LEAFY BEAKED LADIES'-TRESSES

Sacoila lanceolata (Aubl.) Garay var. paludicola (Luer) Sauleda et al.

Synonyms: *Stenorrhynchos lanceolatus* (Aubl.) L.C. Rich. *Spiranthes lanceolata* (Aubl.) Leon var. *paludicola* Luer

Family: Orchidaceae (orchid) FNAI Ranks: G4T1/S1

Legal Status: US-Mgmt Concern FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-FAC FL-FACW



Field Description: Perennial **herb** with long, fleshy **roots**. **Basal leaves** 2 - 4, up to 8 inches long and 1.6 inches wide, persisting through flowering period. **Stem leaves** small, bract-like. **Flower stalk** to 20 inches tall, stout, hairy, topped by 5 - 25 closely spaced flowers. **Flowers** about 1 inch long, tubular, dark red, waxy. **Fruit** an erect capsule.

Similar Species: Leafless beaked ladies'-tresses (*Sacoila lanceolata* var. *lanceolata*) is a more common variety of this species with white, green, pinkish, or red flowers, occurring throughout the peninsula and also in Walton County in hammocks, flatwoods, and disturbed areas. Its leaves disappear before flowering and re-emerge in the fall.

Related Rare Species: More than 70 other species of native orchids are listed in FL as threatened or endangered.

Leafy beaked ladies'-tresses

Sacoila lanceolata var. paludicola

Habitat: Swamps and hydric hammocks. **Best Survey Season:** Flowers in spring.

Range-wide Distribution: Collier County, FL (populations in Dade and Broward counties are probably planted); West Indies.

Conservation Status: Plants occur in a few conservation areas, although some of these may be planted. Most populations are still subject to impacts by off-road-vehicles and to collecting by plant poachers.

Protection & Management: Protect swamps from hydrologic alterations, logging, draining, and filling. Enforce plant protection laws and prosecute plant poachers. Monitor impact of off-road-vehicles in natural areas. Eradicate exotic pest plants.

References: Coile 2000, IRC 1999, Luer 1972, McCartney 1985b, Tatje 1980b, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

