

## FLORIDA BRICKELL-BUSH

*Brickellia mosieri* (Small) Shinnery

**Synonyms:** *Kuhnia eupatorioides* L. var. *floridana* R.W. Long; *Kuhnia mosieri* Small

**Family:** Asteraceae (composite)

**FNAI Ranks:** G5T1/S1

**Legal Status:** US-Endangered FL-Endangered

**Wetland Status:** US-none+ FL-UPL



Gil Nelson

**Field Description:** Perennial **herb** 1 - 3.5 feet tall, slender, erect, and branching. **Leaves** 0.4 - 1.2 inches long, alternate, narrow, linear, thick, usually spreading or curved downward, entire or slightly toothed, resin-dotted. **Flower heads** in loose, open clusters at the ends of branches. **Disk flowers** white in small, dense heads surrounded by hairy, slightly ribbed bracts; no ray flowers, although long style branches (white, sometimes brown) may appear to be rays.

**Similar Species:** Several *Aster* species have similar leaves, but all have white ray flowers and yellow disk flowers. Palafox (*Palafoxia* spp.) disk flowers are larger, tubular, and spreading in loose heads with pink bracts.

**Related Rare Species:** See Flyr's brickell-bush (*Brickellia cordifolia*) and Cape Sable thoroughwort (*Eupatorium frustratum*) in this guide.

## Florida brickell-bush

*Brickellia mosieri*

**Habitat:** Pine rocklands and associated vacant lots with open shrub layer, exposed limestone, and minimal leaf litter.

**Best Survey Season:** Summer-fall; primarily August - October, but occasionally all year.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Endemic to the Miami Rock Ridge in Dade County.

**Conservation Status:** About 25 populations are estimated, all with low numbers of plants; more than half are on private land.

**Protection and Management:** Acquire and protect private sites. Use frequent prescribed fire to create a mosaic of open habitats in pine rocklands. Eradicate exotic pest plants.

**References:** Coile 2000, Cronquist 1980, Bradley and Gann 1999, IRC 1999, Small 1933, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.