

WILD DILLY

Manilkara jaimiqui ssp. *emarginata* (C. Wright)

Dubard

Synonyms: none

Family: Sapotaceae (sapodilla)

FNAI Ranks: G4T4/S3

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-FACW*+ FL-FAC



Amy Jenkins

Field Description: Most often a shrub, but can also be found as a small tree up to about 30 feet. It has a sprawling, often dense growth habit, and grayish to sometimes slightly brownish dark bark and milky sap. Leaves are crowded near branch tips and are simple, alternate, evergreen, and leathery, with a dull, pale gray-green color. They are 2 to 3½ inches long, ¼ to ? as wide, with an overall elliptic shape, entire margins, blunt or notched tips, and undersides with a soft brownish fuzz. The flowers are yellowish, quickly turning brown, and emerge in drooping approximately 1 inch clusters at the leaf axils. Fruit is a round, fleshy, light brown berry, 1 to 1¼ inches wide and edible (though not tasty).

Similar Species: Sapodilla (*Manilkara zapota*) has leaves that are usually greater than 5 cm long, and fruit that is 5-8 cm in diameter.

wild dilly

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Related Rare Species: None in FL.

Habitat: Upper tidal rock barrens, coastal berms, coastal rockland hammocks, and pine rocklands.

Best Survey Season:

Range-wide Distribution: South Florida and the Bahamas.

Conservation Status: Listed state-threatened and tracked as vulnerable, this species is vouchered from 3 counties in south Florida.

Protection and Management: Removal of exotic woody plants is the most important stewardship need.

References: Wunderlin and Hansen 2011