bayonette Furcrea hexapetala
VERBENACEAE 21	Beach creeper Ernodea littoralis
Stigmaphyllon sagraenum	Biscayne prickly ash
MALPIGHIACEAE 11	Zanthoxylum coriaceum
Strumpfia maritima RUBIACEAE 18	Bitterbush Picramnia pentandra
Suriana maritima SURIANACEAE 20	Black ironwood Krugiodendron ferreum
Swietenia mahagoni MELIACEAE 12	Black mangrove Avicennia germinans

Black olive --- Bucida buceras Black torch --- Erithalis fruticosa **Bloodberry** --- Varronia globosa ssp. humilis Bois blanc --- Schaefferia frutescens --- Simarouba glauca **Bois chandelle** --- Amyris elemifera Bois chapeau --- Cordia laevigata Bois chêne --- Catalpa longissima Bois chique --- Trema micranthum Bois coulevre --- Passiflora rubra Bois côtelette --- Drypetes laterifolia Bois d'anneau --- Senna bicapsularis Bois de'encens --- Bursera simaruba Bois d'ine --- Cordia sebestena Bois d'ine Français --- Pimenta racemosa Bois de fer --- Colubrina arborescens " --- Ixora ferrea Bois de scie --- Trema micranthum Bois fait --- Krugiodendron ferreum Bois fer blanc --- Krugiodendron ferreum Bois frêne --- Simarouba glauca Bois jambette --- Duranta erecta Bois laumet --- Baccharis dioica Bois mabi --- Colubrina arborescens --- Ixora ferrea Bois mabit --- Colubrina elliptica Bois mahaut --- Trema lamarckianum Bois marbré --- Gymnanthes lucida Bois mulet --- Exothea paniculata Bois myrte --- Eugenia rhombea Bois pale --- Clusia rosea **Bois palmist** --- Andira inermis Bois petites feuilles ---Krugiodendron ferreum **Bois pitre** --- Furcraea hexapetala Bois poison --- Picramnia pentandra Bois popit --- Cordia laevigata Bois saint --- Guaiacum officinale Bois savonette --- Sapindus saponaria Bon dieu soleil --- Callisia repens Bon dieu mouri ---**Bouvin** --- Asclepias curassavica Boxwood --- Jacaranda caerulea Broombush --- Baccharis dioica **Butterbough** --- Exothea paniculata Buttonsage --- Lantana involucrata **Buttonwood** --- Conocarpus erectus Bwa chandèl --- Amyris balsamifera **Bwa dajan** --- Quadrella cynophallophora Bwa kaka ---Cyanophalla flexuosa Bwa kapab --- Schaefferia frutescens

Bwa mabi --- Colubrina elliptica Bwa mabre --- Gymnanthes lucida Bwa pal --- Clusia rosea Bwa palmis --- Andira inermis **Bwa ple** --- Colubrina arborescens Bwa swa mawon --- Muntingia calabura Cabbage bark --- Andira inermis Calaba --- Calophyllum antillanum **Caimite** --- Chrysophyllum oliviforme Calabash --- Crescentia cujete Calabasique --- Passiflora laurifolia Calabasse ---- Crescenti cujete Camille --- Canella winterana Candón --- Annona mucosa Canella poivree --- Canella winterana Cap Henri --- Nectandra coriaceae Capulin --- Muntingia calabura Caribbean princewood ---Exostema caribaea Cat claw --- Pithecellobium unguis-cati Caya rubia --- Sideroxylon salicifolium Cerise --- Lantana verticillata Cerise de St. Domingue ---Malpighia emarginata Chandelle anglaise --- Exostema caribaea Chandelle marron --- Hypelate trifoliata Cheese shrub --- Morinda royoc Chene hatien --- Catalpa longissima Chevalier --- Tecoma stans Chiboue --- Bursera simaruba Cinnamon bark --- Canella winterana Chiggery grapes --- $Tourne fortia\ hir sut is sima$ Christmas bush --- Senna bicapsularis Clou de girafle --- Pimenta racemosa Cocoplum --- Chrysobalanus icaco Coeur de boeuf --- Annona glabra Coffee colubrina --- Colubrina arborescens Coin vine --- Dalbergia ecastaphyllum Coppery hamelia --- Hamelia cuprae Corail ---Coral plant --- Jatropha multifida Corky-stem passion-vine ---Passiflora suberosa Corne cabrits --- Pentalinon luteum Crabwood --- Gymnanthes lucida Christmas berry ---Crossopetalum ilicifolium Crete coq --- Heliotropium angiospermum Crisse marine --- Suriana maritima Croc --- Ximenia Americana

Croc soris --- Chiococca alba

Croca chien --- Randia aculeata Cuban mangosteen --- Garcinia aristata Cuban sisal --- Furcraea hexapetala Curacao bush ---

Varronia globosa ssp. humilis **Damari** --- Calophyllum antillanum **Damiana** --- Turnera diffusa

Du thym --- Turnera ulmifolia

**Dutchman's laudanum** --- Passiflora rubra

Estologee --- Morinda royoc

False boxwood --- Gyminda latifolia

False mastic --- Sideroxylon foetidissimum

Fetid passion-vine --- Passiflora foetida

Feuilles cotaire --- Cissus verticillata

**Fiddlewood** --- Citharexylum spinosum

Figuier --- Ficus citrifolia

Figuier canella ---

Ficus americana var. americana

**Firebush** --- Hamelia patens

Fleur de St. Pierre --- Tecoma stans

Fleur corail --- Hamelia patens

Fleurs coquelicot --- Cordia sebestena

Florida hog-plum --- Ximenia americana

Florida trema --- Trema micranthum

Florida boxwood --- Schaefferia frutescens

**Frangipane** --- Plumeria x stentopetala

Frangipani --- Plumeria obtusa

Franchipagne ---

French oak --- Catalpa longissima

Fromager --- Ceiba pentandra

Fwenn --- Simarouba glauca

Gaiac blanc --- Guaiacum officinale

Gaiac cardasse --- " "

Gaiac official --- Guaiacum sanctum

Galba --- Calophyllum antillanum

**Gallipeau** --- Hypelate trifoliata

Gamelle --- Coccoloba pubescens

Gayak femèl --- Guaiacum sanctum

Geiger tree --- Cordia sebestena

Gêne pays --- Genip americana

Genip --- " "

Genipayer --- " "

Goatfoot --- Passiflora sexflora

Golden dewdrop --- Duranta erecta

 $\textbf{Gomme animee} \dashrightarrow \textit{Hymenaea courbaril}$ 

 $\textbf{Gomye} - Bursera\ simaruba$ 

Gouyave --- Psidium guajava

Govier --- Psidium guajava

Grandleaf seagrape --- Coccoloba pubescens

Grains ouary --- Canavalia rosea

Grand mombin franc --- Spondias mombin

Siver sea ox-eye --- Borrichia arborescens

Grenalit --- Sapindus saponaria

Grenarde marron ---

Citharexylum spinosum

**Gri-gri** --- Bucida buceras

Grué-grué ---

Guava --- Psidium guajava

Guiana plum --- Drypetes laterifolia

Gumbo limbo --- Bursera simaruba

Haitian catalpa --- Catalpa longissima

Hammock velvet seed --- Guettarda elliptica

Herbe à malingres ---

Heliotropium angiospermum

Herbe à ulcers --- Cissus verticillata

Herbe madame --- Asclepias curassavica

**Higuere** --- Crescentia cujete

Hispaniolan rosy pink trumpet tree ---

Tabebuia berteroi

Hog plum --- Spondias mombin

Horse-flesh mahogany --- Lysiloma sabicu

Icaque --- Chrysobalanus icaco

Ikak ---

**Inch plant** --- Callisia repens

Inkberry --- Scaevola plumieri

**Inkwood** --- Exothea paniculata

**Iron wood** --- *Ixora ferrea* 

Jamaica caper ---

 $Quadrella\ cynophallophora$ 

Jenequén --- Furcraea hexapetala

**Jerusalem thorn** --- Parkinsonia aculeate

Joewood --- Jacquinia keyensis

Kafe mawon --- Picramnia pentandra

**Kaymit mawon** --- Chrysophyllum oliviforme

Kajou peyi --- Swietenia mahagoni

Kanèl --- Canella winterana

Kanèl dous --- Myrica cerifera

Kimak --- Chiococca alba

Klou jiròf --- Pimenta racemosa

Kòkèliko --- Cordia sebestena

Koosòl --- Annona Montana

**Koray wouj** --- *Hamelia patens* 

Kowosol mawon --- Annona glabra

Krist marinn --- Suriana maritima

Krok chen --- Randia aculeata

Krugs holly --- Ilex krugiana

La mandit --- Prunus myrtifolia

Lamandye gran fèy --- Prunus occidentalis

Lamandye ti fèy --- Prunus myrtifolia

Lancewood --- Nectandra coriaceae

Laurier blanc --- Nectandra coriaceae

Liane à clous --- Dalbergia ecastaphyllum

**Liane chique** --- Tournefortia hirsutissima Lignum vitae --- Guaiacum sanctum Limber caper --- Cynophalla flexuosa Lombay --- Ilex krugiana **Long-stalked stopper** --- Moisera longipes **Longleaf** --- Guapira discolor Lorie blan --- Nectandra coriaceae **M'panache** --- Sideroxylon foetidissimum **Macaby** --- Ximenia americana **Machandeuse** --- Metopium toxiferum Madame Claude --- Citharexylum spinosum Madame Jeanne --- Bourreria succulent Madame Klòd --- Citharexvlum spinosum Madame Naiz --- Parkinsonia aculeata Madame Yass ---Mahaut piment --- Trema lamarckianum **Maidenberry** --- Crossopetalum rhacoma Mais bouilli --- Duranta erecta Mais marron --- Callisia repens Maisvisse --- Coccoloba diversifolia Malaguette --- Eugenia foetida Mammier --- Annona glabra Mammy apple --- Mammea americana Mang nwa --- Avicennia germinans Mang ti fèy --- Dodonaea viscosa **Manglier** --- Rhizophora mangle Manglier chandelle --- Rhizophora mangle Manglier noir --- Avicennia germinans Manglier petits feuilles ---Dodonaea viscosa

Mangrove berry --- Moisera longipes Mapou coton --- Ceiba pentandra Mapous gris --- Bourreria succulent Marilop --- Turnera ulmifolia **Maximier** --- Metopium toxiferum Médicinier des Indes --- Jatropha multifida Merisier --- Eugenia foetida Misimieu --- Zanthoxylum flavum **Momben** --- Spondias mombin Mombin batârd --- Sapindus saponaria Moralón --- Coccoloba pubescens Mountain soursop --- Annona montana Mulâtre --- Myrciaria floribunda Myositis --- Eugenia rhombea Myrte de feuilles de laurier ---Pimenta racemosa

#### Myrtle-of-the-river ---

Calyptranthes zuzygium Nance --- Byrsonima crassifolia **Necklacepod** --- Sophora littoralis Ojo de peje --- Picramnia pentandra Palétuvier --- Avicennia germinans

Papaya sauvage --- Jatropha multifida Papaya savaj ---Paradise tree --- Simarouba glauca Patavier --- Dodonaea viscosa Perce-pierre --- Suriana maritima **Petalomer** --- Bourreria arborescens **Petit cerise** --- *Malpighia emarginata* Petites feuilles --- Euegenia foetida Pine juane --- Xanthoxylum fagara Pine jòn ---Pigeon plum --- Coccoloba diversifolia Pitch apple --- Clusia rosea Pite pays --- Furcraea hexapetala Plé --- Schaefferia frutescens Pomme linae --- Passiflora laurifolia Pois maldioc mer – Canavalia rosea Pois zombie ---Pond apple --- Annona glabra Poirier --- Tabebuia berteroi **Poisonwood** --- Metopium toxiferum **Porterweed** --- Stachytarpheta jamaicensis Possum grape --- Cissus verticillata Pourpier-bourd-de-mer ---Sesuvium portulacastrum

**Pride-of-Big-Pine** --- Strumpfia maritime Princess vine --- Cissus verticillata Prune tree --- Prunus occidentalis Pti-garçon --- Schaefferia frutescens Pwa konfiti --- Hymenaea courbaril Quénépier marron --- Exothea paniculata Quimaque --- Chiococca alba Quinquina pays --- Exostema caribaea Rabi --- Hura crepitans Raisin grandes feuilles ---

Coccoloba pubescens Raisin la mer --- Coccoloba uvifera Raisinier --- Coccoloba diversifolia Raisinier bord-de-mer --- Coccoloba uvifera Red-berry stopper --- Eugenia confusa Red mangrove --- Rhizophora mangle Red palicourea --- Palicourea croca Red stopper --- Eugenia rhombea Resuelesuele --- Randia aculeata Rezen lamè --- Coccoloba uvifera Rough velvet seed --- Guettarda scabra Rumberry --- Myrciaria floribunda Safran de pays --- Morinda royoc Sandbox tree --- Hura crepitans **Satin leaf** --- Chrysophyllum oliviforme Satinwood --- Zanthoxylum flavum Savonèt --- Sapindus saponaria Scarlet milkweed --- Asclepias curassavica

#### Scorpion tail ---

Heliotropium angiospermum

Sea lavender --- Tournefortia gnaphalodes

Seagrape --- Coccoloba uvifera

**Sewal** --- Crossopetalum rhacoma

Shoreline sea-purslane ---

Sesuvium portulacastrum

#### Short-leaf wild coffee ---

Psychotria tenuifolia

Smooth manjack --- Cordia laevigata Smooth wild coffee ---

Psychotria ligustrifolia

Soldierwood --- Colubrina elliptica

Spanish elm --- Cordia gerascanthus

Shaving brush tree ---

 $Pseudobombax\ ellipticum$ 

#### Shoreline sea-purslane ---

Sesuvium portulacastrum

Shortleaf fig --- Ficus citrifolia

Sleepy morning --- Waltheria indica

Smooth honey tree --- Caesaria nitida

**Snowberry** --- Chiococca alba

Spanish stopper --- Eugenia foetida

**Spicewood** --- Calyptranthes pallens

Tabèno --- Lysiloma sabicu

Taverneau --- Lysiloma latisiliquum

Thé bourrique --- Turnera diffusa

Ti-cancon --- Passiflora rubra

Ti-diana --- Passiflora suberosa

Ti seriz --- Malpighia emarginata

Tooth-leaved croton --- Croton glandulosus

**Torchwood** --- Amyris elemifera

**Tsewai** --- Crossopetalum rhacoma

Tse-wen --- Gyminda latifolia

**Tufais** --- Eugenia rhombea

Two-lobed passion vine ---

Passiflora bilobata

Valliant garcon --- Picramnia pentandra

Varnish leaf --- Dodonaea viscosa

**Vereine** --- Stachytarpheta jamaicensis

Verveine à que de rat ---

Stachytarpheta jamaicensis

Water lemon --- Passiflora laurifolia

Wax myrtle --- Myrica cerifera

West Indian cedar --- Cedrela odorata

West Indian cherry ---

Malpighia emarginata

#### West Indian laurel ---

Ficus americana var. americana

West Indian lilac --- Tetrazygia bicolor

West Indian locust --- Hymenaea courbaril

#### West Indian mahogany ---

Swietenia mahagoni

West Indian trema --- Trema lamarckianum

West Indies cherry --- Prunus myrtifolia

White indigoberry --- Randia aculeata

White cedar --- Tabebuia heterophylla

White-flowered passion-vine ---

Passiflora multiflora

White ironwood --- Hypelate trifoliata

White stopper --- Eugenia axillaris

Wild allamanda --- Pentalinon luteum

Wild coffee --- Psychotria nervosa

Wild guave --- Samyda dodecandra

Wild lime --- Zanthoxylum fagara

Wild plantain --- Heliconia bihai

Wild potato --- Echites umbellatus

Wild soursop --- Annona mucosa

Wild tamarind --- Lysiloma latisiliquum

Willow bustic --- Sideroxylon salicifolium

Ya ya boba --- Prunus myrtifolia

Yellow alder --- Turnera ulmifolia

Yellow elder --- Tecoma stans

Yellow mombin --- Spondias mombin

Yellow root --- Morinda royoc

Yerba maravilla --- Ruellia coccinea

Z'abricot --- Mammea americana

Zamon marron --- Coccoloba diversifolia

**Zèb aklou** --- Dalbergia ecastaphyllum

**Z'herbe à clous** --- Dalbergia ecastaphyllum

Zimbaclot --- Heliotropium angiospermum Zombi nan bois --- Turnera ulmifolia