

FLORIDA HARTWRIGHTIA

Hartwrightia floridana Gray ex S. Wats.

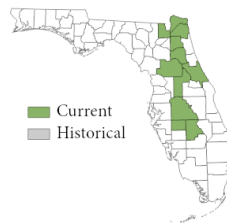
Synonyms: none

Family: Asteraceae (composite)

FNAI Ranks: G2/S2S3

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-OBL+ FL-FACW



Closeup of basal leaves and inflorescences. Photos by Bruce Sorrie and Alan Cressler, respectively.

Field Description: Perennials, 60–120 cm (rhizomes thickened, fibrous-rooted). **Stems** erect, branched distally. **Leaves** basal and cauline; mostly alternate; petiolate or sessile; blades 1-nerved (or pinnately nerved), elliptic to linear [spatulate to oblanceolate], margins mostly entire, faces glabrous, gland-dotted. **Heads** discoid, in loose, corymbiform arrays. **Involucre**s broadly obconic, 2–3 mm diam. **Phyllaries** persistent, 12–15 in 2–3 series, not notably nerved, oblong-elliptic to lanceolate, \pm equal (herbaceous). **Receptacles** convex, usually partially paleate (paleae peripheral). **Florets** 7–10; corollas white or pinkish to bluish, throats campanulate (lengths ca. 1.5 times diams.), lobes 5, \pm deltate; styles: bases not enlarged, glabrous, branches filiform to weakly clavate. **Cypselae** obpyramidal, 5-angled or -grooved, gland-dotted; **pappi** usually 0, rarely 1(–5+), fragile, flexuous, \pm glandular setae. $x = 10$. (FNA 2023)

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Similar Species: Vanillaleaf (*Trilisa odoratissima*) and other species in the genera *Trilisa* or *Carphephorus* have large basal leaves and dark pink flower heads in terminal clusters but none have glistening glands.

Related Rare Species: Florida hartwrightia (*Hartwrightia floridana*) is the only species in its genus.

Habitat: Seepage slopes, edges of baygalls and springheads, wet prairies, and flatwoods with wet, peaty soils. Often with hooded pitcher plants or, in central Florida, cutthroat grass.

Best Survey Season: Flowers late summer - fall; the rosette of sticky, glandular leaves is recognizable in spring and summer.

Range-wide Distribution: Southeast Georgia to central peninsular Florida.

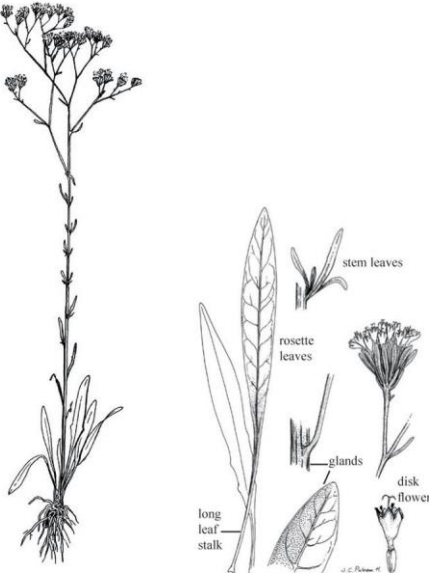
Conservation Status: Occupying a considerably large range across the state on multiple different conservation lands with active management. While there are multiple large and relatively stable occurrences, there are also a couple of occurrences that have seen declines in the past ten years or have not been seen. Occurs in seepage slopes, wet prairies and flatwoods, and is threatened by fire exclusion, silvicultural activities, grazing, and draining. It would benefit this species to evaluate the impact of silvicultural practices, such as salvage logging, on Florida hartwrightia (*Hartwrightia floridana*) as well as the impacts of fire exclusion on reproductive output.

Protection and Management: Avoid ditching, draining, or mechanical site preparation. Apply prescribed fire every 2 - 3 years.

References: Coile 2000, Cronquist 1980, Kral 1983, Patrick et al. 1995, Tobe et al. 1998, Ward 1979, Weakley 2023, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011, Wunderlin et al. 2018.

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Line drawing, courtesy of J.C. Putnam H.