



# Palmetto





## Announcing a new grant award in memory of Dan Austin



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### THE DAN AUSTIN AWARD FOR ETHNOBOTANY

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The Florida Native Plant Society is now accepting donations for a new grant award in memory and recognition of Dan Austin and his work in ethnobotany. The *Dan Austin Award* will be given to a student studying Florida ethnobotany.

Each year that funds are available and there is a submission that meets the criteria for ethnobotany, FNPS will award a grant of up to \$1,500 in honor of Dan Austin.

Please join us in building the reserve to offer this special award. If you or your FNPS chapter would like to donate to the *Dan Austin Award* fund, please earmark your donation as "Dan Austin Conservation". For more information, contact Juliet Rynear at [julietrynear@yahoo.com](mailto:julietrynear@yahoo.com)

Please mail your check to:  
Florida Native Plant Society  
PO Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

## Call for Research Papers and Poster Presentations

*The 2016 Florida Native Plant Society  
Annual Conference will be held  
May 18-22, 2016 in Daytona Beach, Florida*

**The Research Track** of the Conference will include presented papers and a poster session on Friday, May 20, and Saturday, May 21.

**Researchers are invited** to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are 20 minutes in length (15 minutes is provided for the presentation, followed by a 5-minute question-and-answer period).

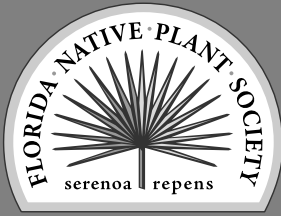
**Abstracts** of not more than 200 words should be submitted via email, as an MS Word file to Paul A. Schmalzer: [paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov](mailto:paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov)

Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.



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*Deadline for  
submitting abstracts  
is February 1, 2016.*



# Palmetto

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### The Palmetto

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### Editorial Content

We welcome articles on native plant species and related conservation topics, as well as high-quality botanical illustrations and photographs. Contact the editor for guidelines, deadlines and other information.

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Your membership supports the preservation and restoration of wildlife habitats and biological diversity through the conservation of native plants. It also funds awards for leaders in native plant education, preservation and research.

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*To provide funds that will enable us to protect Florida's native plant heritage, please join or renew at the highest level you can afford.*

**To become a member**, contact your local Chapter Representative, call, write, or e-mail FNPS, or join online at [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)

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### The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society

is to conserve, preserve, and restore the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

### Official definition of native plant:

For most purposes, the phrase Florida native plant refers to those species occurring within the state boundaries prior to European contact, according to the best available scientific and historical documentation. More specifically, it includes those species understood as indigenous, occurring in natural associations in habitats that existed prior to significant human impacts and alterations of the landscape.

## Features

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Small and inconspicuous, this globally imperiled plant was discovered by Robert Naczi in 1991 and later given its official scientific name *Carex paeninsulae*, named for the Florida peninsula.

*Article by Linda Curtis*

### 8 2015 FNPS Landscape Awards Institutional Category, Part II

At the 2015 Annual Conference, Archbold Biological Station and the Florida International University (FIU) Nature Preserve received Awards of Excellence from FNPS. This article, the second in a series, highlights the FIU Nature Preserve, a 16-acre environmental education facility dedicated to sharing ecological knowledge about the Florida Everglades with the public, FIU students, and the university community.

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Discover how FNPS' new initiative created a coordinated outreach and membership effort designed to send a message about the importance of Florida native plants around the state. *Article by Andy Taylor.*

ON THE COVER: *Carex paeninsulae* grows near the base of an oak tree at Crystal River Archaeological State Park.



# Our Globally Imperiled Peninsula Sedge

by Linda Curtis

**Fig. 1:** This former Gulf Coast forest was logged and mowed. The lawn area is now a mix of St. Augustine grass and low-growing native herbs.

What happens when a dense Gulf Coast forest is logged and then mowed as a public park? Almost all the understory plants are destroyed except for the few that are very short and can live between lawn grasses.

One of the survivors is peninsula sedge, which grows as low tufts of grass-like leaves and withstands mowing by sending out underground stems known as rhizomes. Farther away, the rhizomes send up leafy shoots in rows or in clusters nestled aside tree trunks (Fig. 2).

Small and inconspicuous, this globally imperiled plant was discovered by Robert Naczi in 1991 and later given the official scientific name *Carex paeninsulae*, referencing the Florida peninsula. Peninsula sedge was given species status when first described in *Novon: A Journal for Botanical Nomenclature*, Vol. 12, Issue 4, “Seven New Species and One New Combination in *Carex* (Cyperaceae) from North America” (Naczi, Bryson, Cochrane 2002).

Unknown in botany manuals before 2002, *C. paeninsulae* is now included in the

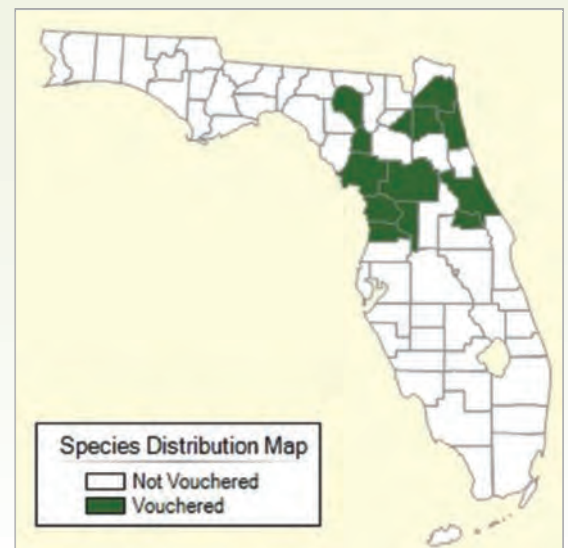
3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the book *Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida* (Wunderlin and Hansen 2011). Illustrations can be seen in *Flora of North America*, Vol. 23 (2002).

This short grassy plant is able to survive some mowing, but then remains vegetative, without seed heads. Deer nip the leafy shoots in early spring, which also removes the seed heads. As the leaves mature and become tougher and scabrous, the plant becomes too harsh on deer tongues, so they avoid eating them.

Peninsula sedge was given a globally imperiled rank of G2, which means it is found in six to twenty locations on the planet (Fig. 3). A G1 species is found in one to five locations as determined by NatureServe, a status system. ([www.natureserve.org](http://www.natureserve.org)).



**Fig. 2:** *Carex paeninsulae* grows alongside a tree trunk. Just a tuft of narrow leaves, it is quite grassy in appearance, but has triangular culms rather than the round culms found in grasses.



**Fig. 3:** The globally imperiled peninsula sedge has been found in fewer than 20 locations in these Florida counties. Source: <http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/Plant.aspx?id=4167>.



While the other six species described in *Novon* were found in various states including North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, peninsula sedge grew only in Florida and thus was endemic to the state. Peninsula sedge was one of three sedges discussed in the *Oligocarpa* complex of *Carex* that were characterized by purple-red shoot bases and two-ranked or distichous perigynia. That differs from other *Carex* species whose perigynia are arranged in threes to sixes on the rachis of their seed heads (Figs. 4, 5).

The *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants'* online distribution map lists the presence of *C. paeninsulae* in 13 Florida counties. Specimens collected from those counties were pressed, labeled, and sent to a Florida herbarium. In 2008, *C. paeninsulae* was collected at the Crystal River Churchhouse Hammock Trail, a hydric Gulf forest along Highway 19 in Citrus County. My specimen was labeled as *C. godfreyi* and sent to Curator Dr. Bruce Hansen of the University of South Florida Herbarium, who later annotated the specimen as *C. paeninsulae*. All *Carex*

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**Fig. 4:** Culms of *Carex paeninsulae* have reddish bases near the roots.



**Fig. 5:** *Carex paeninsulae* has 4–6 perigynia, each sac-like with a single seed-like achene inside. The sacs are opposite each other and two-ranked or distichous. Most *Carex* are 3–6 ranked on their spike's rachis.



**Fig. 6:** The staminate terminal spike bears the stamens with pollen that will disperse onto the stigmas of the lower pistillate spikes.

species were collected with research permits approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and this is noted on the herbarium sheet labels.

Peninsula sedge was discovered again in 2014 at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park, near Temple Mound. In 2015 the small shoots were sprouting seed heads with stamens in bloom in February, indicating an early spring compared to the previous year's bloom in March 2014 (Figs. 6, 7). Keith Morin, Crystal River State Parks biologist, restricted mowing in the area and several new shoots had seed heads the following year. Plants growing in competition with peninsula sedge were mostly lawn grasses and *Viola* species found at the bases of tree trunks of *Quercus virginiana* (live oak) and *Carya glabra* (pignut hickory).

Known threats to state endangered and globally imperiled plants in pedestrian areas are mowing, trampling and trail expansions. Another danger to rare plants is poaching by collectors. While the most threatened plants are the orchids, and although peninsula sedge would not be sought for its exquisite color and form, some collectors simply like to collect rare items, and many trade in them.



**Fig. 7:** Keith Morin and Linda Curtis find G2 peninsula sedge.

Curators of herbaria often black out the global coordinates or location data on plant specimen labels. The rare specimens can be studied on a herbarium's web page, but the location is not readable on labels by many, but not all, herbaria (Fig. 8).

Small plants like peninsula sedge have beautiful miniature designs that can only be seen under a microscope, but digital enlargements of microphotographs reveal their beauty (Figs. 9, 10).

#### **References**

- Ball, P. W., and A.A. Reznicek, eds. 2002. *Cyperaceae*. *Flora of North America*, Vol. 23: 254-573. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Naczi, R. H., C.T. Bryson, and T.S. Cochrane, 2002. Seven New Species and One New Combination in *Carex* (Cyperaceae) from North America. *Novon*: 12, No. 4, p. 526
- Wunderlin, R. P., and B.F. Hansen, 2003. *Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., University Press of Florida, Gainesville.

#### **About the author**

Linda Curtis is author of botany books and journal articles. Previous *Palmetto* articles about Florida *Carex* may be viewed on her website, [www.curtistothethird.com](http://www.curtistothethird.com).





**Fig. 8:** A specimen of the rare *C. paeninsulae* from the Crystal River Archaeological State Park was sent to the herbarium at the University of South Florida, Tampa. The specimen was digitized for their website. Citation: Wunderlin, R.P., and B. F. Hansen. 2008. *Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants*. (<http://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu>)



**Fig. 9 (above):** The perigynia have impressed nerves that appear grooved. Most *Carex* have raised nerves. The tiny bumps on the leaves are diagnostic in some species, but only seen under 40x magnification. The leaf is papillose, not smooth.



**Fig. 10 (left):** This achene was revealed when the sac was opened. Only a few millimeters long, it seems like a seed, but technically is a dry fruit. Sometimes the achene shape and design is used in species identification.

## FNPS 2016 Endowment Grant Research Awards and Conservation Grant Awards

**The Florida Native Plant Society** maintains an Endowment Research Grant program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are small grants (\$1,500 or less), awarded for a 1-year period and intended to support research that forwards the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

**FNPS Conservation Grants** support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These grants (\$5,000 or less) are awarded for a 1-year period. These projects promote the preservation, conservation, or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

**Application guidelines** and details are on the FNPS website ([fnps.org](http://fnps.org)) - click on 'Participate/Grants and Awards'. Questions regarding the grant programs should be sent to [info@fnps.org](mailto:info@fnps.org).

**Application deadline** for the 2016 awards is March 4, 2016. Awards will be announced at the 2016 Annual Conference. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive an award.





## 2015 FNPS LANDSCAPE AWARDS INSTITUTIONAL CATEGORY - PART II

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### FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY NATURE PRESERVE EARNS AN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Florida International University (FIU) Nature Preserve is a 16-acre environmental education facility dedicated to sharing ecological knowledge about the Florida Everglades with FIU students and the university community. Thanks to significant restoration efforts during the past 5 years, this facility has developed into a key feature of the university campus and a valuable natural habitat.



**Above:** The north entrance of the FIU Nature Preserve.

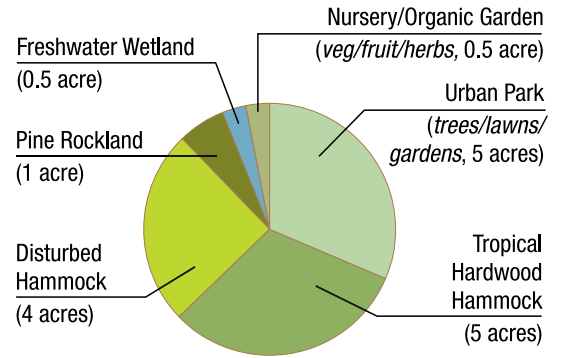


FIU opened its doors in 1972 as a public research institution on the site of the old Tamiami Airport, which had closed in 1966. Originally, the area was a short-hydroperiod marsh dominated by sawgrass with scattered bayheads and one small tree island. The site's natural hydrology was altered by the installation of the Tamiami Trail and a canal just to the north of the campus. Luckily, the current Nature Preserve land was located between several airport runways and was minimally disturbed, preserving its original soil and geology. While Tamiami Airport was active, trees were not allowed to grow on the property due to interference with aircraft, making all the trees within the Nature Preserve only about 50 years old.

The Nature Preserve was co-founded in 1978 by the Department of Earth and Environment and the Department of Biological Sciences, with faculty from these departments guiding its development. Both departments shared the economic burden of management across several decades due to their students' needs for the space as a unique research facility and teaching tool. As time went on, faculty from departments such as landscape architecture, anthropology, education, and the honors college got involved as they realized the true value of having this outdoor classroom on campus. Ultimately, the Office of University Sustainability was charged with its management, and a full-time position was created, geared toward the stewardship of the preserve. This led to the inclusion of the Nature Preserve in the university master plan, safeguarding its future for the coming decades.

In 2013, the university wholly embraced the preserve by investing close to three quarters of a million dollars in restoring its facilities. The majority of this funding was used to enhance the interior and perimeter trail systems, one half-mile of which was created using recycled car tire rubber. Other

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**FIU Nature Preserve - Stand Composition**



improvements included perimeter light poles, outdoor exercise stations, extra-large street-side directional signs, large trailhead entrance signs, interpretive trail signs, and aluminum tree tags, making the area more attractive to visitors. This major investment aligns with the university's academic conservation agenda and adds to the long-term security of this urban park.

With hopes to re-create the area's original structure and function, considerable planning had to be done, most importantly documenting the organisms living within it. A catalogue of species found 265 plants, 110 birds, 46 butterflies, 19 reptiles and amphibians, 9 fishes, and 4 mammals, including several state and federally listed species, inhabiting the site. Initial restoration efforts began in the 1970s, but not until the early 2000s did these efforts take on a new level of efficiency, with major work being done post-2010. Restoration efforts started at the southern end of the Nature Preserve and as staff and budgets grew, expanded northward into the pine rockland area and the freshwater wetlands portions of the preserve.

The hardwood hammock area restoration began with a survey of existing plants, followed by removal of invasive exotic species, mainly *Casuarina equisetifolia*. Next, native trees were planted and maintained to full maturity, and the plant composition of the site was monitored. The restoration efforts in

the hammock were accomplished with great success, and that area is considered the most ecologically healthy part of the preserve today.

In 2010, restoration began in the pine rockland area. The site had been so overgrown with hardwoods that it was completely indiscernible as a pine rockland, except to those with a keen eye. Hundreds of native hardwood trees and exotic trees were cut down and their stumps removed mechanically, simulating the role fire plays in this ecosystem. Opening the canopy exposed the existing slash pines and allowed for sunlight and rainwater to reach the soil, enabling many herbaceous species to grow and flower. Since the soil and geology were intact, pine rockland plants moved in without any need for soil amendments, supplementing planting efforts. Management evolved to monitoring saw palmettos, slash pines, recent plantings, endangered species, and incoming invasive species, but the natural fire regime of pine rocklands was still absent. Recently we began working with the Florida Forest Service to develop a prescribed burn plan for the pine rockland site.

Several small freshwater wetland areas inside and adjacent to the Nature Preserve have been developed for ecological and educational purposes. For many years, it was unknown to

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### Florida Native Plant Species in the Florida International University Nature Preserve

STATUS KEY

N - Native; C - Coastal; E - Endemic; ST - State Threatened; SE - State Endangered; FE - Federally Endangered

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Abildgaardia ovata</i>	Flatspike sedge	N
<i>Acacia farnesiana</i>	Sweet acacia	N
<i>Acacia pinetorum</i>	Pineland acacia	N
<i>Acalypha chamaedrifolia</i>	Bastard copperleaf	N
<i>Acrostichum danaeifolium</i>	Giant leather fern	N
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Common ragweed	N
<i>Ammannia coccinea</i>	Scarlet ammannia	N
<i>Amorpha herbacea</i> var. <i>crenulata</i>	Miami lead plant	N, E, SE, FE
<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i> var. <i>pumilus</i>	Bushy bluestem	N
<i>Andropogon longiberbis</i>	Hairy bluestem	N
<i>Anemia adiantifolia</i>	Maidenhair pineland fern	N
<i>Angadenia berteroi</i>	Pineland golden trumpet	N, ST
<i>Annona glabra</i>	Pondapple	N
<i>Ardisia escallonioides</i>	Marlberry	N
<i>Aristida purpurascens</i> var. <i>purpurascens</i>	Arrowfeather threeawn	N
<i>Asemeia violacea</i>	Showy milkwort	N
<i>Axonopus furcatus</i>	Big carpetgrass	N
<i>Baccharis glomeruliflora</i>	Silverling	N
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Sea myrtle	N
<i>Bidens alba</i> var. <i>radiata</i>	Beggarticks	N
<i>Blechnum serrulatum</i>	Swamp fern	N
<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	False nettle	N
<i>Bourreria cassinifolia</i>	Smooth strongbark	N, SE
<i>Bourreria succulenta</i>	Bahama strongbark	N, SE
<i>Brickellia mosieri</i>	Mosier's false boneset	N, E, SE
<i>Buchnera americana</i>	American bluehearts	N
<i>Bursera simaruba</i>	Gumbo-limbo	N
<i>Byrsonima lucida</i>	Locustberry	N, ST
<i>Calyptanthes pallens</i>	Spicewood	N, ST
<i>Calyptanthes zuzygium</i>	Myrtle-of-the-river	N, SE
<i>Cenchrus spinifex</i>	Coastal sandbur	N
<i>Centella asiatica</i>	Spadeleaf	N
<i>Chamaecrista nictitans</i> var. <i>nictitans</i>	Sensitive pea	N
<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i>	Pillpod sandmat	N
<i>Chamaesyce hypericifolia</i>	Graceful sandmat	N
<i>Chamaesyce hyssopifolia</i>	Hyssopleaf sandmat	N
<i>Chamaesyce ophthalmica</i>	Florida hammock sandmat	N
<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Jack-in-the-bush	N
<i>Chrysophyllum oliviforme</i>	Satinleaf	N, ST
<i>Cirsium horridulum</i>	Purple thistle	N
<i>Citharexylum spinosum</i>	Florida fiddlewood	N
<i>Cladium jamaicense</i>	Jamaica swamp sawgrass	N
<i>Clusia rosea</i>	Pitchapple	N
<i>Coccoloba diversifolia</i>	Pigeon plum	N
<i>Coccoloba uvifera</i>	Seagrape	N, C
<i>Colubrina elliptica</i>	Soldierwood	N, SE
<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	Buttonwood	N, C
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	Blue mistflower	N
<i>Conyza canadensis</i> var. <i>pusilla</i>	Dwarf Canadian horseweed	N
<i>Crossopetalum ilicifolium</i>	Christmas berry	N, ST
<i>Crotalaria pumila</i>	Low rattlebox	N
<i>Croton glandulosus</i> var. <i>floridanus</i>	Vente conmigo	N, E
<i>Cynanchum blodgettii</i>	Blodgett's swallowwort	N, ST
<i>Cynanchum northropiae</i>	Fragrant swallowwort	N
<i>Cyperus polystachyos</i>	Manyspike flatsedge	N
<i>Cyperus ovatus</i>	Pinebarren flatsedge	N
<i>Dichantherium aciculare</i>	Needleleaf witchgrass	N
<i>Dichantherium portoricense</i>	Hemlock witchgrass	N
<i>Digitaria ciliaris</i>	Southern crabgrass	N
<i>Diodia virginiana</i>	Virginia buttonweed	N
<i>Eclipta prostrata</i>	False daisy	N
<i>Eleocharis geniculata</i>	Canada spikerush	N
<i>Encyclia tampensis</i>	Florida butterfly orchid	N
<i>Eragrostis elliotii</i>	Elliott's lovegrass	N



<i>Erechtites hieraciifolius</i>	Fireweed	N	<i>Pluchea baccharis</i>	Rosy camphorweed	N
<i>Erigeron quercifolius</i>	Oakleaf fleabane	N	<i>Poinsettia cyathophora</i>	Paintedleaf	N
<i>Eryngium baldwinii</i>	Baldwin's eryngo	N	<i>Poinsettia heterophylla</i>	Fiddler's spurge	N
<i>Erythrina herbacea</i>	Coralbean	N	<i>Polypremum procumbens</i>	Rustweed	N
<i>Eugenia axillaris</i>	White stopper	N	<i>Psilotum nudum</i>	Whisk-fern	N
<i>Eugenia foetida</i>	Spanish stopper	N	<i>Psychotria nervosa</i>	Wild coffee	N
<i>Eupatorium capillifolium</i>	Falsefennel	N	<i>Psychotria sulzneri</i>	Shortleaf wild coffee	N
<i>Eupatorium mikanioides</i>	Semaphore thoroughwort	N,E	<i>Pteris bahamensis</i>	Bahama ladder brake	N, ST
<i>Eustachys glauca</i>	Saltmarsh fingergrass	N	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Live oak	N
<i>Eustachys petraea</i>	Pinewoods fingergrass	N	<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	Winged sumac	N
<i>Evolvulus sericeus</i>	Silver dwarf morning-glory	N	<i>Rhynchosia minima</i>	Least snoutbean	N
<i>Exothea paniculata</i>	Inkwood	N	<i>Rhynchospora colorata</i>	Starrush whitetop	N
<i>Ficus aurea</i>	Strangler fig	N	<i>Rhynchospora microcarpa</i>	Southern beaksedge	N
<i>Ficus citrifolia</i>	Short leaf fig	N	<i>Rhynchospora odorata</i>	Fragrant beaksedge	N
<i>Flaveria linearis</i>	Narrowleaf yellowtops	N	<i>Ruellia succulenta</i>	Thickleaf wild petunia	N,E
<i>Fuirena breviseta</i>	Saltmarsh umbrellasedge	N	<i>Sabal palmetto</i>	Cabbage palm	N
<i>Galium hispidulum</i>	Coastal bedstraw	N	<i>Sabatia stellaris</i>	Rose-of-plymouth	N
<i>Gaura angustifolia</i>	Southern beeblossom	N	<i>Sacoila lanceolata</i>	Leafless beaked ladiestressess	N
<i>Guaiacum sanctum</i>	Lignumvitae	N, SE	<i>Sacoila lanceolata</i> var. <i>paludicola</i>	Leafy beaked ladiestresses	N, ST
<i>Guapira discolor</i>	Bolly	N	<i>Salix caroliniana</i>	Coastalplain willow	N
<i>Habenaria repens</i>	Waterspider false reinorchid	N	<i>Samolus ebracteatus</i>	Water pimpernel	N
<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Firebush	N	<i>Sarcostemma clausum</i>	White twinevine	N
<i>Heliotropium polyphyllum</i>	Pineland heliotrope	N	<i>Schizachyrium gracile</i>	Wire bluestem	N
<i>Hypericum brachyphyllum</i>	Coastalplain St. John's-wort	N	<i>Schizachyrium sanguineum</i>	Crimson bluestem	N
<i>Ilex cassine</i> var. <i>cassine</i>	Dahoon	N	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> var. <i>scoparium</i>	Little bluestem	N
<i>Ipomoea indica</i> var. <i>acuminata</i>	Oceanblue morning-glory	N	<i>Schizachyrium rhizomatum</i>	Rhizomatous bluestem	N
<i>Ipomoea microdactyla</i>	Man-in-the-ground	N, SE	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	Softstem bulrush	N
<i>Ipomoea sagittata</i>	Saltmarsh morning-glory	N	<i>Scleria baldwinii</i>	Baldwin's nutrush	N
<i>Jacquemontia pentanthos</i>	Skyblue clustervine	N, SE	<i>Senna ligustrina</i>	Privet wild sensitive plant	N
<i>Juncus megacephalus</i>	Bighead rush	N	<i>Senna mexicana</i> var. <i>chapmanii</i>	Chapman's wild sensitive plant	N, ST
<i>Krugiodendron ferreum</i>	Black ironwood	N	<i>Serenoa repens</i>	Saw palmetto	N
<i>Lantana depressa</i>	Pineland lantana	N, E, SE	<i>Setaria parviflora</i>	Knotroot foxtail	N
<i>Lantana involucrata</i>	Buttonsage	N	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	Indian hemp	N
<i>Leersia hexandra</i>	Southern cutgrass	N	<i>Sida ulmifolia</i>	Common fanpetals	N
<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i>	Mexican primrosewillow	N	<i>Sideroxylon celastrinum</i>	Saffron plum	N, C
<i>Lysiloma latissiliquum</i>	False tamarind	N	<i>Sideroxylon foetidissimum</i>	False mastic	N, C
<i>Lythrum alatum</i> var. <i>lanceolatum</i>	Winged loosestrife	N	<i>Sideroxylon salicifolium</i>	Willow busic	N
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay	N	<i>Simarouba glauca</i>	Paradisetre	N, C
<i>Manilkara jaimiqui</i> subsp. <i>emarginata</i>	Wild dilly	N, ST	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Narrowleaf blue-eyed grass	N
<i>Melanthera nivea</i>	Snow squarestem	N	<i>Smilax auriculata</i>	Earleaf greenbrier	N
<i>Melothria pendula</i>	Creeping cucumber	N	<i>Smilax bona-nox</i>	Saw greenbrier	N
<i>Mikania scandens</i>	Climbing hempvine	N	<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	Giant goldenrod	N
<i>Mitreola petiolata</i>	Lax hornpod	N	<i>Solidago odora</i> var. <i>chapmanii</i>	Chapman's goldenrod	N
<i>Morinda royoc</i>	Redgal	N, C	<i>Solidago stricta</i>	Wand goldenrod	N
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> var. <i>capillaris</i>	Hairawn muhly	N	<i>Solidago leavenworthii</i>	Leavenworth's goldenrod	N
<i>Myrcianthes fragrans</i>	Simpson's stopper	N, ST	<i>Spermacoce remota</i>	Woodland false buttonweed	N
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Wax myrtle	N	<i>Spigelia anthelmia</i>	West Indian pinkroot	N
<i>Myrsine cubana</i>	Myrsine	N	<i>Spiranthes laciniata</i>	Lacelip ladiestresses	N, ST
<i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i>	Sword fern	N	<i>Spiranthes lanceolata</i>	Beaked ladiestressess	N
<i>Ocotea coriacea</i>	Lancewood	N	<i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i>	Blue porterweed	N
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	Pricklypear	N	<i>Stenandrium dulce</i>	Sweet shaggytuft	N
<i>Panicum dichotomiflorum</i> var. <i>bartowense</i>	Fall panicgrass	N	<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>	St. Augustinegrass	N
<i>Parietaria floridana</i>	Florida pellitory	N	<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	West Indian mahogany	N, ST
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper	N	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald cypress	N
<i>Paspalum caespitosum</i>	Blue crowngrass	N	<i>Tetrazygia bicolor</i>	Tetrazygia	N, ST
<i>Paspalum conjugatum</i>	Sour paspalum	N	<i>Thelypteris kunthii</i>	Southern shield fern	N
<i>Paspalum floridanum</i>	Florida paspalum	N	<i>Thelypteris palustris</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>	Marsh fern	N
<i>Paspalum monostachyum</i>	Gulfdune paspalum	N	<i>Tillandsia balbisiana</i>	Northern needleleaf	N, ST
<i>Paspalum setaceum</i>	Thin paspalum	N	<i>Tillandsia fasciculata</i>	Cardinal airplant	N, SE
<i>Passiflora suberosa</i>	Corksystem passionflower	N	<i>Tillandsia flexuosa</i>	Banded airplant	N, ST
<i>Pectis glaucescens</i>	Sanddune cinchweed	N	<i>Tillandsia recurvata</i>	Ballmoss	N
<i>Persea borbonia</i> var. <i>borbonia</i>	Red bay	N	<i>Tillandsia usneoides</i>	Spanish moss	N
<i>Phlebodium aureum</i>	Golden polypody	N	<i>Tillandsia utriculata</i>	Giant wild pine	N, SE
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Fogfruit	N	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Eastern poison ivy	N
<i>Phyllanthus carolinensis</i> subsp. <i>saxicola</i>	Rock Carolina leafflower	N	<i>Trema micrantha</i>	Nettletree	N
<i>Physalis walteri</i>	Walter's groundcherry	N	<i>Typha domingensis</i>	Southern cattail	N
<i>Picramnia pentandra</i>	Florida bitterbush	N, SE	<i>Vernonia blodgettii</i>	Florida ironweed	N
<i>Pilea microphylla</i>	Rockweed	N	<i>Vicia acutifolia</i>	Fourleaf vetch	N
<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	Slash pine	N	<i>Vigna luteola</i>	Hairy pod cowpea	N, C
<i>Piriqueta cistoides</i> subsp. <i>caroliniana</i>	Pitted stripeseed	N	<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	Muscadine	N
<i>Piscidia piscipula</i>	Jamaican dogwood	N	<i>Vittaria lineata</i>	Shoestring fern	N
<i>Pithecellobium unguis-cati</i>	Catclaw blackbead	N,C	<i>Waltheria indica</i>	Sleepy morning	N
<i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>	Narrowleaf silkgrass	N	<i>Zamia pumila</i>	Coontie	N
<i>Pleopeltis polypodioides</i> var. <i>michauxiana</i>	Resurrection fern	N	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>	Wild lime	N
<i>Pluchea odorata</i>	Sweetscent	N			



**Above:** The pine rockland area after restoration efforts removed hundreds of native hardwoods and non-native tree species, opening the canopy and allowing regeneration of plants native to the pine rocklands ecosystem. The next step in the restoration process will introduce prescribed fire to the pine rockland site.

most students and employees that there was a lake in the northeast corner since it was hidden behind a dense forest of Brazilian pepper. Thanks to significant invasive removal work, littoral zone construction and native replanting efforts in that area, a multipurpose educational wetland was created which has received positive attention. An intensive mowing schedule was put in place for 6 months immediately following the removal of Brazilian pepper trunks and roots, effectively preventing the resprouting of any pepper trees. This wetland restoration process will continue as funds allow.

On the opposite side of the Nature Preserve, a small representation of a cypress dome containing almost 100 trees is being created. The lowest elevation, located in the center of the site has been planted with larger cypress trees to mimic the shape of a natural cypress dome. This project, although still in the early stages, has bolstered a lot of university attention.

The FIU Nature Preserve is the only university facility wholly dedicated to environmental education. There are 24 interpretive trail signs and about 100 tree tags lining more than a mile of trails throughout the preserve. Approximately 15,000 visitors, including 3,000 attendees of various programs and events, use the preserve annually, ensuring that our work interfaces with many individuals. More than 25

FIU courses from 9 different departments use this outdoor classroom each year, as well as Miami-Dade County public school groups, local environmental clubs, camp groups, and nearby community members. We are able to provide many urban residents with an Everglades adventure that they may not have experienced otherwise by eliminating barriers such as travel distance, financial burden, and fear of wildlife or getting lost. Many visitors begin their journey by attending a guided tour, where they discover what and where the Florida Everglades is, who lived and lives within it, and why it is so regionally important to all Floridians. We offer educational workshops on a variety of topics for teachers who want to supplement their class lessons. Subjects include sustainability, urban forestry, restoration ecology, plant and wildlife biology, hydrogeology, and more. The public can also learn about South Florida's rich natural history by attending our community events, such as bioblitzs, volunteer days, environmental education workshops, and fishing derbies.

**For more information on the Florida International University Nature Preserve, visit:** <http://gogreen.fiu.edu/topics/the-nature-preserve/index.html>  
Contact the Office of University Sustainability at: [GoGreen@FIU.edu](mailto:GoGreen@FIU.edu) or (305) 348-3717.





**Above:** On the south end of the nature preserve, a small representation of a cypress dome is being created. Almost 100 trees are being planted with the lowest elevation and largest trees in the center of the site. **Below:** 24 interpretive trail signs and about 100 tree tags are arranged along the trails throughout the preserve for easy viewing, providing students and visitors alike with information about the plants found there.



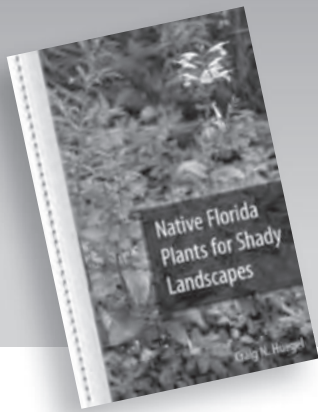
### 2016 FNPS Landscape Awards

We encourage you to participate in the 2016 program. Award winners will be honored at the FNPS Annual Conference in Daytona Beach.

An application is available online at [http://www.fnps.org/assets/pdf/awards/fnps\\_landscape\\_awards\\_application\\_2016.pdf](http://www.fnps.org/assets/pdf/awards/fnps_landscape_awards_application_2016.pdf).

To see additional photographs of the award-winning designs, visit [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org) and click on 'What We Do > Landscaping'.





## BOOKS of NOTE

# Native Florida Plants for Shady Landscapes

Craig Huegel  
Paperback, 287 pages  
University Press of Florida (2015)  
\$24.95 ISBN-10: 0813060591

Review by Ginny Stibolt

It's hot in Florida, so most gardeners work hard to create as much shade as possible to mitigate the heat at least to some extent. As a result, there is the conundrum of what to plant in the resulting shady places, which becomes even more difficult if plants are limited to those that are native. While there are a number of books on Florida's native plants, this one fills an interesting niche with a list of plants that thrive in shade.

The first third of Craig Huegel's book covers the various aspects of shade and strategies for dealing with shade. He starts by demonstrating the nuances of shade and the importance of light through different canopies and in different seasons and some basics of photosynthesis and plant metabolism. Next he discusses the advantages and disadvantages of growing plants in shade. One of the most important disadvantages is root competition; he provides some good ideas to increase the likelihood of plants' survival. Hint: Start with smaller plants.

There are also ideas for sustainably planning for and creating shaded areas and working with existing shade and expanding it. There's a thorough description of Florida's natural shady habitats and ecosystems, and Huegel suggests that it's important to experience these natural habitats to inspire your landscaping plans. He ends this section with a discussion of "Landscape Amenities" or methods of creating landscape features that would not be in a natural setting, such as paths and sitting areas. He also writes about how he's built a pond and wet area by directing rainwater away from the house. Handling foot traffic and rainwater are important topics that everyone can use.

The plant list is certainly the main attraction in this book. There are more than 100 understory trees and shrubs and nearly that many herbaceous plants. There is one color photo of each plant, usually depicting the flower or fruit. The descriptions are written with the care only an experienced grower can muster. Huegel has divided the plants by habit, including understory trees, understory shrubs, and understory herbaceous plants which are further divided into ferns, grasses, wildflowers, and vines. Each plant habit is divided by region in Florida and sometimes by moisture requirements.

Huegel has avoided redundancy in the plant descriptions by writing in a conversational style. It's more like he's introducing you to old friends, many of whom might have weird quirks or special needs, but all have redeeming virtues. While it's fun to read the paragraph format if you're reading for pleasure,

it's not as easy to find pertinent information quickly if you take the book for reference when buying plants.

The list of plants includes some with ranges that just barely make it into Florida, such as bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) and dimpled troutlily (*Erythronium umbilicatum*), which is also quite fussy about its habitat. These are pretty and interesting, but problematical for the less careful homeowner and perhaps should not be included.

Huegel closes with his philosophy on landscaping: "*I believe that landscapes should have an ecological purpose as well as an aesthetic one. They should do more than paint a picture; they should be alive, they should change with the seasons, and they should create expectation. A multidimensional landscape invites exploration. It creates opportunities to catch the ruby sheen of a hummingbird's throat as it turns to visit a flower, the darting flash of a migratory warbler as it hawks an insect come to pollinate a springtime burst of woodland flowers, the hovering grace of a heliconia butterfly nectaring in the understory or laying eggs within a light gap. Landscapes should be music, not paintings; alive, not static.*"

*Adding life to a landscape is best done by using the plants that add that life naturally: native plants. Though there are exceptions, it seems unrealistic to expect plants from other continents to nurture the life that has adapted to Florida living. Plants are more than aesthetic objects; they create life opportunities, and Florida plants have evolved to create these opportunities in Florida.*"

I recommend *Native Florida Plants for Shady Landscapes* because it fills a large gap in the list of Florida native plant books. There are color photos on almost every page, which makes this book a pleasure to browse. Most are close-ups of plants, but others illustrate types of landscapes or habitats. There is a treasure-trove of information packed into its 287 pages in the photos alone.

We all strive for shade and this book answers our shady questions. It provides guidelines on how to create shade and deal with existing shade, and most importantly provides a generous list of plants that can survive in lower light situations.

### About the Author

Ginny Stibolt, a botanist and gardener, moved to Northeast Florida in 2004. She's a member of FNPS' Ixia Chapter. She's written three Florida gardening books, *Sustainable Gardening for Florida*, *Organic Methods for Vegetable Gardening in Florida*, and *The Art of Maintaining a Florida Native Landscape*: all published by the University Press of Florida. Visit her website at: [www.GreenGardeningMatters.com](http://www.GreenGardeningMatters.com).



# New Initiative Proclaims October *Florida Native Plant Month*

Andy Taylor – FNPS Development Director



**Above:** Florida Governor Rick Scott signed a proclamation establishing October as *Florida Native Plant Month*.

For FNPS, October is always one of our busiest months of the year as all chapters are up and running after a summer break. Adding to the excitement this fall was FNPS' newest initiative – the *Florida Native Plant Month* campaign. The campaign provided a great opportunity to create a coordinated outreach and membership effort designed to drive home a message about the importance of Florida native plants, statewide.

As of this writing, 44 proclamations have been issued naming October *Florida Native Plant Month*, including one for the State of Florida signed by Governor Rick Scott. This is a big deal for a first-year event. The proclamations allow members to appear before their elected officials and publicly share the important work done by FNPS in the local community.

When word started getting out about *Florida Native Plant Month*, several local governments wanted to become part of the effort and reached out to FNPS for proclamations.

At the St. Johns Board of County Commissioners presentation, Chairwoman Rachael Bennett, said “My backyard, much to the dismay of my HOA, looks very much like a natural Florida environment.” Sea Oats Chapter members in attendance gave a loud round of applause after that line!

Media attention included a column from Tom Palmer at the *Lakeland Ledger* and a story from the *Wakulla News* about the *Sarracenia* Chapter after the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners' proclamation. Additional articles and highlights are to come, generated by the positive developments that occurred throughout the month as a result of the initiative. More photos and details on all that happened during the first *Florida Native Plant Month* can be found online at [www.fnps.org/news/plantmonth](http://www.fnps.org/news/plantmonth).



**Above left:** Palm Beach Board of County Commissioners Proclamation (L to R) Mary Jo Agerstoun, Susan Lerner, Palm Beach Commissioner Paulette Burdick, Susan Casamento, Winnie Said, Jacqueline Kadish. **Above right:** Hillsborough County Commission Proclamation (L to R) Janet Bowers, Eileen Reed, Gar Reed, Donna Bollenbach, Lucy Fuchs, Devon Higginbotham, Andy Taylor, Frank Fuchs, Sam Richardson.



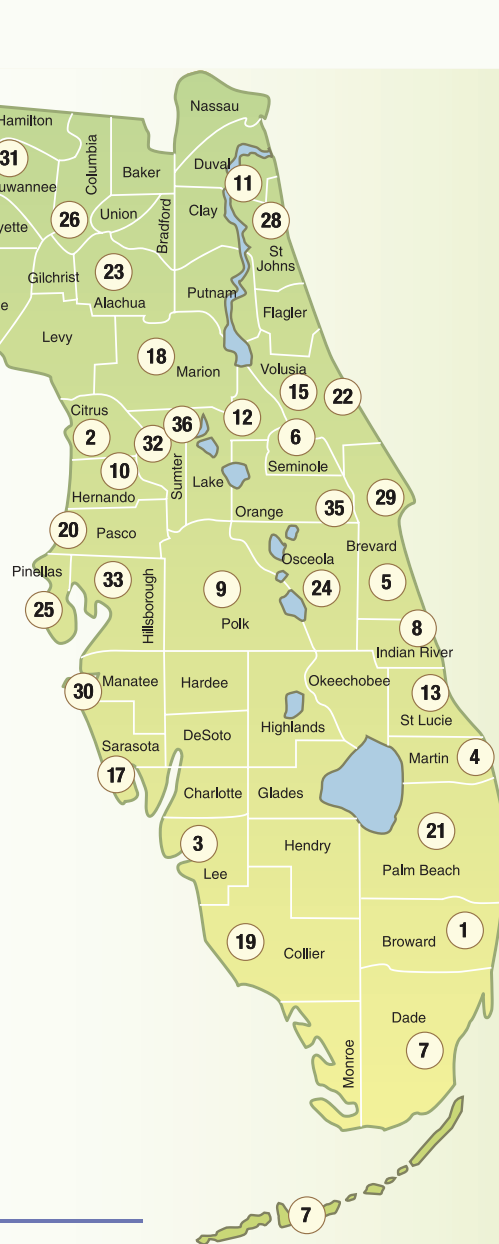
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**To become a member:** Contact your local Chapter Representative, call, write, or e-mail FNPS, or join online at [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org)