

INCISED GROOVE-BUR

Agrimonia incisa Torr. & Gray

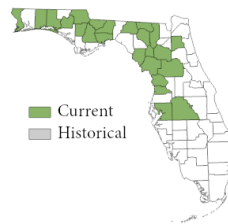
Synonyms: none

Family: Rosaceae (rose)

FNAI Ranks: G3/S2

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-none+ FL-none



Field Description: Perennial herb originating from tuberous roots. Stems 50-100 cm tall, simple or branched, with gray to whitish hairs. Leaves divided into 7-9 leaflets with the terminal leaflet usually larger than the rest of the leaves. Leaflets are 1-3 cm long, up to 1.2 cm wide, opposite, sessile, and have widely serrated (incised) margins. Hairs are on both upper and lower surfaces of leaflets and golden, sessile glands are on the lower surface. Flowers occur alternating on stems (spikes) and consist of a green, smooth, glandular hypanthium that has yellow, stiff, hooked bristles on the top, 5 green glandular sepals, and 5 yellow petals up to 3 mm long. A pair of nutlets (to 2.5 mm long), make up the fruit type (FNA 2014, NatureServe 2017b).

Similar Species: Incised groove-bur can be separated from the other Florida *Agrimonia* species, smallfruit agrimony (*A. microcarpa*), based on the latter lacking glands on its lower leaf surfaces or hypanthium and its occurrence in mesic

hammocks

Related Rare Species: This is the only species of *Agrimonia* whose terminal leaflet is 3 cm long or less, and leaflet margins which are very coarsely and saliently few-toothed. Smallfruit agrimony (*Agrimonia microcarpa*) is distinguished by lacking glands on the hypanthium and the lower leaf surface.

Habitat: Fire-maintained sandhills, upland pine, and upland mixed woodlands. Open pine woods or mixed pine-oak woods, bluffs, small clearings and old roads, sometimes at the edge of upland hardwood forests and other mesic habitats.

Best Survey Season: Fall; July through November.

Range-wide Distribution: From South Carolina west to Texas. Found in Florida from Hillsborough and Polk counties north to Washington County and skipping over to Escambia County

Conservation Status: Populations of *A. incisa* are infrequent and its habitat limited; however it can be locally abundant in some areas (Kline and Sørensen 2008). The greatest threat to this species is the destruction of its habitat by conversion to urban, suburban, or agricultural uses. Prescribed fire is the most efficient way to manage habitat. Avoid intensive site preparation such as root raking, bedding, and use of certain herbicides which may kill these plants.

Protection and Management: Populations of *A. incisa* are infrequent and its habitat limited; however it is usually locally abundant where it occurs (Kline and Sørensen 2008). A dense canopy, shrub layer and heavy rough are very likely detrimental to the development and maintenance of this rare plant. Prescribed fire is the most efficient way to manage habitat. Avoid intensive site preparation such as root raking, bedding, and use of certain herbicides which may kill these plants.

References: Clewell 1958, Kline and Sørensen 2008, Kral 1983c, Radford, Ahles, and Bell 1968, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011.