

Identification Guide For Invasive Exotic Plants of the Florida Keys 2017



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for the

Florida Keys Invasive Exotics Task Force

**Updated by FKIETF staff
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FKIETF Invasive Exotics – Table of Contents

Category I: Invasive Exotic plants that are altering Florida Keys native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, and/or hybridizing with natives..... 1

Asiatic Colubrina (<i>Colubrina asiatica</i>).....	3
Australian Pine (<i>Casuarina spp.</i>).....	2
Beach Naupaka (<i>Scaevola sericea</i>).....	8
Bowstring Hemp (<i>Sansevieria hyacinthoides</i>).....	7
Brazilian Pepper (<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>).....	9
Guinea Grass (<i>Panicum maximum</i>).....	6
Lead Tree (<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>).....	4
Sapodilla (<i>Manilkara zapota</i>).....	5
Seaside Mahoe (<i>Thespesia populnea</i>).....	10

Category II: Invasive Exotic plants that have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida Keys plant communities to the extent shown by category I species 11

Air Potato (<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>)**.....	22
Arrowhead vine (<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>).....	47
Asparagus fern (<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>).....	16
Brazilian jasmine (<i>Jasminum fluminense</i>).....	29
Burma Reed (<i>Neyraudia reynaudiana</i>).....	36
Cardboard palm (<i>Zamia furfuracea</i>).....	58
Castor bean (<i>Ricinus communis</i>).....	41
Chastetree (<i>Vitex trifolia</i>) **.....	56
Coconut palm (<i>Cocos nucifera</i>).....	19
Common asparagus fern (<i>Asparagus setaceus</i>).....	17
Coral vine (<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>).....	15
Crowfoot Grass (<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i>).....	21
Date palm (<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>).....	40
Fountain Grass (<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>).....	38
Golden pothos (<i>Epipremnum pinnatum cv. aureum</i>).....	23
Governor's plum (<i>Flacourtia indica</i>).....	27
Ground orchid (<i>Eulophia graminea</i>)**.....	24
Jumbie Bean (<i>Macroptilium atropureum</i>).....	32
Lantana (<i>Lantana camara</i>).....	31
Laurel Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>).....	26
Life Plant (<i>Kalanchoe spp.</i>).....	30
Madagascar Periwinkle (<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>).....	18
Madagascar Rubber Vine (<i>Cryptostegia madagascariensis</i>).....	20
Natal Grass (<i>Melinis repens</i>).....	34
Napier Grass (<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>).....	37
Night-Blooming Cereus (<i>Hylocereus undatus</i>).....	28
Oyster Plant (<i>Tradescantia spathacea</i>).....	53

Phasey bean (<i>Macroptilium lathyroides</i>).....	33
Pink Shower Tree (<i>Tabebuia heterophylla</i>).....	48
Porterweed (<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>).....	45
Puncture Weed (<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>).....	54
Queensland Umbrella Tree (<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>).....	42
Red Sandalwood (<i>Adenantha pavonina</i>).....	12
Sea hibiscus (<i>Talipati tiliaceum</i>).....	49
Senegal date palm (<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>).....	39
Sisal Hemp (<i>Agave sisalana</i>).....	13
St. Augustine Grass (<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>).....	46
Strawberry tree (<i>Muntingia calabura</i>).....	35
Surinam cherry (<i>Eugenia uniflora</i>).....	25
Tamarind (<i>Tamarindus indica</i>).....	50
Texas necklace pod (<i>Sophora tomentosa var. occidentalis</i>).....	43
Tropical Almond (<i>Terminalia catappa</i>).....	52
Washington palm (<i>Washintonia robusta</i>).....	57
Wedelia (<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>).....	44
Woman's Tongue (<i>Albizia lebeck</i>).....	14
Yellow alder (<i>Turnera ulmifolia</i>).....	55
Yellow Elder (<i>Tecoma stans</i>).....	51
Zoysia Grass (<i>Zoysia japonica, Z. pacifica</i>).....	59

Category III: Invasive Exotic plants that have not yet become a problem in the Florida

Keys but are to be watched.....	60
African fire bush (<i>Hamelia patens var. glabra</i>).....	76
Arabian jasmine (<i>Jasminum sambac</i>).....	82
Asian Sword Fern (<i>Nephrolepis multiflora</i>).....	89
Black Olive (<i>Bucida buceras</i>).....	68
Bracelet Wood (<i>Jacquinia arborea</i>)**.....	80
Caesar's weed (<i>Urena lobata</i>)**.....	103
Candlestick plant (<i>Senna alata</i>).....	98
Carrotwood (<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>).....	70
Central American Sisal (<i>Furcraea cabuya</i>).....	75
Chinaberry (<i>Melia azedarach</i>).....	86
Christmas senna (<i>Senna pendula</i>).....	99
Earleaf Acacia (<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>).....	61
False Banyan (<i>Ficus altissima</i>).....	74
Ganges Primrose (<i>Asystasia gangetica</i>).....	65
Guava (<i>Psidium guajava</i>).....	95
Indigofera (<i>Indigofera spicata</i>).....	78
Indigofera (<i>Indigofera suffruticosa</i>).....	79
Itch grass (<i>Rotboellia cochinchinensis</i>).....	96
Jaragua (<i>Hyparrhenia rufa</i>).....	77
Jasminum (<i>Jasminum dichotomum</i>).....	81
Java plum (<i>Syzygium cumini</i>).....	102
Kopsia (<i>Ochrosia elliptica</i>).....	90
Madeira vine (<i>Anredera vesicaria</i>)**.....	62
Mahogany horseflesh (<i>Lysiloma sabicu</i>).....	84

Melaleuca (<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>).....	85
Mile-a-minute vine (<i>Mikania micrantha</i>).....	87
Ming tree (<i>Bucida spinosa</i>).....	69
Orange-Jessamine (<i>Murraya exotica</i>).....	88
Orchid Tree (<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>).....	66
Pampas grass (<i>Arundo donax</i>).....	64
Paper Mulberry (<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>).....	67
Pencil cactus (<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i>).....	73
Pongamia (<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>).....	93
Royal Poinciana (<i>Delonix regia</i>).....	71
Serpent fern (<i>Phymatosorus scolopendria</i>).....	92
Shoebuttan Ardisia (<i>Ardisia elliptica</i>).....	63
Sicklebush (<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>)**.....	72
Snake cactus (<i>Selenicereus pteranthus</i>).....	97
Strawberry guava (<i>Psidium cattleianum</i>).....	94
Torpedo Grass (<i>Panicum repens</i>).....	91
Tropical Soda Apple (<i>Solanum viarum</i>)**.....	100
Turkey berry (<i>Solanum torvum</i>).....	101
White flowered mangrove (<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>).....	83

Natives to Know: Plants native to the Florida Keys that may be mistaken for one or more invasive exotic species.....104

Barbed-wire Cactus (<i>Acanthocereus tetragonus</i>).....	104
Inkberry (<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>).....	109
Blue Porterweed (<i>Stachytarpheta amaicensis</i>).....	110
False Sisal (<i>Agave decipiens</i>).....	105
Florida Mayten (<i>Maytenus phyllanthoides</i>).....	108
Marlberry (<i>Ardisia escallonioides</i>).....	105
Necklace Pod (<i>Sophora tomentosa</i> var. <i>truncata</i>).....	110
Southern Slash Pine (<i>Pinus elliottii</i>).....	109
Strangler Fig (<i>Ficus aurea</i>).....	106
Wild Banyan (<i>Ficus citrifolia</i>).....	107
Wild Dilly (<i>Manilkara jaimiqui</i> subsp. <i>emarginata</i>).....	108
Wild Sage (<i>Lantana involucrata</i>).....	106
Wild Tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>).....	107

Invasive Exotic/Native Grass Comparisons111

<i>Monanthochloe littoralis</i>	114
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	111
<i>Paspalum caespitosum</i>	112
<i>Paspalum conjugatum</i>	112
<i>Paspalum distichum</i>	112

Paspalum vaginatum.....112
Setaria macrosperma.....113
Setaria pumila.....113
Setaria parviflora.....113

**** - Early Detection Rapid Response Species**

Category I

Invasive Exotic plants that are altering Florida Keys' native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structure or ecological functions and/or hybridizing with natives.

Scientific Name:	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> , <i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i> , <i>Casuarina glauca</i>
Common Name(s):	Australian pine, ironwood, beefwood, she-oak, horsetail tree
Family:	Casuarinaceae

Height:	50 feet
Leaves:	Gray-green, needlelike, jointed branches that resemble leaves.
Flowers:	Inconspicuous, in small axillary clusters
Bark:	Reddish brown to gray, rough, brittle, peeling
Fruit:	Tiny, single seeded winged nutlet formed in woody cone-like clusters
Other:	Occurs throughout south Florida on sandy shores, in pinelands and disturbed sites such as filled wetlands, road shoulders, cleared land and empty lots. Once established, Australian pines dominate areas almost to the total exclusion of native vegetation by chemically suppressing seed germination and smothering seedlings and other plants with thick, dense litter.
Treat-ment:	Especially with larger trees, remove any loose bark before applying 10%-30% basal triclopyr ester (10% for saplings, increasing rate with size, 20% should kill all but the largest trees) or cut stump with 25% to 50% triclopyr amine.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 1; Highly invasive in wetlands, shorelines, and uplands; Listed as noxious weed by FDACS - sale banned.
Origin:	Australia
Similar Natives:	Southern Slash Pine (<i>Pinus elliottii</i>); see p.108



Photos are of *Casuarina equisetifolia*

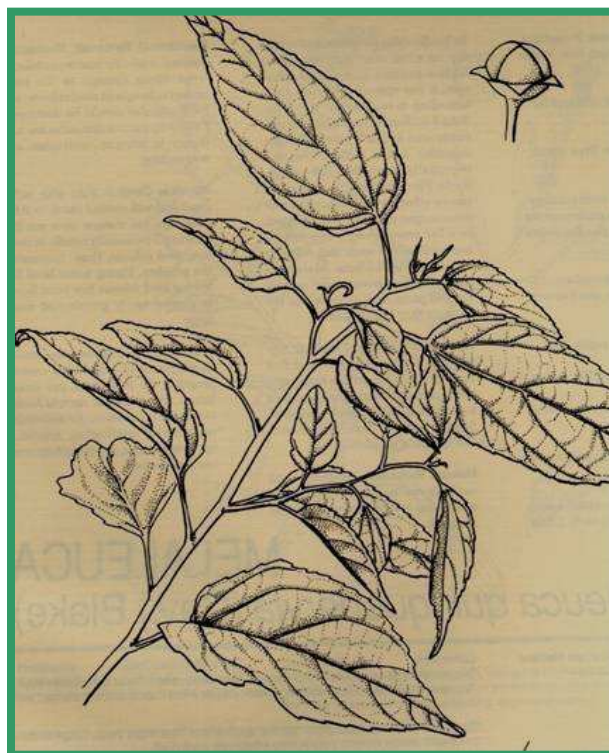
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Scientific Name:	<i>Colubrina asiatica</i>
Common Name(s):	Asiatic or common Colubrina, latherleaf
Family:	Rhamnaceae

Height:	A sprawling shrub to 10 feet with smooth, trailing or spreading branches.		
Leaves:	Alternate, shiny dark green above with serrated edges, 1.5-3.5 inches long		
Flowers:	Small and greenish white, in few-flowered clusters.		
Bark:	Light brown bark.		
Fruit:	Capsule, green and fleshy turning to brown when dry.		
Other:	Latherleaf invades coastal strand, dunes, mangrove-buttonwood forests, pine rockland, the margins of hardwood forests, and disturbed sites. The sprawling growth habit enables it to smother native vegetation and it has been known to form a near monoculture if left unchecked. Seeds float in seawater and are transported by ocean currents to other sites. Re-sprouts from injured stems.		
Treatment:	foliar with 3% triclopyr ester in cut grid pattern, basal with 10% triclopyr ester, or cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 1; Highly invasive, especially on beaches and coastlines; very fast growing and fast to mature (reproduce); findings of outlier populations at inland sites in NKL suggests seeds may be dispersed by birds (perhaps eaten as a "gizzard-stone" by doves - JGD). Listed as noxious weed by FDACS – sale banned		
Origin:	East Africa, India, SE Asia, Australia, Hawaii and Pacific Islands	Similar Natives:	Chewstick (<i>Gouania lupuloides</i>)



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www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>		
Common Name(s):	Lead tree		
Family:	Fabaceae		
Height:	Shrub or small tree to 25 feet in height		
Leaves:	Gray-green, bipinnate leaves, numerous, 3/8 to 1/2 inch, slightly sickle-shaped leaflets. Leaflets have spine at apex		
Flowers:	Terminal or axillary flower spikes produce white, multi-stamened, powderpuff-like flowers.		
Bark:	Smooth, light gray to tan.		
Fruit:	Pods are narrow, four to six inches long, 1/2 inch wide, green turning to brown and produced in clusters. Seeds are brown and somewhat flattened. Known to persist in seed bank for many years,		
Other:	Lead tree is a weedy, fast-growing tree that readily invades coastal strand, pine rockland, the margins and canopy gaps of hardwood forests, and open disturbed sites. Population densities can be high if left unchecked. Tends to grow in dense groups.		
Treat-ment:	Basal or stump with 30% triclopyr ester, cut stump with 50-100% triclopyr amine is usually less effective; 1.5% Redeem		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 1; Thickly invasive on roads & edges; has a long-lived seed-bank. Listed as noxious weed by FDACS – sale banned		
Origin:	West Indies, Tropical America	Similar Natives:	Wild Tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>); see p.106



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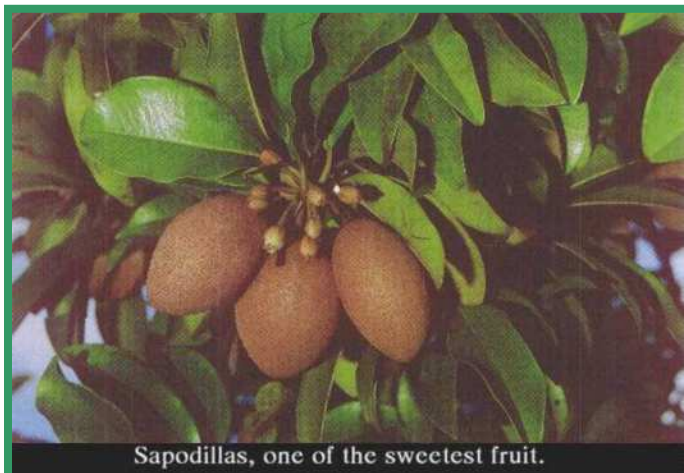


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Scientific Name:	<i>Manilkara zapota</i>	
Common Name(s):	Sapodilla, Chicle-gum tree	
Family:	Sapotaceae	
Height:	Large tree, reaching 30 feet	
Leaves:	Dull dark green, leathery, alternate and grow in clusters at the ends of twigs. Oblong or elliptical in shape, 2-5 inches long.	
Flowers:	Flowers are white, about ½ inch wide, and clustered in the leaf axils.	
Bark:	Reddish brown bark	
Fruit:	Brown berries around 2-4 inches in diameter, with spongy brownish flesh. Thick skinned. Seeds are black and often possess a small barb at the tips.	
Other:	Evergreen shrub occurring in hardwood hammocks and other habitats, shading and dense seeding a problem. Lateral branches of smaller trees grow around circumference of tree.	
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10%-25% triclopyr ester	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 1; Commonly found near old (abandoned) home sites; fruits are carried by squirrels and probably other mammals; Key deer eat seedlings but may also disperse seeds. Popular fruit tree on mainland	
Origin:	Central America	Similar Natives: Wild Dilly (<i>Manilkara jaimiqui</i> subsp. <i>emarginata</i>); see p.107



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Sapodillas, one of the sweetest fruit.

Scientific Name:	<i>Panicum maximum</i>
Common Name(s):	Guinea grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	6-10 ft tall clumps
Leaves:	Blades are often 12-16 inches long with a width of 1-3 inches often with short stocky hairs. Stems can reach 10-24 inches
Flowers:	Clumps of green to purplish spikelets, 1 st clump larger than others
Bark:	N/A herbaceous
Fruit:	Grass seeds
Other:	Widely used as animal food, re-sprouts from rhizomes after fires. Can spread by wind, animals, or rhizomes. Produces large amounts of seeds.
Treat-ment:	2% glyphosate foliar
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 1; Already common in upper Keys, spreading quickly along US1 corridor and areas of Big Pine. Acts as a secondary infestation when exotic removal has been conducted at a site
Origin:	Old World
Similar Natives:	Switch Grass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>); see p.110



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Scientific Name:	<i>Sansevieria hyacinthoides</i>
Common Name(s):	Mother-in-law's tongue , bowstring hemp
Family:	Agavaceae

Height:	Up to four feet	
Leaves:	The long, linear leaves are usually green with contrasting darker green stripes but may have yellow and/or white stripes along the edges or may have yellow cross bands.	
Flowers:	White to green flowers on an unbranched spike.	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Small, orange berry.	
Other:	A common houseplant, very tolerant of varying conditions.	
Treat-ment:	Remove manually if feasible; 5% triclopyr ester foliar; or cut at base and apply 5% triclopyr ester foliar to cut surface. Needs to be bagged and removed from site since leaves will root and produce new plants	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 1; Given sufficient time, a few dumped specimens can spread and are known to take over huge areas in hammocks; examples in Crane Point and north Key Largo.	
Origin:	Tropical Africa	Similar Natives:



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Scientific Name:	<i>Scaevola sericea</i>
Common Name(s):	Beach naupaka/scaevola, Hawaiian half-flower
Family:	Goodeniaceae

Height:	Up to 16 feet	
Leaves:	Simple, closely alternate, crowded at stem tips. Blades are thick, shiny and bright green, yellowing with age. Up to 8 1/2 inches long, wider at tips. Small white hairs at point of attachment (visible when leaf is removed).	
Flowers:	White to pale purple, five petals spread out like a fan.	
Bark:	N/A	
Fruit:	Fleshy, with a hard inner layer enclosing the fruit. Mature fruit is white. Seeds can be water dispersed	
Other:	Large bushy shrub with dense mounded habit. Similar to the native <i>Scaevola plumieri</i> but exotic has shorter, more succulent leaves.	
Treat-ment:	10% triclopyr ester basal or 50% triclopyr amine cut-surface	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 1; Floating seeds spread to backcountry, Florida Bay and Bahamas. Banned from sale/propagation in Florida in July 2007	
Origin:	East Africa	Similar Natives: Inkberry (<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>); see p. 108, Seven year apple (<i>Genipa clusiifolia</i>)

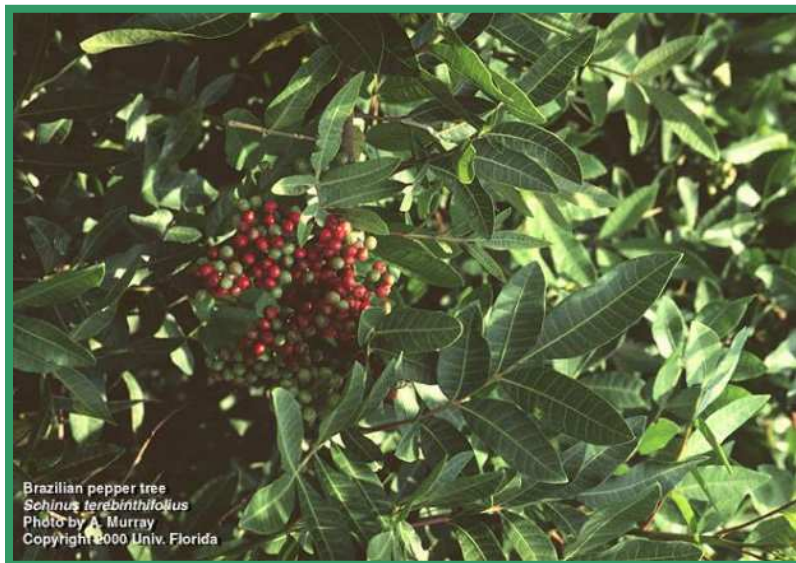


Photo by DEP/DRP



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>		
Common Name(s):	Brazilian pepper, Florida holly		
Family:	Anacardiaceae		
Height:	A low-branching, bushy, spreading tree to 40 feet.		
Leaves:	Compound, aromatic leaves with 5 to 9 leaflets to 3 inches long. Crushed leaves smell like pepper or turpentine.		
Flowers:	Flowers are tiny, white, and produced in compact clusters.		
Bark:	Smooth and gray when young, increasingly striated as tree grows.		
Fruit:	Showy, compact clusters of red, 3/16-inch, round fruit are produced on female trees in fall and winter.		
Other:	A serious threat to the very existence of pine rockland habitat, Brazilian pepper also invades hardwood forests, solution holes in hammocks, and can form a dense, impenetrable barrier around forest margins. It is salt-tolerant and invades coastal strand, mangrove-buttonwood associations, and spoil islands. *Blooming trees are a major source of respiratory distress to many people and the sap can cause skin irritation, much like its relative poison-ivy.		
Treat-ment:	10%-15% triclopyr ester basal; 50% triclopyr amine cut-surface		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKETF: 1; Highly invasive in wetlands and uplands. Listed as noxious weed by FDACS, sale is banned		
Origin:	Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay	Similar Natives:	



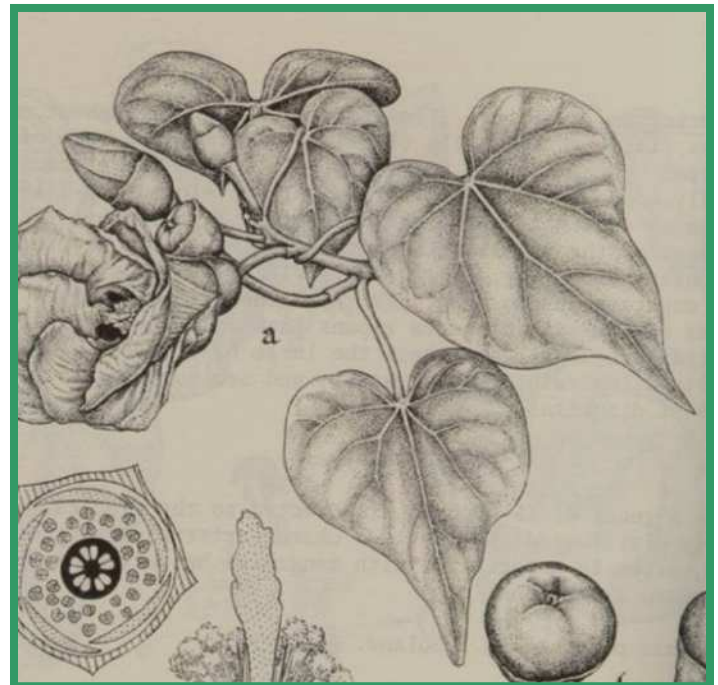
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Scientific Name:	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>
Common Name(s):	Seaside mahoe, portia tree
Family:	Malvaceae

Height:	40 feet
Leaves:	Alternate, heart shaped leaves with five main veins spreading from base.
Flowers:	Large and hibiscus like, yellow with a red center. Flowers turn maroon by nightfall.
Bark:	Young branches have minute brown scales.
Fruit:	Leathery, flat, five-parted capsule about 1.5 inches wide, yellow to black.
Other:	Evergreen, shrubby tree. Salt tolerant, usually found in and around beach, bay, inlet areas, coastal rock barren, and coastal berms. Thrives in low siltie land and coral and sand berms. The fruit are buoyant in seawater, enabling seeds to be carried by ocean currents to distant shores.
Treat-ment:	Cut -surface 50% triclopyr amine; girdle large trees; don't leave cut branches in contact with soil or they will take root and re-sprout.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 1; Floating seeds invade pristine coastal transition areas. Still sold in some Florida stores and nurseries.
Origin:	Old World Tropics
Similar Natives:	



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Category II

Invasive Exotics plants that have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida Keys plant communities to the extent shown by category I species.

Scientific Name:	<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i>
Common Name(s):	Red sandlewood
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	A medium sized tree to 30 ft.		
Leaves:	Compound, 10 to 12 inches long, with 10 to 12 oblong 2 inch leaflets.		
Flowers:	White and yellow flowers are produced in dense narrow unbranched inflorescences		
Bark:	Smooth brown bark.		
Fruit:	Fruit are brown pods that coil upon opening to reveal numerous scarlet hard seeds that cling to the dry pods. Often used in jewelry.		
Other:	This broad open canopied tree is usually deciduous, dropping its leaves in winter either from cold or drought stress		
Treat-ment:	Basal or stump with triclopyr ester 30%		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Escaped from cultivation and is a fast growing tree. Seedling recruitment is abundant.		
Origin:	India	Similar Natives:	Wild Tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>); see p. 106



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Scientific Name:	<i>Agave sisalana</i> *
Common Name(s):	Sisal hemp, Sisal, Sisal agave, Century plant
Family:	Agavaceae

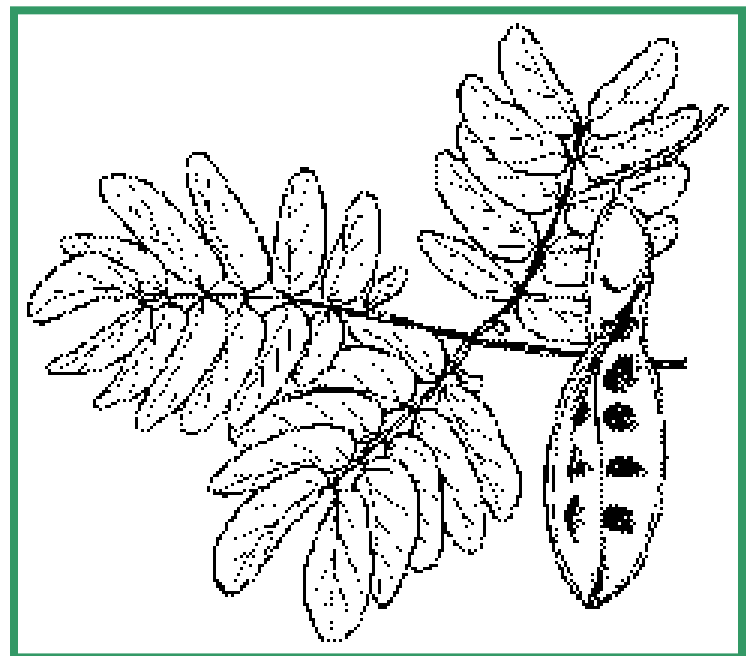
Height:	Five feet or more
Leaves:	Four inch wide, sword-like fibrous leaves extending upward from a rosette at the base. Terminate in long, hard, sharp spines. Green or grayish in color, smooth in texture.
Flowers:	Flower stalk may rise 25-30 feet and has a branched top. Greenish flowers
Bark:	N/A
Fruit:	New plants (pups) develop on flower stalks and are spread when stalk falls to the ground. Adult plant dies once reproduction is complete
Other:	Leaves contain a liquid that may be a skin irritant for some people. Native Agave has spines along the leaf margin, the exotic species often times does not. Native agave also develops a trunk as it matures.
Treat-ment:	Spray with 3% triclopyr ester on center bud or manually remove.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIEF: 2; Establishes where dumped and spreads from landscapes
Origin:	Mexico
Similar Natives:	False Sisal (<i>Agave decipiens</i>); see p.104



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Scientific Name:	<i>Albizia lebbek</i>
Common Name(s):	Woman's tongue
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	40 feet		
Leaves:	Alternate, twice compound, with 2-5 pairs of pinnae, each with 3-10 pairs of leaflets. Leaflets are elliptical and oblong, 1-2 inches long, dull green above and paler green below.		
Flowers:	Flowers occur in showy, rounded clusters, cream or yellowish white with long stamens. Fragrant, 2-inch pale yellow, mimosa- or powderpuff-like flowers are produced in summer.		
Bark:	Pale in color.		
Fruit:	Flat linear pod can reach up to a foot long. The pods are retained through spring after the leaves have fallen and rattle in the wind.		
Other:	Occurs in tropical hammocks in the Keys. Does not do well in waterlogged soils. Woman's tongue outcompetes native vegetation and can form large populations both from seed and extensive root suckers. Grows naturally in the Himalayas to altitudes of 5,200 feet.		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal works well for small outliers; basal or stump with 30% triclopyr ester.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Heavy seeder, like many legumes, can be hard to kill with herbicides unless application thoroughly treats entire circumference and especially at the root collar.		
Origin:	Tropical Asia, Northern Australia	Similar Natives:	Wild Tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>); see p.106



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Scientific Name:	<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>
Common Name(s):	Coral vine
Family:	Polygonaceae

Height:	Vine
Leaves:	Ovate with a cordate base.
Flowers:	Showy pink flowers bloom year round
Bark:	Vine
Fruit:	Three-angled seed pod
Other:	Has become popular as landscape plant and is escaping from cultivation
Treat-ment:	Basal with 20% triclopyr ester.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Disturbed sites and hammocks.
Origin:	Mexico
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>		
Common Name(s):	Asparagus fern, Emerald fern		
Family:	Liliaceae		
Height:	Becomes a thick shrub but spreads mainly laterally.		
Leaves:	Branchlets are flat, needle-like and light green. Leaves are tiny and scale-like, about one inch long and occur at the bases of branchlets.		
Flowers:	Small, white or pink-white, fragrant. Flowers through summer and fall.		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Bright red berries less than one inch in diameter.		
Other:	Evergreen herb with stiff stems. Displaces native ground cover and understory shrubs. Cultivated as an indoor plant. Drought tolerant and grows in wide range of light conditions.		
Treat-ment:	Remove manually or treat with foliar application of 2% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2, Feathery leaves can be easily overlooked; occasionally found in hammock margins in NKL; distribution suggests occurrences are not related to dumping; propagules (seeds or live cuttings) may be dispersed by birds, or by right-of-way maintenance equipment		
Origin:	South Africa	Similar Natives:	



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Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks

Scientific Name:	<i>Asparagus setaceus</i>
Common Name(s):	Common asparagus fern
Family:	Asparagaceae

Height:	Ground cover	
Leaves:	Needlelike	
Flowers:	Small, white flowers	
Bark:	N/A	
Fruit:	Purple-black	
Other:	Escaping from cultivation	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal or foliar with 2% round-up	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Becoming increasingly more abundant in upper Keys. Problem with dumping as source of spread.	
Origin:	South Africa	Similar Natives:



Scientific Name:	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>
Common Name(s):	Madagascar periwinkle
Family:	Apocynaceae

Height:	3 ft or less	
Leaves:	Oblong with rounded tips. Narrow at the base and has short leaf stems	
Flowers:	Pink, purple or white 5 petals opening to a colored center	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Paired seed pods are 2-3cm long	
Other:	Often sold as a ground cover at landscape nurseries. Escaped from cultivation	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Found on disturbed sites, sand pine scrub and beaches.	
Origin:	Madagascar	Similar Natives:



Scientific Name:	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>
Common Name(s):	Coconut palm
Family:	Areaceae

Height:	30 feet		
Leaves:	Leaves are thick and rigid, blades are pinnate and lacking spines on the stems.		
Flowers:	White flowers are borne in clusters		
Bark:	Trunk is gray with sheaths from old fronds		
Fruit:	Large coconut with hard exterior shell and containing milk and soft meat when ripe. Coconuts float and are dispersed into beach dune and disturbed habitats		
Other:	Brought to Florida in 1513 and rapidly spread. Leaf fronds and coconuts form dense layer under trees altering habitat and preventing natural germination.		
Treat-ment:	Cut at base or cut at apical meristem.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIEF: 2; Invasive in beach dune habitat, rockland hammock where planted, and in disturbed areas.		
Origin:	Old World tropics	Similar Natives:	



Photo by DEP/DRP staff

Scientific Name:	<i>Cryptostegia madagascariensis</i>
Common Name(s):	Madagascar rubber vine
Family:	Asclepiadaceae

Height:	Shrub-like vine that grows to 6-feet but spreads out into other vegetation	
Leaves:	Shiny dark green leaves.	
Flowers:	One to 1.5 inches long. Corolla pale pink; tube-shaped. Five-petaled.	
Bark:	Brownish, mostly smooth with small, white dots	
Fruit:	Triangular shaped pods 3 to 4 inches, occurring at the end of a branch usually in pairs	
Other:	Vigorous climbing shrub with milky sap.	
Treat-ment:	10% triclopyr ester basal	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIEF: 2; Occurs in transitional wetlands, rockland hammock, coastal rock barren, and coastal berm. Associated with old homesteads	
Origin:	Madagascar, Western Indian Ocean	Similar Natives:



Photos by Kaita Frank



Scientific Name:	<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i>
Common Name(s):	Crowfoot grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	24 inches
Leaves:	Leaves are narrow and long
Flowers:	Inflorescence develops as flat, bird foot shaped structure
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Small seeds develop in inflorescence
Other:	Tufted summer annual with sprinklets arranged on several fingers at tip of stem. Hairs extend outward from the margin of the base of the leaf blade.
Treat-ment:	Foliar 2% glyphosate
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; So far seems to be limited to disturbed sites or as an early colonizer only at natural sites. However, has been observed invading into beach dune habitat at Bahia Honda
Origin:	Throughout Africa and Asia
Similar Natives:	



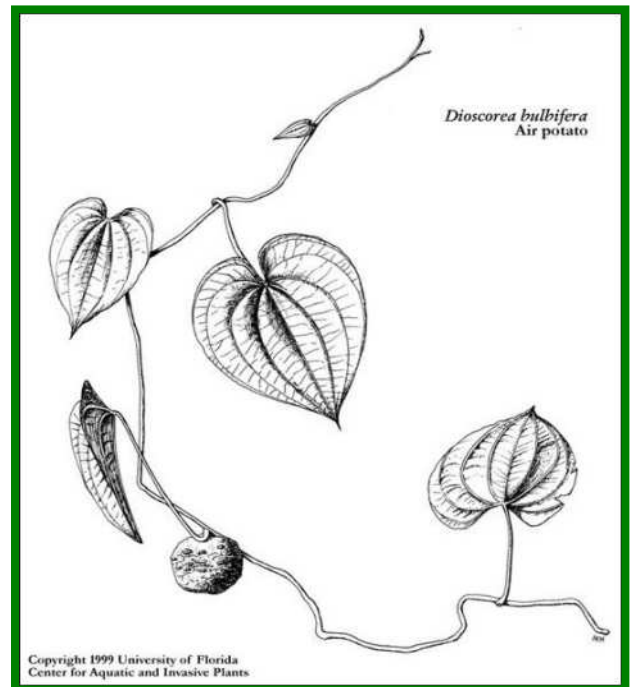
www.plantatlas.usf.edu/



www.plantatlas.usf.edu/

Scientific Name:	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>
Common Name(s):	Air Potato
Family:	Dioscoreaceae

Height:	Vine that climbs onto vegetation and into canopy of large trees	
Leaves:	Alternate broad heart shapes leaves, long petioles, and leaf veins normally originating from one point.	
Flowers:	Small when present. Not commonly produced in Florida	
Bark:	Vine	
Fruit:	Tubers are produced throughout vine and need to be bagged and removed from along with other eradication methods.	
Other:	Popular house plant that invades multiple habitats when escapes from landscaping or via dumping vegetative material	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal including removing all tubers.	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Invades a variety of habitats: 23 Florida counties, Big Pine, Cudjoe, and Key Largo. Listed as a noxious weed by FDACS – sale banned. FKIETF EDRR species.	
Origin:	Tropical Asia	Similar Natives:



<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/AG112>

Scientific Name:	<i>Epipremnum</i> var. <i>pinnatum</i>
Common Name(s):	Golden pothos
Family:	Araceae

Height:	Vine that successfully climbs trees	
Leaves:	Shiny, alternate, heart shaped leaves, can be variegated and varying shades of green and yellow. Become quite large when mature	
Flowers:	Rarely flowers but when it does, they are small and develop in a large bract that surrounds the flower	
Bark:	Vine	
Fruit:	Small berries, although not usually produced when grown indoors	
Other:	Common house plant that escapes from cultivation when put in landscape or via dumping	
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Has spread from landscapes, dump sites to hammock.	
Origin:	Old World	Similar Natives:



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Scientific Name:	<i>Eulophia graminea</i>
Common Name(s):	Ground orchid
Family:	Orchidaceae

Height:	Groundcover to 3 feet
Leaves:	Leaves are narrow with white midrib
Flowers:	Flowers form in tall panicles and are green with brown-purple veination and a rose purple marking on the lip.
Bark:	Herbaceous groundcover
Fruit:	Fruit is a capsule 3cm in length.
Other:	First discovered in 2007 growing in mulched landscape in south Miami. Mature individuals have large pseudobulbs whereas smaller individuals can have smaller pseudobulbs and numerous root attachments, making them more difficult to extract.
Treat-ment:	Manual removal also removing all pseudobulbs and root attachments. Bag and remove from site.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Forms dense monoculture and has spread rapidly spread to thirteen counties in Florida. Although believed to have originally been spread by mulch, <i>E. graminea</i> is now found in rockland hammock and pine rockland habitats in the Florida Keys, and maritime hammock, pine flatwood, coastal strand, and cypress strand on the mainland. <i>E. graminea</i> has been found growing in rock, sand, mulch and bare earth. FKETF EDRR species.
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Eugenia uniflora</i>
Common Name(s):	Surinam cherry
Family:	Myrtaceae

Height:	Shrub to 10 feet		
Leaves:	Long and ovate with reddish hairs on new growth. Dark green and shiny above and pale underneath		
Flowers:	Flowers may be produced in inflorescence with one to three pairs of flowers, but usually grow as solitary structures in lower leaf axil.		
Bark:	Light brown		
Fruit:	Bright red and shaped like a miniature pumpkin		
Other:	Popular landscape plant especially as ornamental shrub. Fruits are high in Vitamin C.		
Treat-ment:	15% triclopyr ester basal or cut stump with 25% triclopyr amine.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Escaped from cultivation. Fruits dispersed by birds and animals.		
Origin:	India, Malaysia	Similar Natives:	Can be confused with native members of the stopper family especially redberry stopper



Scientific Name:	<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>
Common Name(s):	Laurel Fig, Indian Laurel, Laurel rubber, Banyan tree
Family:	Moraceae

Height:	Up to 40 feet		
Leaves:	Simple, alternate, dark glossy green with leathery texture. Can be elliptical, oval or diamond-shaped. Up to 5 inches long.		
Flowers:	Small flowers are internal inside fig structure		
Bark:	Milky and gray		
Fruit:	Fruits are dark purple when ripe		
Other:	The tree has a spreading growth habit with numerous aerial roots that may eventually become secondary trunks supporting the large, lateral branches. This is the most frequently encountered non-native fig species found invading natural areas in Florida. It often grows as an epiphyte on other trees (especially palms) or as a lithophyte on turnpike overpasses, bridges, walls, buildings and other concrete or stone structures. This tree invades hardwood forests and other native plant communities where it competes heavily with native plants for sunlight, nutrients, and space. Long-time landscape plant whose host specific pollinating wasp arrived in south Florida is 1990s.		
Treat-ment:	5% triclopyr ester basal.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Highly invasive in uplands in Upper Keys, epi- and litho-phytic		
Origin:	India, Malaysia	Similar Natives:	Strangler Fig (<i>Ficus aurea</i>); see p.105 Wild Banyan (<i>Ficus citrifolia</i>); see p.106

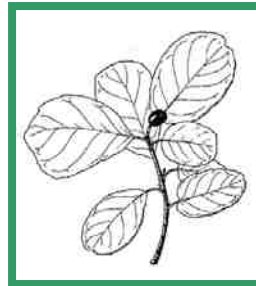
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Scientific Name:	<i>Flacourtia indica</i>
Common Name(s):	Governor's plum
Family:	Flacourtiaceae

Height:	Large shrub or small tree	
Leaves:	Leaves are ovate to elliptic with crenate margins, 2 to 2 ½ inches long	
Flowers:	Small, yellowish flowers are produced in clusters from the leaf axils	
Bark:	Light brown	
Fruit:	Fruit are round, purplish, ¾ in diameter berries with numerous small seeds	
Other:	Has sharp spines in the leaf axils	
Treat-ment:	20% triclopyr ester basal; 50% triclopyr amine cut-surface	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Very invasive in Miami-Dade pineland and hammocks; scattered populations naturalizing in Key Largo, Key West and Ramrod Key	
Origin:	Old World Tropics, China	Similar Natives:



www.plantatlas.usf.edu/

www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Hylocereus undatus</i>
Common Name(s):	Night-blooming cereus, Dragonfruit
Family:	Cactaceae

Height:	Extends into canopy of trees		
Leaves:	Heavy, three-sided, green, fleshy, much-branched stems have flat, wavy wings with horny margins.		
Flowers:	The magnificent, night-blooming, very fragrant, bell-shaped, white flowers, up to 14 inches long and nine inches wide.		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	The non-spiny fruit is oblong-oval, to 4 in (10 cm) long, 2 1/2 in (6.25 cm) thick, coated with the bright-red, fleshy or yellow, ovate bases of scales. Within is white, juicy, sweet pulp containing innumerable tiny black, partly hollow seeds.		
Other:	Spreads from landscapes and dump sites but is increasing in abundance and has been observed in the interior of several upper Keys hammocks.		
Treatment:	Manual removal, bag and remove from site		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Species is becoming popular for use of fruit, and many cultivars are being produced.		
Origin:	Mexico and Central America	Similar Natives:	Barbed-wire Cactus (<i>Acanthocereus tetragonus</i>); see p.103



Cal Lemke, University of Oklahoma

<http://community.webshots.com/photo/62443479/62443708bFoRkt>

Scientific Name:	<i>Jasminum fluminense</i> .
Common Name(s):	Brazilian jasmine
Family:	

Height:	Vining plant that will climb into vegetation		
Leaves:	Leaves are trifoliolate and hairy when immature becoming glossy green when mature.		
Flowers:	Showy, white flowers are very fragrant and are abundant on vine		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Fruit is a black berry		
Other:	Invades into disturbed sites and hammocks in south Florida.		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal or cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKETF: 2, Localized infestations in Florida Keys but is spreading		
Origin:	Africa	Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Kalanchoe spp.</i>
Common Name(s):	Life plant, mother-of-thousands, Chandelier plant
Family:	Crassulaceae

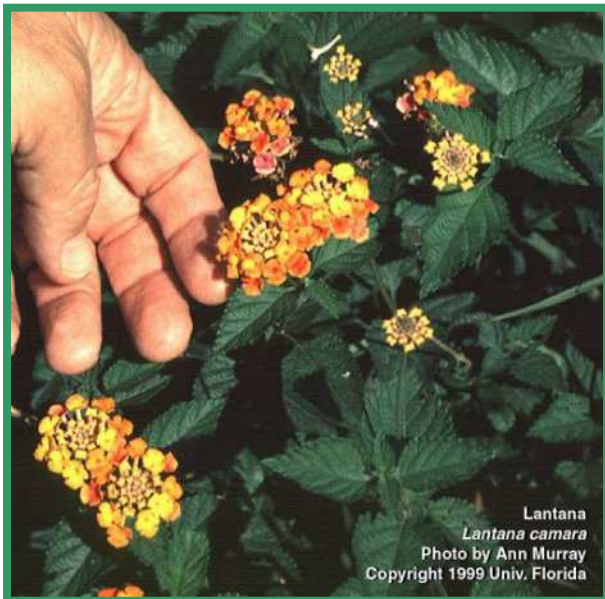
Height:	Up to seven feet
Leaves:	Succulent, elliptical, with points along edges
Flowers:	Bell-like, dark pink or reddish
Bark:	Herbaceous
Fruit:	Numerous seeds found in seed capsules
Other:	Succulent plant with tall-growing many-leafed stem. Any part of the plant can produce a new individual. Fast-growing and very invasive.
Treat-ment:	Manual removal, bag and remove from site.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2, Spreads mainly vegetatively from landscapes and where it has been dumped; localized
Origin:	Africa
Similar Natives:	



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Photo by Kate Hadden

Scientific Name:	<i>Lantana camara</i>	
Common Name(s):	Lantana, Shrub verbena	
Family:	Verbenaceae	
Height:	Shrub reaching a height of six feet	
Leaves:	Opposite, simple, with oval blades that are rough and hairy, up to six inches long and two to three inches wide. Bases of blades are truncate. Leaves are very aromatic when crushed.	
Flowers:	Small multicolored flowers occur in dense, flat-topped clusters; flowers in a single cluster may be white to pink or lavender, yellow to orange or red.	
Bark:	Square stems are covered with bristly hairs when green and are often armed with small prickles.	
Fruit:	Round and fleshy, very small. Initially green then turning to purple then blue-black. Unripe berries are toxic.	
Other:	Often confused with the endemic native Florida lantana, which can be identified by tapered (rather than truncate) leaf blades. Native lantana has white flowers and magenta fruit. This species forms thickets in sunny open areas and invades disturbed sites such as roadsides. Also frequently found in well-drained undisturbed habitats such as pinelands, hammocks, and beach dunes. Hybridizes with beach lantana and pineland lantana. There are now mostly sterile cultivars being produced.	
Treat-ment:	Basal with 5% triclopyr ester; cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Spreads from landscapes to hammock/pineland margins. Hybridizes with native lantana species found on mainland.	
Origin:	West Indies	Similar Natives: Wild Sage (<i>Lantana involucrata</i>); see p.105



Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks

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Scientific Name:	<i>Macroptilium atropurpureum</i>
Common Name(s):	Jumbie bean, siratro
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Less than 3 feet,	
Leaves:	Delta shaped with 3 leaflets per leaf, light to dark green veins distinctive	
Flowers:	Long stalked dark purple flowers, flowers may look black	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Thin seed pods are 8-10 inches long and contain numerous wind dispersed seeds	
Other:	Brought in as cattle fodder, wind spread seeds found on disturbed edges and coastal berms.	
Treat-ment:	Remove manually	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Disturbed edges, also found in coastal berms and dunes and roadsides.	
Origin:	Texas to Northern South America, Caribbean	Similar Natives:



<http://www.pr.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/plants/legu.html#le2> <http://www.geocities.com/morwellpark/plants/atropurpureum.html>

Scientific Name:	<i>Macroptilium lathyroides</i>
Common Name(s):	Phasey Bean
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	2-4 feet tall	
Leaves:	3 leaflets per leaf, oval to delta shaped	
Flowers:	Red to pink, three petal with many flowers per stalk	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Thin seeds that are 8-10 inches long and contain numerous wind dispersed seeds.	
Other:	Used as cattle fodder world wide, and have been found at disturbed edges and can move to coastal berms	
Treat-ment:	Remove manually	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Edge species, moving into coastal berms, dunes and roadsides.	
Origin:	Mexico, Central and South America, Caribbean	Similar Natives:



Seed Pods



Flowers

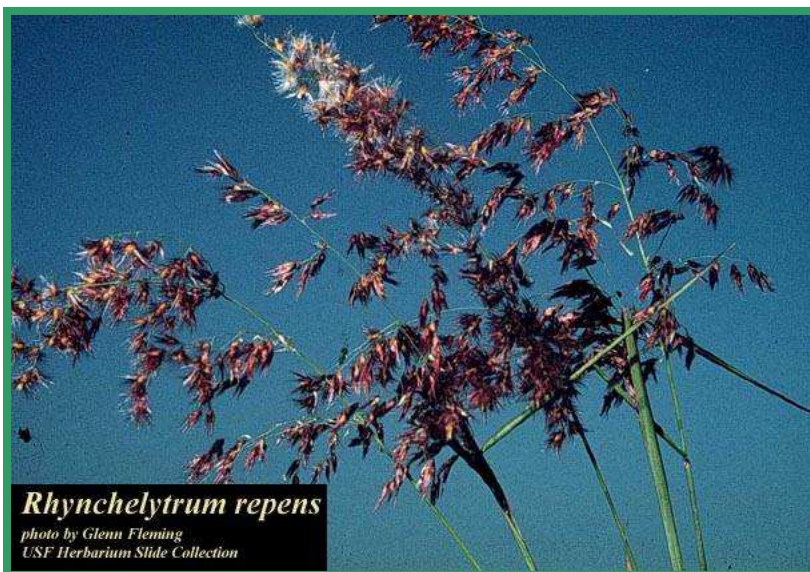
http://www.archbold-station.org/abs/landmanage/ExoticsGrant03/ExoticsMain/phasey_bean.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Melinis repens</i>
Common Name(s):	Natal grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	12-24 in.		
Leaves:			
Flowers:	Pink, blooms summer – fall		
Bark:	Thin and linear in shape		
Fruit:	Small grass like seeds		
Other:	Short-lived perennial grass with billowy clouds of soft pink flowers. May be grown as an annual in cold climates. Rampant self-sower.		
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKETF: 2; Occurs on roadsides over the entire Keys; potential problem.		
Origin:	Tropical Africa, Arabian Peninsula, India	Similar Natives:	



www.plantatlas.usf.edu/



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Scientific Name:	<i>Muntingia calabura</i>
Common Name(s):	Strawberry tree
Family:	Elaeocarpaceae

Height:	Up to 30 feet		
Leaves:	Leaves have serrated leaf margins, are smooth and green on upper surface but gray and hairy underneath		
Flowers:	White flowers typically form on small stems but can develop in clusters.		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Fruit turns red when ripe and contains numerous seeds.		
Other:	Invasive on Big Pine Key. Localized populations on mainland. Escaped from cultivation		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine; basal 20% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKITF: 2; Fruit utilized by birds and animals.		
Origin:	Tropical America	Similar Natives:	Florida trema (<i>Trema micranthum</i>)



Scientific Name:	<i>Neyraudia reynaudiana</i>
Common Name(s):	Burma reed, Silk reed, Cane grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Up to 12 feet tall.
Leaves:	Leaf blades are linear, flat or with margins rolled inward and upward from the edges. Blades range from 10 to 20 inches long and 1/4 to 3/4 inch wide.
Flowers:	Airy inflorescence forms a large, feathery, silverish clump. Flowers nearly year-round.
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Grass Seeds
Other:	Reed-like plant that grows in tall clumps from short, coarsely textured, rhizomes. Occurs in pine rocklands, on roadsides in upper Keys and has moved into undisturbed hammocks. Can tolerate a wide range of conditions. Burma reed constitutes a serious threat to the globally imperiled pine rockland habitat in the southern portion of Miami-Dade county.
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Prefers disturbed sites but moves into undisturbed hammocks; one fairly large patch treated on Big Pine Key. Occasional problem in north Key Largo.
Origin:	South Asia
Similar Natives:	

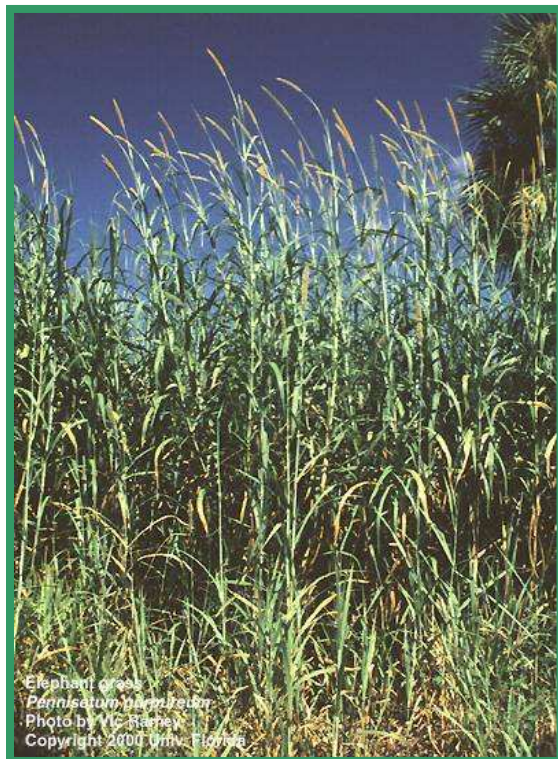


www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>

Scientific Name:	<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>
Common Name(s):	Napier grass, elephant grass, Merker grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Clumping grass from six to ten feet tall
Leaves:	Leaf blades are linear or tapering, flat and often bluish green. Blades from 3/4- to one inch wide and ten to 24 inches long with fine-toothed margins. Each leaf has a prominent white midrib.
Flowers:	Cylindrical flower spikes are tawny or purplish, six to ten inches long and 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches wide, somewhat resembling cattails.
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Grass Seeds
Other:	Napier grass aggressively invades freshwater wetlands, canal banks, and other areas with moist soil. It forms extensive stands and crowds out all other vegetation. Can be confused with native foxtails. Grows well on a wide range of soil types and in many habitats. Re-sprouts from rhizomes.
Treat-ment:	2% glyphosate foliar application
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1, FKIETF: 2; In Florida Keys this species is limited to roadsides, hairs on stems and leaves can cause skin irritation
Origin:	Africa
Similar Natives:	Native Foxtail (<i>Setaria</i> spp.); see p.112



APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Common Name(s):	Fountain grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Densely clumped growth with erect stems that grow two to three feet high.
Leaves:	Long, linear leaves with white midrib
Flowers:	The small flowers of fountain grass are grouped in pink or purple, bristly, upright inflorescences six to 15 inches long.
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Fruits are small, dry achenes adorned with long showy bristles.
Other:	Fountain grass is a fire-stimulated grass which carries intense fires throughout its range. The seeds are dispersed by wind.
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2, FKIETF: 2; Planted for landscaping and is currently spreading on roadsides, medians and disturbed sites; seeds after mowing; populations establishing and spreading along 18-mile stretch (2010) and Card Sound Road (2007), and roadsides within Ocean Reef Club near Angelfish Creek bridge (2005) and at MM 103.6
Origin:	Africa, Arabian Peninsula
Similar Natives:	Native Foxtails (<i>Setaria</i> spp.) see p.112



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Scientific Name:	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>
Common Name(s):	Senegal date palm
Family:	Areaceae

Height:	20 feet
Leaves:	Leathery arching fronds, form a dense crown
Flowers:	Small, whitish, fragrant, clustered in axillary spadices up to 3 ft cm long
Bark:	Heavy-trunked palm
Fruit:	commonly known as dates, are oblong berries, dark-orange when ripe, up to 1 ½ ft long
Other:	Commonly known as dates, are oblong berries, dark-orange when ripe, up to 1 ½ ft long, some may have long and hard spikes.
Treat-ment:	Manual removal
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2, FKIETF: 3; Localized problem at Marquesas Keys and Cape Florida.
Origin:	Old World Tropics, Arabian Peninsula
Similar Natives:	



<http://community.webshots.com>



<http://community.webshots.com>

Scientific Name:	<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>
Common Name(s):	Date palm
Family:	Areaceae

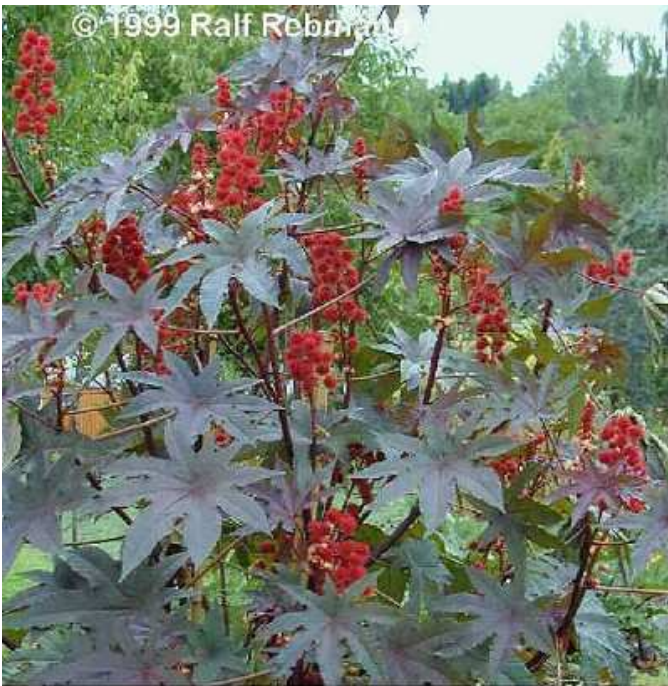
Height:	Can reach to 25 feet in height	
Leaves:	Leaves are stiff and feathery with a spine at the base. Curved and up to seven feet long and three feet wide	
Flowers:	Flowers are white and fragrant	
Bark:	Suckers develop at base of palm to form a clump. Bark is rough	
Fruit:	Fruit is an oval drupe that is red or brown when mature	
Other:	Commonly propagates by root suckers	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A, FKIETF: 2; Found in many homestead areas, can be dispersed into coastal habitats.	
Origin:	Africa	Similar Natives:



Photo by Southcoastgrowers.com

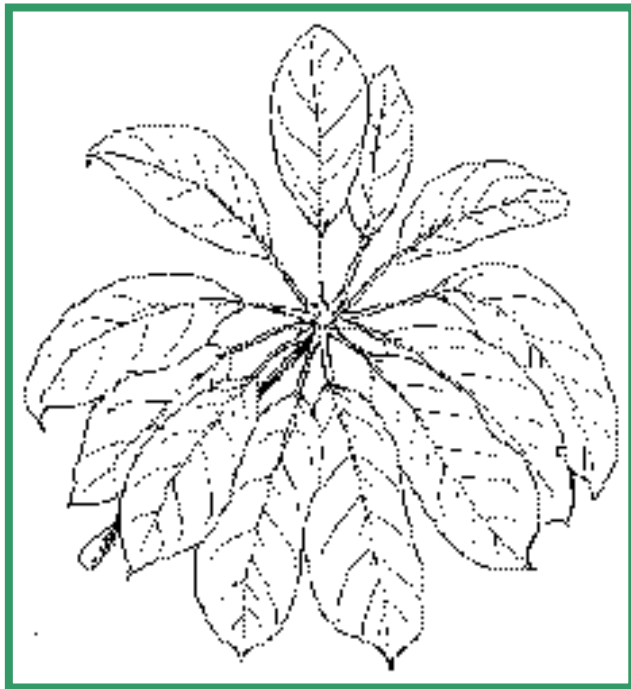
Scientific Name:	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Common Name(s):	Castor bean
Family:	Euphorbiaceae

Height:	Up to 15 feet tall		
Leaves:	Leaves are palmately lobed on long petioles		
Flowers:	Flowers form in clusters at the end of the branches		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Fruit is a large capsule that is covered with soft, spines. Seeds are approximately 1cm long, and are poisonous		
Other:	Found in disturbed sites and along roadside.		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2, Becoming increasingly more abundant as landscape plant. Escaping from cultivation		
Origin	Africa	Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>
Common Name(s):	Queensland Umbrella tree, Schefflera, Octopus tree
Family:	Araliaceae

Height:	Up to 30 feet
Leaves:	Dark green, alternate, compound leaves with a palmate or "umbrella"-like arrangement. Generally having nine to 15 glossy, oblong, foot-long leaflets that radiate outward.
Flowers:	Occur in dense clusters that form a large, red spray at stem tips.
Bark:	Single or multi-stemmed trunks with greenish bark.
Fruit:	Fruit is round, fleshy and purplish black, about ¼ inch in diameter.
Other:	Evergreen tree occurring in a wide variety of habitats, from full sun to deep shade. A common indoor plant. Introduced into Florida as a fast-growing, flowering landscape tree. It remains extremely popular both as a landscape tree in Florida and as an indoor subject in Florida and elsewhere. Umbrella tree is salt- and drought-tolerant
Treat-ment:	Cut-surface with 50% triclopyr amine; basal with 10% triclopyr ester, watch for adventitious roots re-establishing from stem above treatment
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2, Hammock and mangrove margins, disturbed sites and spoil islands in the Upper Keys
Origin	Australia, New Guinea, Java
Similar Natives:	



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>

Scientific Name:	<i>Sophora tomentosa</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>
Common Name(s):	Texas necklace pod
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Shrub to 10 feet		
Leaves:	Compound leaves with 11-19 oblong leaflets that are pubescent and grayish green in color		
Flowers:	Yellow flowers occur in terminal spikes at end of leaves		
Bark:	Light gray		
Fruit:	Seed pods are long and thin in between rounded sections where seeds are present		
Other:	Popular landscape plant that was originally thought to be native to Florida. Persists in the same habitat as native <i>Sophora</i> which has dark green, shiny leaves.		
Treat-ment:	Cut stump 25% triclopyr amine.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Invades beach/dune and coastal rock barren habitats. Hybridizes with native <i>Sophora</i> .		
Origin:	Texas and tropical America	Similar Natives:	Native necklace pod (<i>Sophora tomentosa</i> var. <i>truncata</i>)



DEP/DRP staff

Scientific Name:	<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>
Common Name(s):	Wedelia
Family:	Asteraceae

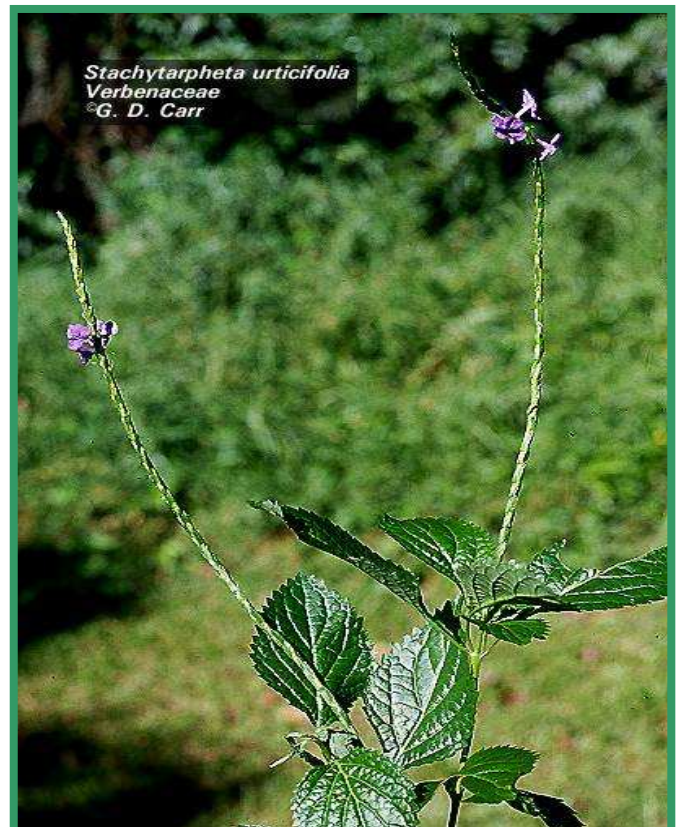
Height:	Groundcover seldom over one foot tall		
Leaves:	Opposite, slightly hairy and fleshy, lightly toothed.		
Flowers:	Bright yellow, one-inch wide flower heads have darker yellow centers occur year-round.		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Small cylindrical seeds.		
Other:	A prostrate, creeping, herbaceous perennial commonly seen trailing over rocks and sand in coastal settings. Wedelia is tolerant of poor, dry salty soils. Frequently used as a ground cover.		
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate or foliar with 1% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Invades disturbed sites and beaches. Has been known to invade along hammock edges		
Origin:	Caribbean, Central America, South America	Similar Natives:	



www.plantatlas.usf.edu

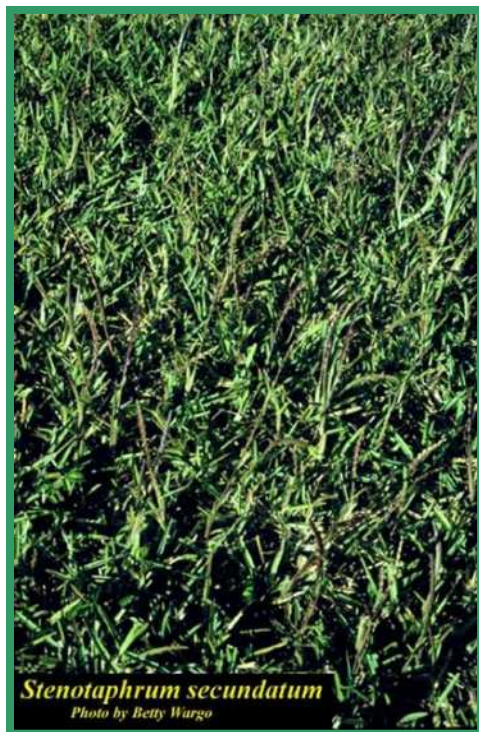
Scientific Name:	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>
Common Name(s):	Porterweed, blue rattail, Nettle-leaf Porterweed
Family:	Verbenaceae

Height:	4-6 ft tall, grows 3-6 ft in diameter.		
Leaves:	Evergreen, deeply veined, toothed edges.		
Flowers:	Deep purple flowers form on stalks		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Fruit forms in two nutlets. Seeds are wind dispersed		
Other:	Can be distinguished from native porterweed by its tall growth and solid purple flowers (native has white in the center). Found in disturbed sites and beach/dune habitat		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Non-native that hybridizes with native porter weed.		
Origin:	Mexico, Central and South America	Similar Natives:	Blue Porterweed (<i>Stachytarpheta jamaicensis</i>); see p.109

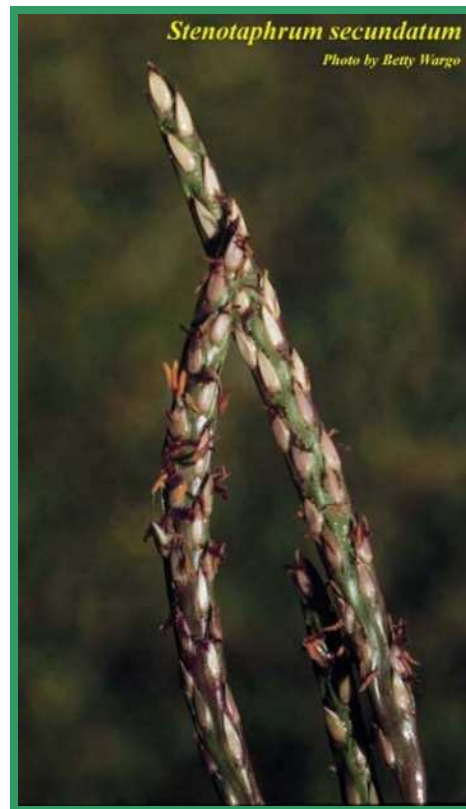


Scientific Name:	<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>
Common Name(s):	St. Augustine grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	To 6 inches		
Leaves:	Flattened, branching stems bear glaucous green, linear leaves		
Flowers:	Greenish brown, spikelike, racemes of flowers bloom in late summer and early fall		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Small grass seeds		
Other:	Prostrate, evergreen perennial grass that spreads by stolons.		
Treat-ment:	Foliar 2% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKETF: 2; Planted, beginning to invade hammocks from roadsides.		
Origin:	Tropical Africa; Southeast United States and Texas, South America	Similar Natives:	Keys Grass (<i>Monanthochloe littoralis</i>); see p.113



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Scientific Name:	<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>
Common Name(s):	Arrowhead vine
Family:	Araceae

Height:	Woody vine that will climb up vegetation		
Leaves:	Leaves are compound with three to nine leaflets per leaf.		
Flowers:	Flowers are yellowish white within and greenish without		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Fruit contains single black seed		
Other:	Young leaves have unusual shape. Vine with milky sap that is a common house plant in northern United States and escapes from cultivation in south Florida		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; cut stump 25% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKİETF: 2; Escaping from landscape		
Origin:	Mexico, Central America	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Tabebuia heterophylla</i>
Common Name(s):	Pink shower tree
Family:	Bignoniaceae

Height:	Up to 30ft
Leaves:	Palmately compound, opposite, leaflets 3-5, blades elliptic 2 /12 – 6 in long, leathery, acute to blunt at the tip, acute to rounded at the base; surfaces glabrous; margins entire; petiole 1-8 inches long.
Flowers:	One to several flowers borne in short terminal clusters. 2 /12 in long, with 5 rounded lobes at the tip, pink yellow, or lavender with a pale yellow throat.
Bark:	Grey to brown, thin and patchy.
Fruit:	A narrow cylindrical capsule 2-5 in long, opening along two seams to release the numerous winged seeds.
Other:	Popular landscape tree that is escaping from cultivation. Seeds are wind dispersed
Treat-ment:	Basal/cut stump 30% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Newer invader, with many large local infestations keys-wide
Origin:	Central and South America; Caribbean
Similar Natives:	



University of HI Botany Dept.

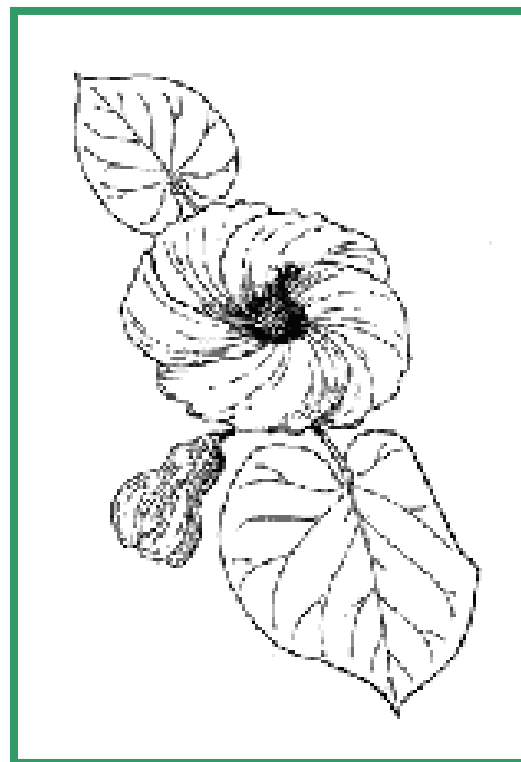
University of HI Botany Dept

Scientific Name:	<i>Talipariti tiliceum</i>
Common Name(s):	Sea Hibiscus/mahoe
Family:	Malvaceae

Height:	Up to 30 feet
Leaves:	Large and nearly round heart-shaped leaves, dark green above and light green and downy below, can reach six inches in diameter
Flowers:	Five-petaled, funnel shaped yellow flowers with deep maroon centers. Turn orange-red. Continuously flowering.
Bark:	Medium brown
Fruit:	Seed capsules are one inch long, elliptical and five-parted. Capsules split open at maturity to release large black seeds. Seeds float.
Other:	Large shrub or spreading tree has a dense, hemispherical crown. Can grow in wet, salty soils as well as dry ground.
Treat-ment:	Treat cut surface with 50% triclopyr amine; girdle large trees.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; So far limited to only disturbed sites.
Origin:	Polynesia
Similar Natives:	



www.plantatlas.usf.edu



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>
Common Name(s):	Tamarind
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Large tree 25-40 feet tall		
Leaves:	Pinnate compound, may lose leaves in the dry season		
Flowers:	Showy yellow flowers with orange streaks		
Bark:	Grey / brown furrowed with age		
Fruit:	2-8 inch long fruit, fat seed pod with large brittle shell covering sticky pulp		
Other:	Has become more abundant throughout Key. Naturalized in four state parks.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 15% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIEF: 2; Naturalizing throughout Keys.		
Origin:	India	Similar Natives:	Wild Tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>); see p.106



<http://bibliofile.mc.duke.edu/gww/Berenty/Plants/>

Scientific Name:	<i>Tecoma stans</i>
Common Name(s):	Yellow elder
Family:	Bignoniaceae

Height:	Small tree to 15ft		
Leaves:	Pinnately compound, opposite, evergreen in warmer climates, normally 5-7 pale green leaflets with terminal leaflet. Leaflet margins are serrated		
Flowers:	Bright yellow trumpet like.		
Bark:	Twigs are tan/reddish brown with main trunk being grey.		
Fruit:	Long slender tube like, 6-8 inches long, up to 3 inches wide.		
Other:	Wind dispersed seeds, often used in landscaping due to the bright yellow flowers.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 20% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKETF: 2; Moving in to hammocks from disturbed edges.		
Origin:	Texas, West Indies, Tropical America	Similar Natives:	



<http://www.hear.org/pier/imagepages/singles/testap21.htm>

http://www.hear.org/starr/hiplants/images/600max/html/starr_031108_2106_tecoma_stans.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Terminalia catappa</i>		
Common Name(s):	Tropical Almond, wild almond		
Family:	Combretaceae		
Height:	up to 40 feet		
Leaves:	Horizontal whorls of branches offering clusters of foot long leaves that turn pink-red before falling. The leaves form a rosette and are found only at the end of a branch.		
Flowers:	The flowers are axillary and occur in slender spikes. Small, greenish-white in short elongated clusters, appearing on upper leaf axils.		
Bark:	Gray, fissured, flaky but not ridged.		
Fruit:	The fruit is flattened or compressed and narrowly winged The green almond-shaped fruit turns red to purple when ripe. Seeds persist for many years in the seed bank.		
Other:	During the dry season, the leaves turn into autumn colors of red, copper, gold. The tree usually sheds all its leaves twice a year.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester; or cut-stump treat with 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Occasional problem on Keys coastlines and near plantings. Seeds float.		
Origin:	Madagascar, Southeast Asia, Australia	Similar Natives:	



Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks



www.plantatlas.usf.edu

Scientific Name:	<i>Tradescantia spathacea</i>	
Common Name(s):	Oyster plant, boat lily, Moses-in-a-boat	
Family:	Commelinaceae	
Height:	Groundcover	
Leaves:	Leaves hide stem of plant and are overlapping in a spiral pattern. Blades are broadly linear, sharp at tips, waxy, stiff and fleshy, 6-12 inches long and 1-3 inches wide. Upper surfaces are dark to medium green with pale yellow stripes, lower surfaces are usually purple.	
Flowers:	Small and white, clustered within a boat-shaped bract	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Two-seeded capsules occur in clusters within the “boat”	
Other:	Perennial herb that is widely used as an ornamental. Can colonize rock walls, building roofs and trees as well as hammocks. Forms a dense, clumpy ground cover. Roots renew easily when pulled up or broken. Can cause stinging, itching and/or rash from contact with plant surfaces or juice. Gloves are recommended for removal.	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal – bag and remove from site. Foliar with 3% triclopyr ester in water or oil	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIEF 2; Spreads from landscaping and establishes where dumped; once you have one, expect more, often sprouting from tree hollows or any moist location	
Origin:	West Indies, Mexico, Central America	Similar Natives:



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Scientific Name:	<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>
Common Name(s):	Puncture weed
Family:	Zygophyllaceae

Height:	Groundcover
Leaves:	Six-inch long leaves divided into six to eight pairs of elliptic or oblong leaflets ranging from 1/4 to 1/2 inch long.
Flowers:	Solitary and yellow five-petaled flowers are produced year-round.
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Hard, 1/2-inch wide fruit produce a few stout spines.
Other:	Introduced as a salt- and drought-tolerant groundcover for coastal plantings. The fruit spines are stout enough to puncture rubber sandals and bicycle tires, making it unpopular in beach parks and other coastal settings. Puncture vine invades dunes and coastal strand as well as sandy inland sites. It also colonizes road swales, median strips, and other disturbed sites.
Treatment:	Manual removal; foliar with 2% glyphosate, or foliar with 5% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Along roadsides, disturbed areas and beaches.
Origin:	Old World Tropics, Australia
Similar Natives:	



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Photo by Kaita Frank

Scientific Name:	<i>Turnera ulmifolia</i>
Common Name(s):	Yellow alder, Cuban Buttercup
Family:	Turneraceae

Height:	Groundcover to 3 feet	
Leaves:	Dark green, shiny, egg-shape with a dentate (toothed) edge. Alternate on branch	
Flowers:	Bright yellow-white 5 petals, bloom throughout spring, summer, fall.	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Capsules 6-10mm long, very pubescent	
Other:	Blooms only last one day, likes disturbed shady areas. When crushed the leaves give off a strong odor.	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal or basal with 5% triclopyr ester	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKETF: 2; Found in disturbed areas and beach dunes.	
Origin:	Central America, Caribbean	Similar Natives:



http://www.csdl.tamu.edu/FLORA/cgi/gallery_query?q=Turnera+ulmifolia+campus / <http://www.greenbeam.com/features/plant011402.stm>

Scientific Name:	<i>Vitex trifolia</i>
Common Name(s):	Chastetree, three leafed chaste tree
Family:	Verbenaceae

Height:	10 –12 feet tall shrubby tree	
Leaves:	3 leaflets per leaf,	
Flowers:	Purple, white clustered at the ends of slender green stems	
Bark:	Medium brown	
Fruit:	¼ round berries, purple to black when ripe	
Other:	Coastal plant found that can be difficult to eradicate.	
Treat-ment:	Manually remove seedling, basal with 30% triclopyr ester	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 2; Found in north Key Largo, Key Largo, Long Key, Summerland and Big Pine Key. Becoming popular landscape plant. Escaped from cultivation and has been found to rapidly spread. FKIETF EDRR species.	
Origin:	Asia, Australia, Pacific Islands	Similar Natives:



http://www.anbg.gov.au/images/photo_cd/732131822178/010.html

http://mobot.mobot.org/cgi-bin/search_vast?w3till=MOA-04184_001.jpg

Scientific Name:	<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>
Common Name(s):	Washingtonia palm
Family:	Areaceae

Height:	Tall palm to 35 feet		
Leaves:	Petioles are reddish brown and armed with spines. Fronds are palmate and persist on tree as “skirt”		
Flowers:	White flowers form from panicle		
Bark:	Trunk is smooth and swollen at base		
Fruit:	Fruit is black when ripe		
Other:	Naturalizing in the Keys. Popular landscape palm		
Treat-ment:	Cut growing bud on small trees or manually remove		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Escaping from cultivation		
Origin:	Mexico	Similar Natives:	Sabal palm (<i>Sabal palmetto</i>)



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Zamia furfuracea</i>
Common Name(s):	Cardboard palm
Family:	Zamiaceae

Height:	Groundcover		
Leaves:	Leaves are stiff and pointed. Small spines on petioles		
Flowers:	Small white flowers		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Seed cone is cylindrical, gray-green to brownish with small hairs		
Other:	Has become popular landscape plant		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; foliar with 2% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKETF: 2; Escaping from cultivation		
Origin:	Mexico	Similar Natives:	Coontie (<i>Zamia pumila</i>)



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Zoysia tenuifolia</i>
Common Name(s):	Zoysia grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Groundcover
Leaves:	Leaf-sheath hairy at the throat, leaf-blade lanceolate, up to 3 in x ¼ in when expanded
Flowers:	A terminal, spike-like raceme, up to 4 cm long, rachis somewhat wavy
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Grass seed
Other:	A mat-forming grass that spreads by rhizomes
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Escapes from cultivation. Particular problem at residence areas at west end of Bahia Honda State Park where it is spreading into coastal berm
Origin:	Russia, China, Japan
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Kate Hadden

Category III

Invasive Exotics that have not yet become a problem in the Florida Keys but are to be watched.

Scientific Name:	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	
Common Name(s):	Earleaf Acacia	
Family:	Fabaceae	
Height:	Up to 30 feet	
Leaves:	Alternate, simple leaves with flattened leaf stalks. Leaves are blade-like and slightly curved, 5-8 inches long with 3-7 parallel veins.	
Flowers:	Bright yellow, button-like flower clusters appear in spring and sporadically through summer and fall.	
Bark:	Smooth	
Fruit:	Fruit is somewhat ear-shaped and brown, with contorted pods that persist for months. Flat black seeds are exposed when seed pod opens.	
Other:	Local problem in upper Keys, has spread in lower Keys.	
Treat-ment:	Cut stump 50% triclopyr amine	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKETF: 2; Local problem in Upper Keys, has appeared in Lower Keys.	
Origin:	Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia	Similar Natives:



APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Anredera vesicaria</i>
Common Name(s):	Madeira vine
Family:	Basellaceae

Height:	Vine	
Leaves:	Succulent leaves are deltoid in shape, wider at the base and tapering to a point at the tip	
Flowers:	Fragrant white flowers form in inflorescence	
Bark:	Vine	
Fruit:	Fruit contains a single seed	
Other:	Escaped from cultivation. Found in disturbed hammocks	
Treat-ment:	Difficult to treat and protocol is still being evaluated	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKIETF: 3; Local problem in upper Keys particularly in Tavernier. Escaped from cultivation	
Origin:	Tropical America	Similar Natives:



Scientific Name:	<i>Ardisia elliptica</i>
Common Name(s):	Shoebuttan ardisia
Family:	Myrsinaceae

Height:	A shrub or small tree to 15ft		
Leaves:	Leathery, lance shaped leaves ranging from 3 to 6 inches long. New growth is rosy-pink		
Flowers:	Small five petaled pinkish flowers are borne in clusters in the leaf axils and appear in the summer and sporadically throughout the year		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Clusters of small pink fruit that ripen almost black		
Other:	Major problem on mainland but not known to occur in Keys		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester; cut stump 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Moving south on Card Sound Road but not yet in Keys. Listed as noxious weed by FDACS – sale banned		
Origin:	India, China, Southeast Asia	Similar Natives:	Marlberry (<i>Ardisia escallonioides</i>); see p.104



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Arundo donax</i>
Common Name(s):	Pampas grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Up to 7 ft		
Leaves:	Long and linear with white midrib		
Flowers:	Foxtail-like panicles		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Grass seeds		
Other:	Currently known to occur on Marathon and Little Torch Key		
Treat-ment:	Cut stump 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKlETF: 3; Escaped from cultivation. Disturbed sites		
Origin:	Old World	Similar Natives:	



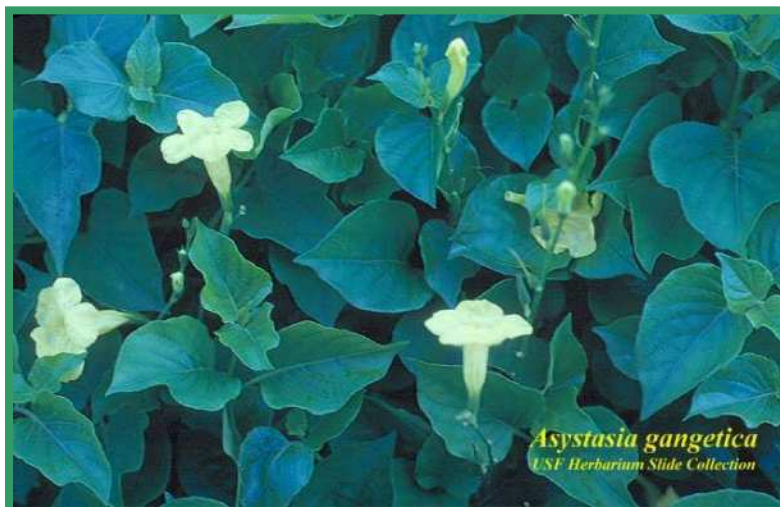
Photo by Shirley Denton

Scientific Name:	<i>Asystasia gangetica</i>
Common Name(s):	Ganges primrose, Chinese violet
Family:	Acanthaceae

Height:	Vine that will grow up vegetation but mainly spreads along ground.		
Leaves:	Thin and ovate with few pairs of veins.		
Flowers:	Violet or white flower grows on a vine that spreads over fences and up other plants.		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Seed irregularly disk-shaped, pale, margin irregularly scalloped.		
Other:	Spreads from disturbed sites and climbs hammock edges		
Treat-ment:	Foliar 2% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Spreads from disturbed sites and climbs forest edges.		
Origin:	Tropical Asia to southern Africa	Similar Natives:	



www.plantatlas.usf.edu



www.plantatlas.usf.edu

Scientific Name:	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>		
Common Name(s):	Orchid tree		
Family:	Fabaceae		
Height:	To 30 feet		
Leaves:	Alternate, thin leathery, simple but deeply cleft at apes, forming 2 large rounded lobes		
Flowers:	Showy, fragrant, 5 petaled, pale magenta to indigo, with dark red and yellow also on upper petal, appearing during early spring		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Fruit a flat, oblong pod, to 1 ft long		
Other:	Semi-deciduous tree with a spreading crown. The cultivated Hong Kong Orchid (<i>Bauhinia blakeana</i>), differentiated from <i>B. variegata</i> primarily by its shallower leaf clefts and asexual reproduction (no seed pods), also occurs sporadically in the keys but so far has not been known to invade natural areas.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester; or cut stump 50% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Popular landscape plant but has not yet shown to escape from cultivation.		
Origin:	Eastern Asia	Similar Natives:	



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APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>

Orchid tree
Bauhinia variegata
 Photo by A. Murray
 Copyright 2000 Univ. Florida

Scientific Name:	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>
Common Name(s):	Paper mulberry
Family:	Moraceae

Height:	15 to 20 feet		
Leaves:	Foliage is dull green, yellow green in the fall		
Flowers:	Inconspicuous male catkins and small spherical female flowers appear in mid to late spring		
Bark:	Mature bark develops a furrowed and ridged appearance, gray brown		
Fruit:	Fall yields a red drupe, 3/4" wide		
Other:	Growth habit is wide-spreading, forming a rounded broad crown. Can sucker from base and become weedy if not pruned, very fast growing. Reproductive at young age, very tolerant of grimy urban conditions, heat and drought, a tough tree. Native to China and Japan.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% - 30% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 3; One escape in Key Largo, serious problem in Dade.		
Origin:	Temperate and Tropical Asia	Similar Natives:	



www.biologicalresearch.com/Plants/



www.plantatlas.usf.edu/

Scientific Name:	<i>Bucida buceru</i>
Common Name(s):	Black Olive
Family:	Combretaceae

Height:	Large tree to 30ft tall	
Leaves:	3-5 inches long 2 inches wide egg shaped with a blueish- green tint	
Flowers:	Small yellow	
Bark:	Grey	
Fruit:	½ inch round “olive” not edible for humans	
Other:	Planted as a shade tree, it has started to naturalize in Key Largo Hammocks.	
Treat-ment:	Cut stump 50% triclopyr amine	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3; Copious seeder, may invade canopy gaps near parent.	
Origin:	Central America, Caribbean	Similar Natives:



<http://www.floridagardener.com/pom/Bucida.htm>



Scientific Name:	<i>Bucida spinosa</i>
Common Name(s):	Ming Tree, spiny black olive, dwarf black olive
Family:	Combretaceae

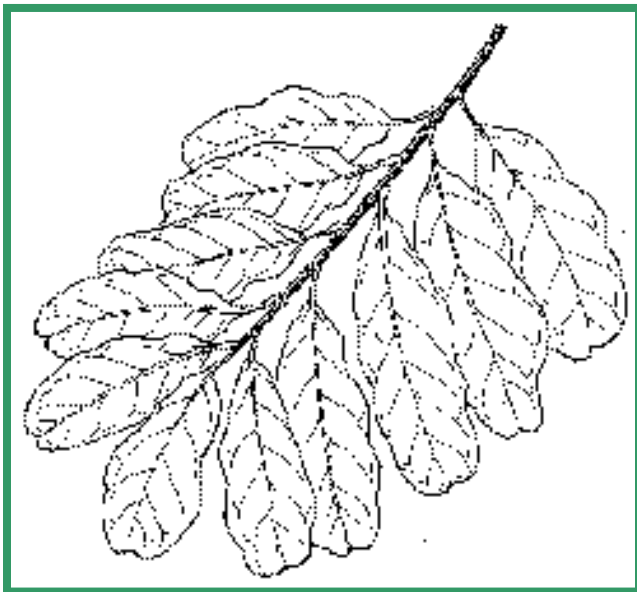
Height:	15-20 ft
Leaves:	Egg shaped, blue-green
Flowers:	Small yellow
Bark:	Gray
Fruit:	Black, round, ½ inch, not edible for humans
Other:	Often “bonsaied” , used in landscape plantings,
Treat-ment:	Cut stump 50% triclopyr amine
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3; One escape in North Key Largo. Population in Homestead.
Origin:	Similar Natives:



http://www.botanics.com/Products/botanics_details.asp?NameAssoc=409

Scientific Name:	<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>
Common Name(s):	Carrotwood
Family:	Sapindaceae

Height:	Up to 33ft
Leaves:	Compound, with four-12 leaflets that are oblong, leathery, and shiny yellowish green. Leaflets can reach eight inches in length and three inches in width. Tips may be rounded or slightly indented.
Flowers:	Numerous, white to greenish yellow and small. Occur in branched clusters.
Bark:	Dark gray outer bark and often orange inner bark.
Fruit:	Woody capsule with three distinctly ridged segments. Fruit ripen in summer, each about one inch in diameter, yellow to orange in color and divided into six sections, somewhat resembling a small pumpkin. Seeds are bright red.
Other:	Slender evergreen tree capable of competing with other aggressive non-native plants such as Brazilian pepper. Tolerant of a wide variety of extreme conditions. Invades tropical hammocks, pinelands, mangrove swamps, scrub habitats and coastal strands.
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester or cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Recent (1990s) introduction; has spread from plantings in Key West; invades uplands to buttonwood zone
Origin:	Australia
Similar Natives:	



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

APIRS- <http://aquat1.ifas.edu>

Scientific Name:	<i>Delonix regia</i>
Common Name(s):	Royal Poinciana
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Up to 25ft		
Leaves:	Compound leaves with up to twenty leaflets per leaf		
Flowers:	Large showy red flowers with one white streaked petal		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Large seed pods with multiple seeds per pod		
Other:	Naturalizing in Key Largo		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal of seedlings, Basal 30% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 2; Naturalizing in Key Largo		
Origin:	Africa	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>
Common Name(s):	Sickle bush, marabu
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Small shrub		
Leaves:	Alternate, pinnately compound, 2-3 inches long with 12-30 pairs of leaflets per pinnae. Very thorny along branches		
Flowers:	Very distinct, bi-color pink top with yellow tip. Reminiscent of a paper lantern.		
Bark:	Dark gray outer bark furrowed with age		
Fruit:	Clusters of long finger-like pods that are twisted. Starts out green then turns brown with age. Many seeds per pod.		
Other:	Tolerant of a wide variety of extreme conditions. Invades tropical hammocks, pinelands, mangrove swamps, scrub habitats and coastal strands. Forms dense thickets.		
Treat-ment:	Consult with Monroe County Land Conservation program		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKIETF: 3; Dense thickets in Cuba, Pacific Islands. Recent population found at Long Key transfer station. FKIETF EDRR species.		
Origin:	Africa, Asia, Northern Australia	Similar Natives:	Sweet Acacia (<i>Acacia farnesiana</i>)



<http://www.bushveld.co.za/sicklebush-tree.htm>

<http://www.desert-tropicals.com/Plants/Fabaceae/Dichrostachys.html>

Scientific Name:	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i>
Common Name(s):	Pencil cactus
Family:	Euphorbiaceae

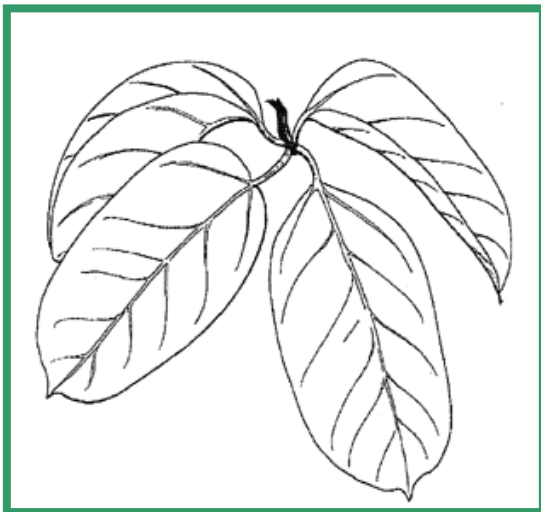
Height:	Succulent tree-like shrub
Leaves:	Succulent leaves are cylindrical with latex sap (poisonous)
Flowers:	Yellow flowers develop in clusters at tips of leaves
Bark:	Herbaceous plant but with poisonous latex sap
Fruit:	Small clusters of fruit form at tips of leaves
Other:	Occasionally found surviving along hammock edge. Recently found on Lower Matecumbe Key in disturbed hammock.
Treat-ment:	Manual removal – bag and remove from site, be cautious with sap; cut stump woody sections with 20% triclopyr amine
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3; Escaped from cultivation
Origin:	Africa
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Forest and Kim Starr

Scientific Name:	<i>Ficus altissima</i>
Common Name(s):	False banyan
Family:	Moraceae

Height:	Large spreading tree to 40ft		
Leaves:	Glabrous, to 10 in long and 6 in wide		
Flowers:	Internal flowers develop in fruit-looking structure		
Bark:	Smooth gray brown		
Fruit:	½ inch to ¾ inch diameter figs begin yellow, but ripen red		
Other:	Aerial roots can create a crown more than 100 ft wide. Often mistaken for the Banyan Fig, <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> (a non-invasive exotic), which has hairy leaves below.		
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 3; Planted here but no escapes observed yet. Pollinating wasp most likely not present in south Florida		
Origin:	China, India, Indonesia	Similar Natives:	Strangler Fig (<i>Ficus aurea</i>); see p.105 Wild Banyan (<i>Ficus citrifolia</i>); see p.106



www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

<http://community.webshots.com/photo/58202538/58307601BOiAeT>

Scientific Name:	<i>Furcraea foetida</i>
Common Name(s):	Central American sisal
Family:	Agavaceae

Height:	6 ft		
Leaves:	Leaves simple, whole to indented or thorny-marginalized, usually succulent or hard and fibrous. Unlike both native and invasive <i>Agave</i> species, leaves have no terminal spine and tend to be far less stiff.		
Flowers:	Inflorescence is terminal, frequently great or immense, usually white to greenish		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Pups develop on flower stalks which then distribute when stalk falls to the ground.		
Other:	Spread from landscapes and dump sites; localized. Recent population found in hammock at MM 106.		
Treat-ment:	Remove manually; apply 3% triclopyr ester on center bud.		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 2; Spreads from landscapes and dump sites; localized.		
Origin:	Central America, Northern South America	Similar Natives:	False Sisal (<i>Agave decipiens</i>); see p.104



Image Copyright Missouri Botanical Garden

Scientific Name:	<i>Hamelia patens</i> var. <i>glabra</i>
Common Name(s):	African fire bush
Family:	Rubiaceae

Height:	Shrub
Leaves:	Leaves are similar to native fire bush but are more smooth
Flowers:	Tubular flowers are yellow
Bark:	Medium brown
Fruit:	Fruits are dark purple when ripe
Other:	Has become popular as landscape plant. Hybridizes with native <i>Hamelia</i> .
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; cut stump 25% triclopyr amine
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3. Hybridizes with native fire bush
Origin:	Africa
Similar Natives:	Fire bush (<i>Hamelia patens</i>)



Scientific Name:	<i>Hyparrhenia rufa</i>
Common Name(s):	Jaragua
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Groundcover		
Leaves:	Long, linear leaves		
Flowers:	Form in panicles at ends of stems		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Grass seeds are wind dispersed		
Other:	Becoming increasingly more abundant in Keys		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 3; Escaping from cultivation		
Origin:	Tropics	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Indigofera spicata</i>
Common Name(s):	Indigofera
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Groundcover		
Leaves:	Pinnately compound leaves with terminally leaflet		
Flowers:	Pink with white center		
Bark:	Herbaceous plant		
Fruit:	Small seed pods form in clusters		
Other:	Found along roadsides Keyswide. Mainly in lawns		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKETF: 3;		
Origin:	Africa	Similar Natives:	



Photo by George Gann

Scientific Name:	<i>Indigofera suffruticosa</i>
Common Name(s):	Indigofera
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Small shrub to 5ft
Leaves:	Grayish-green leaves with seven to fifteen leaflets per leaf
Flowers:	Flowers are orange
Bark:	Brown
Fruit:	Seed pods form in clusters. Each one is laterally compressed
Other:	Becoming increasingly more abundant and quickly invades disturbed uplands
Treat-ment:	Cut stump with 30% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3;
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Forrest and Kim Starr

Scientific Name:	<i>Jacquinia arborea</i>
Common Name(s):	Bracelet Wood, barbasco
Family:	Theophrastaceae

Height:	Small tree or shrub ranging up to 12ft	
Leaves:	Evergreen oval and whorled at the ends of branches	
Flowers:	Small, star shaped , clustered at end of leaf cluster	
Bark:	Dark brown with fine cracks as it gets older	
Fruit:	Small berries, reddish orange. Several seeds per fruit	
Other:	Seeded by birds and is showing up in Key Largo. Becoming more popular as landscape plant. Flowers and fruit similar to native joewood (<i>Jacquinia keyense</i>).	
Treat-ment:	Remove manually; basal with 15% triclopyr ester	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3; Found in disturbed sites on Key Largo (near campground at JPCRSP), Geiger Key, Crane Point Hammock, and Key West Garden Club. Has become popular in the landscape industry. FKIETF EDRR species.	
Origin:	Caribbean, Northern South America	Similar Natives: Florida Mayten (<i>Maytenus phyllanthoides</i>); see p.107



Photo by Roger Hammer

Scientific Name:	<i>Jasminum doctotomum</i>
Common Name(s):	Jasmine
Family:	Oleaceae

Height:	Vine		
Leaves:	Leaves are glossy, ovate to elliptic with a rounded base		
Flowers:	Flowers are white and very fragrant		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Fruit is a dark berry		
Other:	Becoming increasingly more abundant in upper Keys. Found along hammock edges and disturbed sites		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; cut stump with 30% triclopyr amine		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Escapes from cultivation		
Origin:	Tropical Africa	Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Jasminum sambac</i>
Common Name(s):	Arabian jasmine
Family:	Oleaceae

Height:	Vine		
Leaves:	Leaves are oval to lanceolate and light green in color. Branchlets are pubescent		
Flowers:	Showy flowers are white and develop in clusters		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Fruit is a dark berry		
Other:	Spreading into hammock at Windley Key Fossil Reef Geologic State Park		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal; cut stump with 30% triclopyr amine; foliar with 30% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKİETF: 3; Limited population on Windley Key		
Origin:	India	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Forrest and Kim Starr

Scientific Name:	<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>
Common Name(s):	White flowered mangrove
Family:	Combretaceae

Height:	20ft
Leaves:	Leaves are alternate and differ from white mangrove by having no petioles
Flowers:	Five-petaled white flowers
Bark:	Bark is grayish brown and furrowed
Fruit:	Drupe-like propagule
Other:	Planting at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and has invaded into adjacent Matheson Hammock mangroves. Like other mangroves, propagules float so this species may have spread to areas currently unknown. Can be distinguished from white mangrove by the fact that the leaves do not have petioles, and the flowers bloom in the summer and fall. Plant at Fairchild in mid-1960s and 1970s
Treat-ment:	Manual removal
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3;
Origin:	Asia and Australia
Similar Natives:	White mangrove



Photo by Jenn Posley

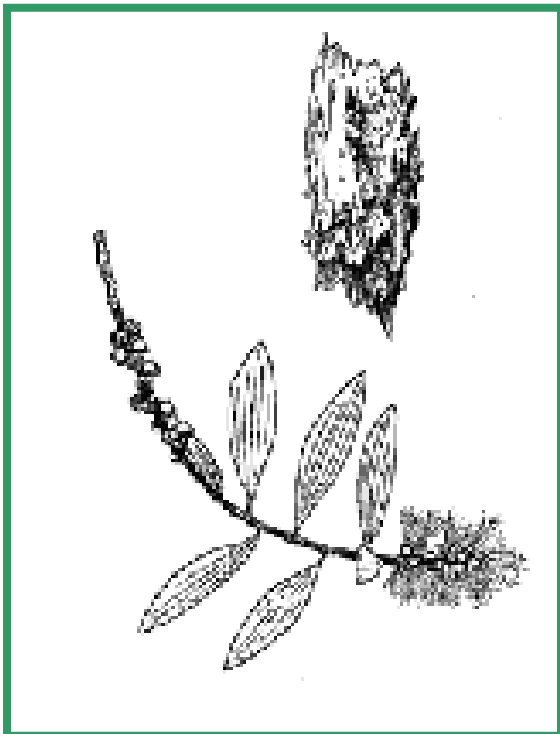
Scientific Name:	<i>Lysiloma sabicu</i>
Common Name(s):	Mahogany horseflesh
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	30ft
Leaves:	Compound leaves have 3-7 pairs of leaflet per leaf
Flowers:	White puff ball flowers
Bark:	Grayish brown and peels off in strips
Fruit:	Brown seeds are located in a seed pod that has margins that are rolled backward and the edges that turn under
Other:	Landscape plant that is naturalizing in upper Keys
Treat-ment:	Basal and/or cut stump with 30% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKIETF: 3; Host plant for pink spot sulphur (<i>Aphrissa neleis</i>).
Origin:	West Indies
Similar Natives:	Wild tamarind (<i>Lysiloma latisiliquum</i>) see page 106



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>		
Common Name(s):	Melaleuca, paper-bark, cajeput, punk tree, white bottlebrush tree		
Family:	Myrtaceae		
Height:	Up to 40ft		
Leaves:	Alternate, simple, grayish green. Narrow and lance-shaped, up to 4 inches long and ¾ inches wide. Leaves smell of camphor when crushed.		
Flowers:	Off-white “bottle brush” type spikes up to 6 inches long.		
Bark:	Trunk and branches covered with thick layers of whitish, papery bark, peeling off in sheets.		
Fruit:	Fruit is contained in small, round, woody capsules occurring in clusters.		
Other:	Evergreen tree with slender crown. Localized invasion in north Key Largo, Stock Island, Boca Chica and is found in a neighborhood at MM 105. Much more common on mainland where it invades multiple wetland habitats. Prefers seasonally wet sites but also occurs in standing water and well-drained uplands. Melaleuca may constitute a health hazard as it is a major respiratory irritant.		
Treat-ment:	Hack and squirt with 50% triclopyr amine and 1% Arsenal. Listed as noxious weed by FDACS and USDA – sale banned		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Localized invasion in N. Key Largo, Stock Island, and Boca Chica. Persists in neighborhood at MM 105.		
Origin:	Australia	Similar Natives:	



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www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/derm/badplants.htm

Scientific Name:	<i>Melia azedarach</i>
Common Name(s):	Chinaberry
Family:	Meliaceae

Height:	30 feet
Leaves:	Leaves alternate, large, 2 or 3 times compound up to 1.5ft long. Leaflets pungent when crushed, dark green above, lighter green below.
Flowers:	Small, fragrant, with lilac petals.
Bark:	Twigs stout with purplish bark, dotted with buff-colored lenticils
Fruit:	A stalked, single seeded drupe, yellow or greenish at maturity
Other:	Related to West Indian mahogany. Has been planted as an ornamental and is spreading from cultivation
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester or cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 3; Planted as ornamental and has potential to spread; commonly invasive on mainland
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks

Scientific Name:	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>
Common Name(s):	Mile-a-minute vine
Family:	Asteraceae

Height:	Vine		
Leaves:	Heart shaped		
Flowers:	White flowers form in panicles		
Bark:	Vine		
Fruit:	Seeds are minute but numerous		
Other:	Invasive in Miami-Dade county. Difficult to identify from native <i>Mikania</i>		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKIETF: 3; Known population is in a restricted area in the Redlands. Fast growing vine that produces numerous, wind dispersed seeds. Listed as a noxious weed by FDACS and USDA – sale banned.		
Origin:	South America	Similar Natives:	Climbing hempvine (<i>Mikania scandens</i>)



Photo by Department of Plant Industry

Scientific Name:	<i>Murraya paniculata</i>
Common Name(s):	Orange-Jessamine, jasmine
Family:	Rutaceae

Height:	Small tree or shrub to 20 feet tall.		
Leaves:	Evergreen pinnately compound, glabrous and glossy; elliptic.		
Flowers:	Fragrant white to cream colored, petals 12-18 mm long.		
Bark:	Smooth brown, gray.		
Fruit:	Oblong, red to orange.		
Other:	Popular landscape plant but has not shown to have escaped cultivation in the Keys		
Treat-ment:	Manually remove seedling; basal with 10% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 3; Planted here but no escape observed yet; does escape occasionally in Miami-Dade.		
Origin:	China, Tropical Asia, Northern Australia	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Kaita Frank

Scientific Name:	<i>Nephrolepis multiflora</i>
Common Name(s):	Asian sword fern
Family:	Dryopteridaceae

Height:	2-3 feet
Leaves:	Triangular fronds of finely divided, bright green leaflets grow on dark wiry stems
Flowers:	Produces spores
Bark:	Herbaceous
Fruit:	Produces spores
Other:	Invasive in hammocks
Treat-ment:	Foliar with 2% glyphosate; manual removal
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Spreads vegetatively and through release of spores.
Origin:	Tropics
Similar Natives:	



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Scientific Name:	<i>Ochrosia elliptica</i>		
Common Name(s):	Kopsia		
Family:	Apocynaceae		
Height:	A large shrub or small spreading tree 15ft		
Leaves:	Leathery dark green elliptic to obovate leaves up to 3-7inches long and 2 to 3 inch wide. The leaves occur in whorls of 3 or 4.		
Flowers:	Flowers occur in auxiliary clusters and are small, yellow/white and fragrant		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Pairs of striking red fruit 1 ½ inches long by ½ inch in diameter, which resemble elongated tomatoes or a pair of red horns. The fruit are poisonous		
Other:	Plant produces white sap. Limited populations on lower Sugarloaf, Grassy Key, Big Pine Key, Summerland Key and north Key Largo.		
Treatment:	Cut stump with 50% triclopyr amine; basal with 20% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKIETF: 3; Has not yet escaped from cultivation.		
Origin:	Australia, Southwest Pacific	Similar Natives:	



Australian National Botanical Gardens

Scientific Name:	<i>Panicum repens</i>
Common Name(s):	Torpedo grass, Quack grass, Bullet grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	Up to three feet
Leaves:	Upper leaf sheaths are glabrous or hairy. Leaf blades are stiff, linear, flat or folded, reaching ten inches in length and often having surfaces with a whitish waxy coating. Midrib is white.
Flowers:	Inflorescence is three to nine inches long with erect branches. Flowers nearly all year
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Grass seeds
Other:	Perennial grass with sharp, torpedo-like growing tips. Tolerant of drought and partial shade, but ideally suited to moist to wet sandy or organic soils. Reproduces principally via rhizomes.
Treat-ment:	Foliar with high concentration of Rodeo
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Present in Keys but extent of invasion is unknown.
Origin:	Old World
Similar Natives:	Switch Grass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>); see p.110



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Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks

Scientific Name:	<i>Phymatosorus scolopendria</i>
Common Name(s):	Serpent fern, wart fern
Family:	Polypodiaceae

Height:	Groundcover
Leaves:	Smooth blades are pinnately divided or lobed
Flowers:	Reproduces by spores
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Reproduces by spores
Other:	Invades disturbed hammocks and mangroves. Epiphytic or terrestrial
Treat-ment:	Manual removal
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Limited distribution to two sightings on Big Pine Key
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Mike Rosenthal

Scientific Name:	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (<i>Milletia pinnata</i>)
Common Name(s):	Pongamia
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Up to 30ft
Leaves:	Compound leaves with nine leaflets per leaf. Leaflets dark green and shiny
Flowers:	Pink and white flowers develop in long inflorescence
Bark:	Grayish brown
Fruit:	Fruit is oval, flat pod
Other:	Aggressive in Miami-Dade County. Limited populations in Key Largo, Long Key and Big Pine Key. Produces numerous seedlings by parent plant. Planted as landscape plant at Ocean Reef Club.
Treat-ment:	Basal with 18% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: N/A; FKIETF: 3; Has not yet shown to be problematic in Keys.
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Psidium cattleianum</i>
Common Name(s):	Strawberry guava
Family:	Myrtaceae

Height:	Up to 33ft
Leaves:	Leaves are oval to oblong, smooth and dull green.
Flowers:	White puff ball flowers develop in between leaf nodes
Bark:	Grayish brown
Fruit:	The fruit, exuding a strong, sweet, musky odor when ripe, may be round, ovoid, or pear-shaped, two to four inches long, with four or five protruding floral remnants (sepals) at the apex. Red when ripe
Other:	On mainland is spreading from cultivation into upland habitats
Treat-ment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Spreads from neighborhood fruit trees to uplands.
Origin:	Tropical America
Similar Natives:	



Photos by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Psidium guajava</i>		
Common Name(s):	Guava		
Family:	Myrtaceae		
Height:	Up to 33ft		
Leaves:	The leaves, aromatic when crushed, are evergreen, opposite, short-petioled, oval or oblong-elliptic, somewhat irregular in outline; 2 3/4 to six inches long, up to two inches wide, leathery, with conspicuous parallel veins, and more or less downy on the underside.		
Flowers:	Faintly fragrant, the white flowers, borne singly or in small clusters in the leaf axils, are one inch wide, with four or five white petals which are quickly shed, and a prominent tuft of perhaps 250 white stamens tipped with pale-yellow anthers.		
Bark:	Tree is characterized by a slender trunk with peeling bark		
Fruit:	The fruit, exuding a strong, sweet, musky odor when ripe, may be round, ovoid, or pear-shaped, two to four inches long, with four or five protruding floral remnants (sepals) at the apex; and thin, light-yellow skin, frequently blushed with pink.		
Other:	On mainland is spreading from cultivation into upland habitats		
Treatment:	Basal with 10% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3; Spreads from neighborhood fruit trees to uplands.		
Origin:	Tropical America	Similar Natives:	



Identification & Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas by K.A Langeland, K. Craddock Burks

Scientific Name:	<i>Rotboellia cochinchinensis</i>
Common Name(s):	Itch grass
Family:	Poaceae

Height:	12ft.
Leaves:	Robust grass with broad, linear leaves.
Flowers:	Forms spikelets at base
Bark:	Herbaceous plant
Fruit:	Grass seed
Other:	Becoming increasingly more abundant in north Key Largo. Rhizomatous
Treatment:	Manual removal, bag and remove from site. Use gloves.
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKETF: 3; Seeds are wind dispersed. Invades disturbed areas and hammock. Escapes from cultivation
Origin:	Asia
Similar Natives:	



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Selenicereus pteranthus</i>
Common Name(s):	Snake Cactus
Family:	Cactaceae

Height:	Climbs into vegetation	
Leaves:	Mature stems have 7-12 ridges	
Flowers:	Large white flowers open at night	
Bark:	Herbaceous plant	
Fruit:	Fruit is red when ripe with white flesh surrounding numerous seeds	
Other:	Snake cactus has adventitious roots and easily climbs into hammock canopy. Limited populations on Key Largo, lower Matecumbe Key, Marathon and Dove Creek.	
Treat-ment:	Manual removal, bag and remove from site	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKIETF: 3; Spreads mainly from dumping	
Origin:	Mexico	Similar Natives:



Photo by Keith Bradley

Scientific Name:	<i>Senna alata</i>
Common Name(s):	Candlestick plant
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	Small shrub		
Leaves:	Compound leaves with numerous leaflets per leaf. Leaves are lacking glands.		
Flowers:	Bright yellow		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Four-winged seed pod		
Other:	Becoming increasingly more abundant in Keys		
Treat-ment:	Basal and/or cut stump with 30% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 3; FKETF: 3;		
Origin:	Tropical America	Similar Natives:	Native Senna spp. Identify by glands on leaves



Photo by Forrest and Kim Starr

Scientific Name:	<i>Senna pendula</i>
Common Name(s):	Christmas senna
Family:	Fabaceae

Height:	15ft		
Leaves:	Compound leaves with numerous leaflets per leaf. Leaves have glands on the rachis between leaflet pairs		
Flowers:	Bright yellow		
Bark:	Medium brown		
Fruit:	Seed pod is cylindrical and somewhat woody		
Other:	Known from two locations, north Key Largo and Ramrod Key		
Treatment:	Basal and/or cut stump with 30% triclopyr ester		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 3;		
Origin:	South America	Similar Natives:	Native Senna spp. Identify by glands on leaves



Photo by Roger Hammer

Scientific Name:	<i>Solanum viarum</i>
Common Name(s):	Tropical Soda Apple
Family:	Solanaceae

Height:	Small bush 3- 7 feet tall
Leaves:	Simple, Alternate, lobed and covered with fine hairs. Can measure 6 inches wide and 7 inches long.
Flowers:	White flowers with yellow stamens are found bunched on the stem under the leaves.
Bark:	N/A
Fruit:	Yellow Melons eaten by mammals and birds. Normally 1-3 inches in diameter.
Other:	Fruit can be toxic to humans. Found in sod that comes from the main land.
Treat-ment:	Remove manually; or use 3% glyphosate foliar or 1% triclopyr amine foliar
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: 2; Invades pastures and upland pines. FKIETF EDRR species.
Origin:	Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina
Similar Natives:	



Scientific Name:	<i>Solanum torvum</i>
Common Name(s):	Turkey berry
Family:	Solanaceae

Height:	Shrub to small tree	
Leaves:	Leaves are somewhat heart shaped, pubescent and has a petiole. Recurved prickles.	
Flowers:	White flower with yellow interior	
Bark:	Grayish brown	
Fruit:	Small yellow fruit	
Other:	Remove from Cudjoe transfer station in 2011	
Treat-ment:	Treat with glyphosate at 3%. Listed as noxious weed by FDACS and USDA – sale banned	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 2; FKETF: 3;	
Origin:	Native to West Indies	Similar Natives:



Photo by George Gann

Scientific Name:	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>
Common Name(s):	Java plum
Family:	Myrtaceae

Height:	Up to 30ft		
Leaves:	Broadly oblong often with whitish stems		
Flowers:	White flowers form on inflorescence		
Bark:	Grayish brown		
Fruit:	Small ovoid berry that turns reddish purple when ripe		
Other:	Only known population on Ramrod Key		
Treat-ment:	Treat with 3% glyphosate		
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKETF: 3; Escapes from cultivation but has not yet shown to be the case in Keys		
Origin:	Native to Indo-Malayan region	Similar Natives:	



Photo by Forrest and Kim Starr

Scientific Name:	<i>Urena lobata</i>
Common Name(s):	Caesar's weed
Family:	Malvaceae

Height:	Branching herb to nine feet	
Leaves:	Leaves are alternate, hairy and have shallow lobes.	
Flowers:	Pink	
Bark:	Herbaceous	
Fruit:	Seed capsules are small, spiny, and usually lobed	
Other:		
Treat-ment:	Manual removal	
Rank & Reason:	FLEPPC: 1; FKIETF: TBW; Found along ROW on Big Pine Key and Bahia Honda. FKIETF EDRR species.	
Origin:	Old World	Similar Natives:



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Natives to Know

Plants native to the Florida Keys that may be mistaken for one or more invasive exotic species.

Barbed-wire Cactus

Acanthocereus tetragonus

Key Identifiers: Fleshy, 3-sided, wavy edged stems with a cluster of 4 to 7 spines at the tip of each “wave”; spines measure up to 1.5” in length; fruit is bright red covered in spines. and



Middle and Bottom photos by Shirley Denton
Both *A. tetragonus*.



<= Side by Side comparison
Photo by Matthew Below

(left) *A. tetragonus*

(right) *H. undatus*

False Sisal

Agave decipiens

Key Identifiers: 4-8' tall; leaves are very long (up to 3'), fleshy, concave, lanceolate in shape, and form a basal rosette on top of a short trunk eventually terminating in a sharp needle-like point; leaves are also lined with a series of curved spines along the margins; greenish yellow flowers grow atop a scape up to 25' tall.



Photos by T. Ann Williams, plantatlas.usf.edu

Marlberry

Ardisia escallonioides

Key Identifiers: White flowers growing in dense terminal clusters; typically grows from 8 to 15' in height; unlike *A. elliptica*, new leaf growth does not appear pinkish in color.



Photos by Shirley Denton



Wild Sage

Lantana involucrata

Key Identifiers: Grows in thickets primarily along trails and roadsides at heights of 4 to 8'; leaves are rough, ovate, and tapered at the base (cuneate); flowers are white with yellow centers and grow in small clusters at the leaf axis, purple fruit.



Strangler Fig

Ficus aurea

Key Identifiers: Normally begins life as an epiphyte, sends down aerial roots, and encompasses the host tree (hence the name Strangler Fig); smooth gray bark; leaves are normally 3-5" long, oblong or elliptical in shape, and are dark green on top with a paler underside; broken twigs exude a milky white sap that may irritate the skin.



Photos by Shirley Denton

Wild Banyan

Ficus citrifolia

Key Identifiers: Grows to heights of up to 50' tall; light gray bark; leaves are dark green with a light green underside, have blunt or rounded bases, nipple-like tips, and are 2-5" in length; may send down aerial roots.



Photos by Shirley Denton



Wild Tamarind

Lysiloma latisiliquum

Key Identifiers: Medium to large sized tree growing between 40-60' tall; leaves are bi-pinnately compound with approximately 5-8 pairs of pinnae per leaf and 10-20 pairs of leaflets per pinna; small limbs with a pronounced "zigzag" pattern; flowers are white and appear in globular clusters 0.5-1" in diameter; seed pods are 3-6 inches long and very thin.



Photos by T. Ann Williams
plantatlas.usf.edu



Lysiloma latisiliquum
Photo by T. Ann Williams

Wild Dilly

Manilkara jaimiqui emarginata

Key Identifiers: Small tree typically 10-15' in height; deeply furrowed bark forms many block-like sections; leaves are thin and leathery, elliptic in shape, are nearly horizontally parallel in venation, and possess a light brown fuzz on the underside; fruits in the form of small brown berries 1-1.5" in length with a very thin, thorn-like projection protruding opposite of the stem.

Photo by Shirley Denton



Photo by Roger Hammer

Photo by T. Ann Williams, plantatlas.usf.edu



Manilkara jaimiqui subsp. emarginata
Photo by T. Ann Williams



Florida Mayten

Maytenus phyllanthoides

Key Identifiers: Medium to large shrub 3-10' tall; leaves are 1-1.5" long, alternate, leathery, and very brittle (can easily be broken in to smaller pieces) with wavy margins; flowers are pale green and located at the leaf axils; thin brownish gray bark.



Maytenus phyllanthoides
Photo by T. Ann Williams

Photo by T. Ann Williams
plantatlas.usf.edu

Southern Slash Pine

Pinus elliottii

Key Identifiers: A true pine growing up to 120' in height; needles 8-12" long arranged in fascicles of 2; cone s range in length from 3" to 6"; bark is gray to reddish brown with a deeply furrowed, scaly appearance.



Photo by David MacManus, plantatlas.usf.edu



Inkberry

Scaevola plumieri

Key Identifiers: Small shrub 3-5' tall; leaves 2-4" in length, spatulate in shape, with a thick and fleshy texture (much more succulent than the exotic *S. sericea*); mature fruit is black.



Photos by Shirley Denton

Necklace Pod

Sophora tomentosa var. *truncata*

Key Identifiers: Very similar to the *S. tomentosa* var. *occidentalis* but has dark green, shiny leaves that are glabrous instead of pubescent.



Blue Porterweed

Stachytarpheta jamaicensis

Key Identifiers: Very similar to the invasive *S. cayennensis* with the primary differentiator being height (*S. cayennensis* grows from 4-6' in height while *S. jamaicensis* sprawls at ground level normally less than 24" and is usually wider than it is tall); flowers on *jamaicensis* are generally a lighter blue than *cayennensis* but does vary between individuals.



Photos by Shirley Denton

Invasive Exotic/Native Grass Comparisons

All grass illustrations are under the Copyright of Utah State University, herbarium.usu.edu/webmanual/

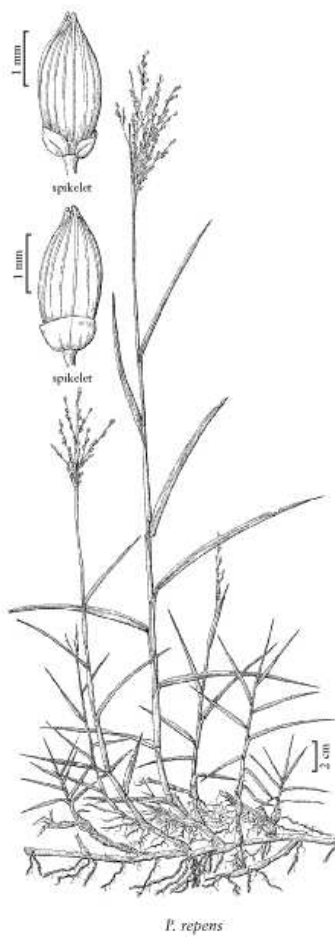
Also see [Keys Invasive Grass Slides](#)

Illustrated comparison of the exotic invasive grasses *Panicum repens* and *Panicum maximum* and the native *Panicum virgatum* - Heights included drawing further distinction-

Torpedo Grass

Panicum repens

Height: Up to 3 feet



Guinea Grass

Panicum maximum

Height: 6 to 10 feet



Switch Grass

Panicum virgatum

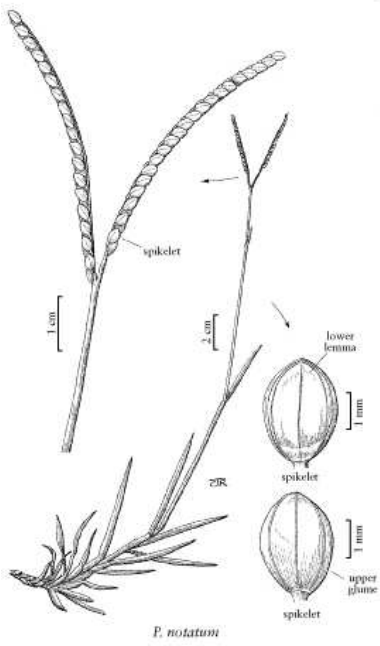
Height: 1.5 to 11 feet



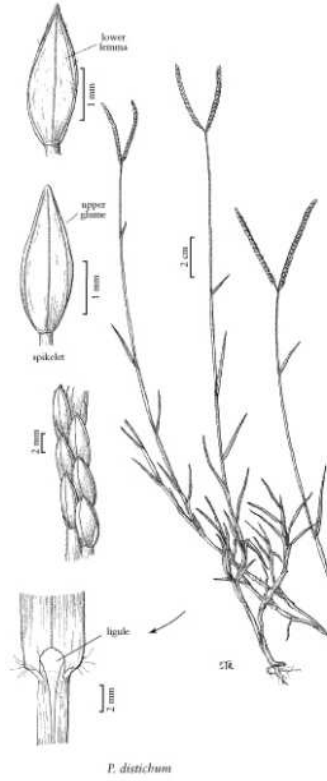
All illustrations by Linda Vorobik, Cindy Roche

Illustrated comparison of the invasive exotic grass *Paspalum notatum* and the Florida Keys' native *Paspalum* species
 (All illustrations by Linda Vorobik, Cindy Roche)

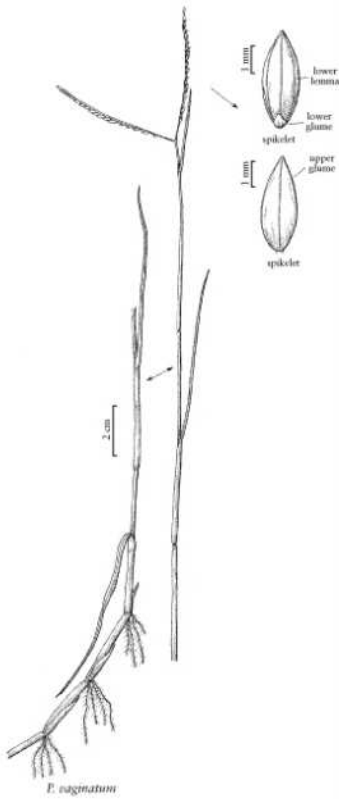
Bahia Grass
Paspalum notatum



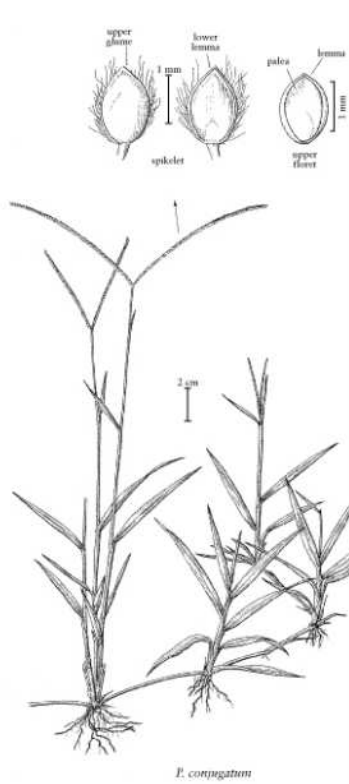
Paspalum distichum



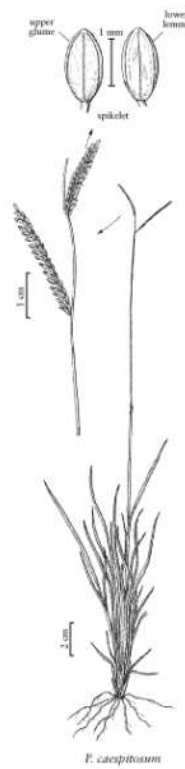
Paspalum vaginatum



Paspalum conjugatum



Paspalum caespitosum

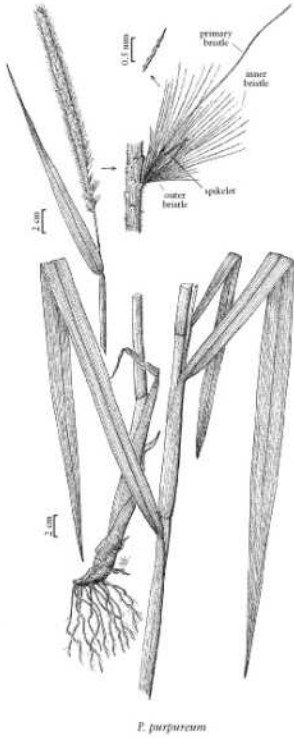


Illustrated comparison of the invasive exotic grasses *Pennisetum purpureum* and *Pennisetum setaceum* and the Florida Keys' native Foxtail (*Setaria* spp.) -Heights included drawing further distinction- (*Pennisetum* illustrations by Linda Vorobik, *Setaria* illustrations by Linda Vorobik, Annaliese Miller)

Napier Grass

Pennisetum purpureum

Height: 6 to 10 feet



P. purpureum

Fountain Grass

Pennisetum setaceum

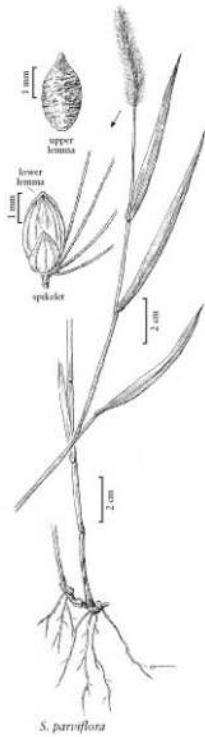
Height: 2 to 3 feet



P. setaceum

Setaria parviflora

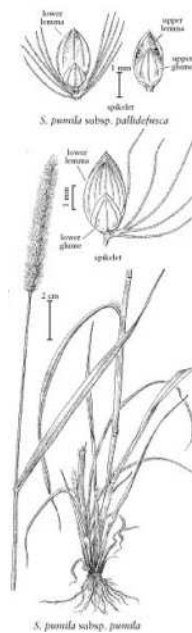
Height: 1 to 4 feet



S. parviflora

Setaria pumila

Height: 1 to 6 feet



S. pumila subsp. *pumila*

Setaria macrosperma

Height: 4 to 6.5 feet



S. macrosperma

Illustrated comparison of the invasive exotic grasses Zoysia japonica and Stenotaphrum secundatum and the Florida Keys' native Monanthochloe littoralis

Keys Grass

Monanthochloe littoralis

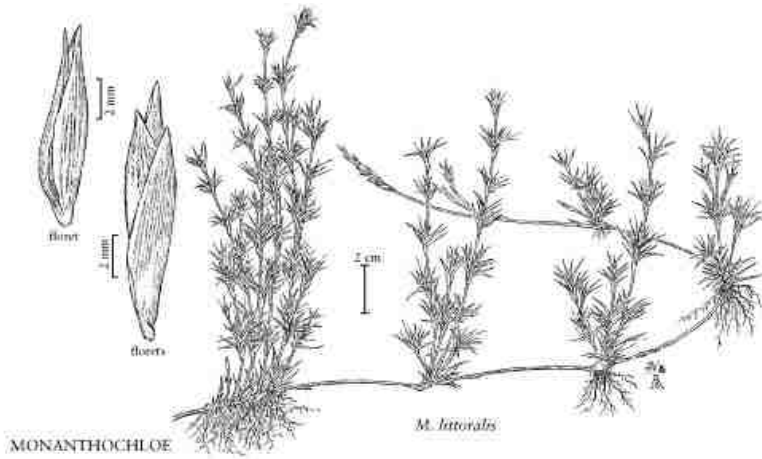


Illustration by Linda Vorobik and Andy Sudkamp

Zoysia Grass

Zoysia japonica

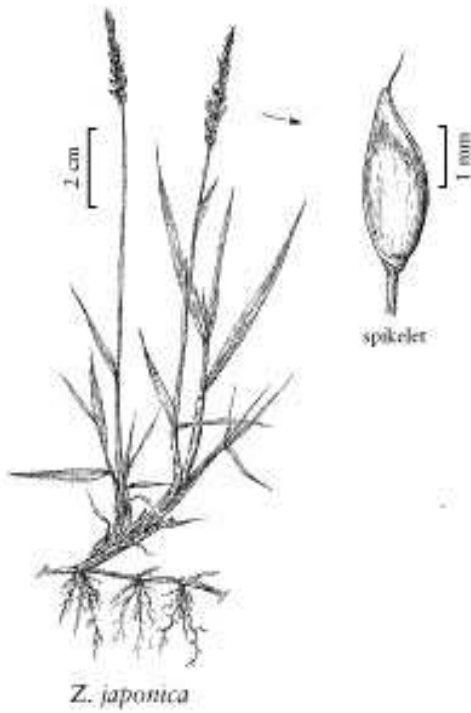


Illustration by Linda Vorobik and Hana Pazdirkova

St. Augustine's Grass

Stenotaphrum secundatum

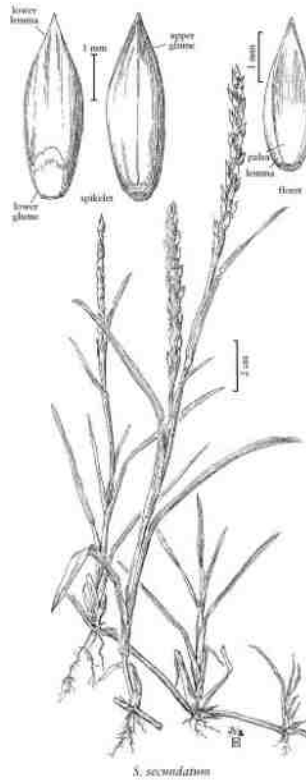


Illustration by Linda Vorobik and Karen Klitz