

**GUIDE TO POLLINATOR PLANTS OF
SOUTH GEORGIA AND ADJACENT AREAS
2009**



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AMERICUS, GEORGIA**

INTRODUCTION

Insect pollination is crucial in the production of numerous important crops in the United States including apples, blueberries, cherries, pears, plums, peaches, squash, tomatoes, clovers and watermelons. In recent years biologists have noticed a decline in many of the pollinator insects especially among honey bees and bumble bees. A national effort has begun to conserve and enhance pollinator populations. Protecting and establishing pollinator plants is an important step in this effort. This document was produced to assist NRCS personnel identify plant species especially native plants known to be visited or utilized for nectar by pollinators. In addition to plant identification descriptions several plant pollinator habitats will be discussed. The pictures and descriptions depict plants of the South Georgia Coastal plain but could be utilized on a broader scale. Field identification of pollinator vegetation can provide another valuable tool to the landowners the NRCS services. Proper identification can be part of a land management program to improve or protect habitat for pollinators and pollinator plants. It is anticipated this document will be updated and expanded as needed. To obtain more details on the plants covered in this publication access Flora of North America at <http://flora.huh.harvard.edu/FNA/volumes.shtml> or the USDA Plants database at <http://plants.usda.gov>. Information on pollinators can be obtained at www.xerces.org, www.pollinator.org and <http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/NRCSdocuments.html>. Plants to enhance pollinator habitat can be obtained from www.plantnative.org and www.afnn.org. All photographs were taken by Mike Owsley USDA-NRCS, Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center, Americus, Georgia.

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PLANT COMMUNITY HABITATS

Maintaining and protecting pollinator plant communities is an important and cost effective way to enhance pollinator populations. The following plant community types list some of the pollinator plant species growing in a specific habitat.

WETLANDS



May Hawthorn, Comfortroot Hibiscus, Fetterbush





UPLAND LONGLEAF PINE
Butterfly Milkweed, Tall Blazing Star, Starry Rosinweed



SANDHILLS
Yellowleaf Hawthorn and Deerberry



OPEN WOODLAND
Sensitive Partridge Pea and Purple Passionflower



ROADBANK
Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod and Canada Goldenrod



FLATWOODS

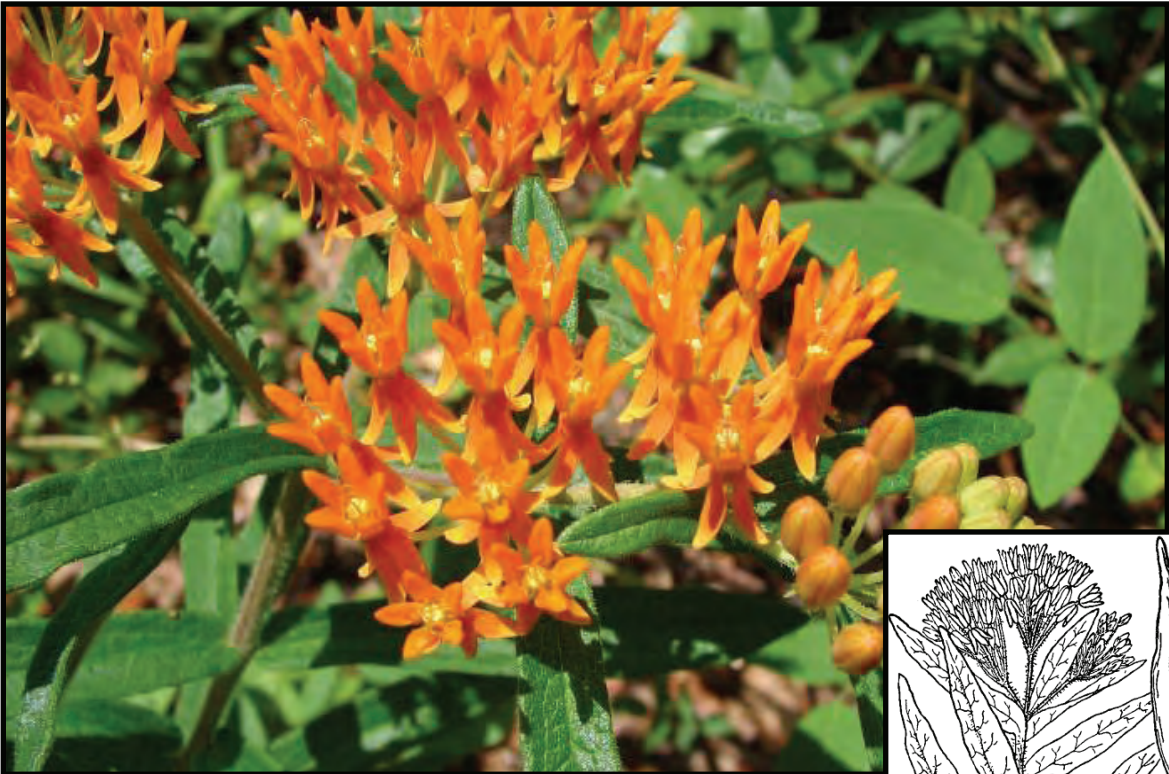
Evening Trumpetflower, Inkberry, Coastal Sweetpepperbush



**BAHIAGRASS PASTURE CONVERTED TO NATIVE
WARM SEASON GRASSES and FORBS
Blackeyed Susan and Partridge Pea**

Butterfly Milkweed

Asclepias tuberosa

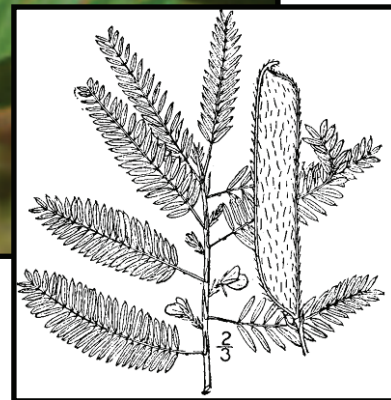


USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton, N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:25.

Butterfly Milkweed is a perennial herb with exuding sap. Stout stems range from 7 inches to 2.5 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and linear to obovate in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 3.5 inches long and 0.25 to 1.25 inches wide. Flowers are red, orange to yellow in color with reflexed lobes. Blooms and fruit appear in May- October. Fruit is erect and 2.5 to 5 inches long and 0.5 to 0.75 inches wide with many light fibrous seeds. Habitats range from sandhills, flatwoods, pinewoods to secondary woods.

Sensitive Partridge Pea

Chamaecrista nictitans



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern US Canada and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:337

Sensitive Partridge Pea is an annual herbaceous legume. Erect stems grow from 4 inches to 1.5 feet tall. Pinnately compound leaves with 20 to 36 leaflets each 0.5 to 0.75 inches long and up to .25 inches wide are sensitive and wither to the touch. Flowers are bright yellow. Blooms and fruit appear from June –November. Fruits are 0.75 inch to 1.5 inches long and 0.25 inches wide with many small black seeds. Habitats range from sandhills, flatwoods, pinewoods, mixed woods, open woodland to disturbed areas.

Blue Mistflower
Conoclinium coelestinum

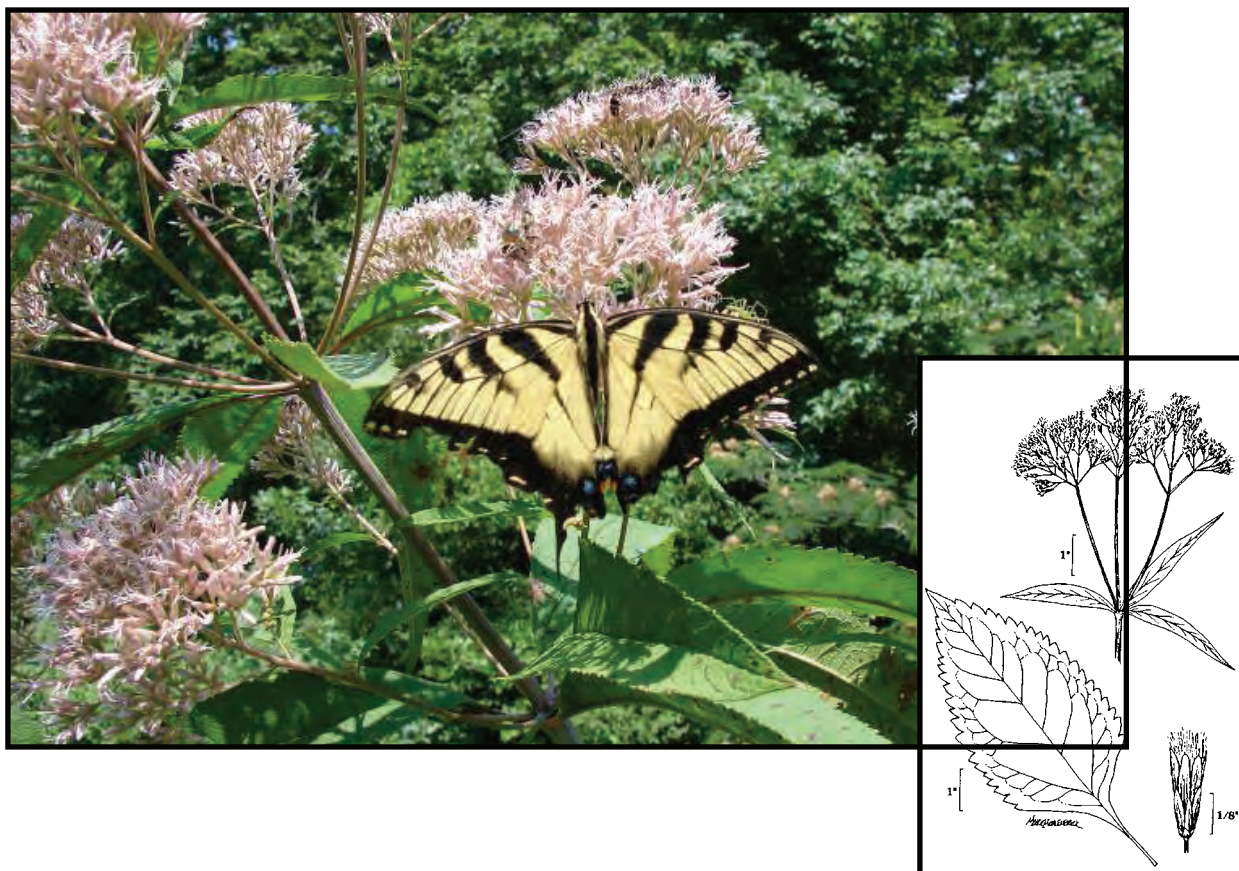


USDA -NRCS Plants Database.
Britton , N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrate
flora of the northern US Canada and the British
Possessions. Vol. 3:362

Blue Mistflower is a perennial herb with erect solid stems. Plant height ranges from 1 foot to 3 feet tall. Leaves are opposite and ovate to lance-ovate in shape. Leaves range from 1.5 inches to 3 inches long and .75 inch to 2 inches wide. Flowers are bluish to violet in color. Blooms and seed appear in late July-October. Seeds are small nutlets with attached whitish hairs. Habitats range from floodplains, pond margins, and wetlands to secondary mixed woods.

Trumpetweed

Eupatoriadelphus fistulosus



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Wetland flora: Field Office illustrated
guide to plant species. USDA-NRCS.

Trumpetweed is a perennial large herb with erect solid stems. Plant height ranges from 1.5 feet to over 6 feet tall. Leaves are in whorls of 4-7 leaves per node. Leaves are ovate to lanceolate in shape 2 inches to 6 inches long and 1 inch to 3 inches wide. Flowers are pink to lavender in color. Blooms and seed appear July-October. Seeds are small nutlets with attached pinkish hairs. Habitats range from floodplains and wetlands to wet open areas

Swamp Sunflower *Helianthus angustifolius*



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Wetland flora: Field Office illustrated
guide to plant species. USDA-NRCS

Swamp Sunflower is a perennial woody to herbaceous large herb with fibrous roots and very short rhizomes. Plant height ranges from 3 feet to 6 feet tall. Leaves are opposite below and usually alternate above. Leaves are linear in shape 2 inches to 7 inches long and .5 inch to 2.5 inches wide. Flowers are yellow with reddish brown centers. Blooms and seed appear July-November. Seeds are dark brown nutlets. Habitats range from flatwoods, wetlands, and pinewoods, to wet disturbed areas.

Cucumberleaf Sunflower
Helianthus debilis v. *cucumerifolius*



Cucumberleaf Sunflower is an annual herbaceous large herb with a prominent taproot. Plant height ranges from 1.5 feet to 6 feet tall. Leaves are opposite below and usually alternate above. Leaves are triangular to ovate in shape 2 inches to 4 inches long and .75 inch to 2.5 inches wide. Flowers are yellow with reddish brown centers. Blooms and seed appear May-August. Seeds are grayish black nutlets. Habitats range from disturbed areas to open fields. .

Tall Blazing Star

Liatris aspera



Tall Blazing Star is a perennial herb with erect solid stems from a globose rootstock. Plant height ranges from 2.5 feet to 6 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and narrowly elliptic in shape and decrease in size upward. Leaves range from 3 inches to 10 inches long and .5 inch to 1 inch wide. Flowers are pink to lavender in color. Blooms and seed appear in July-October. Seeds are small nutlets with attached barbed hairs. Habitats range from upland longleaf pines, and mixed woodlands, to open disturbed areas.

Pinkscale Blazing Star

Liatris elegans



Pinkscale Blazing Star is a perennial herb with erect solid stems from a globose rootstock. Plant height ranges from 2 feet to 4.5 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and linear to narrowly elliptic in shape and decrease in size upward. Leaves range from 1 inch to 4.5 inches long and .25 inch wide. Flowers are whitish to pinkish in color. Blooms and seed appear in September-November. Seeds are small nutlets with attached plumose hairs. Habitats range from upland longleaf pines, sandhills, and mixed woodlands.

Slender Blazing Star

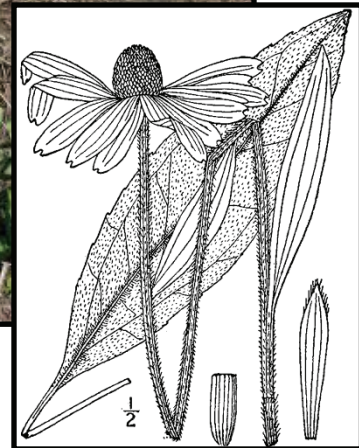
Liatris gracilis



Slender Blazing Star is a perennial herb with erect solid stems from a globose rootstock. Plant height ranges from 3 feet to 4.5 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and linear to narrowly elliptic in shape and decrease in size upward. Leaves range from 2 inches to 7 inches long and .25 inch to .5 inch wide. Flowers are lavender in color. Blooms and seed appear in September-November. Seeds are small nutlets. Habitats range from upland longleaf pines, sandhills, flatwoods, and mixed woodlands.

Blackeyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:470

Blackeyed Susan is an annual, perennial or biennial herb with one to several stems from a crown. Plant height ranges from 1 foot to 3.5 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic, lanceolate or ovate in shape 2 inches to 5.5 inches long and .5 inch to 3 inches wide. Flowers are yellow with purplish black centers. Blooms and seed appear May- July. Seeds are blackish nutlets. Habitats range from upland longleaf pine, sandhills, and mixed woods. .

Lyreleaf Sage

Salvia lyrata

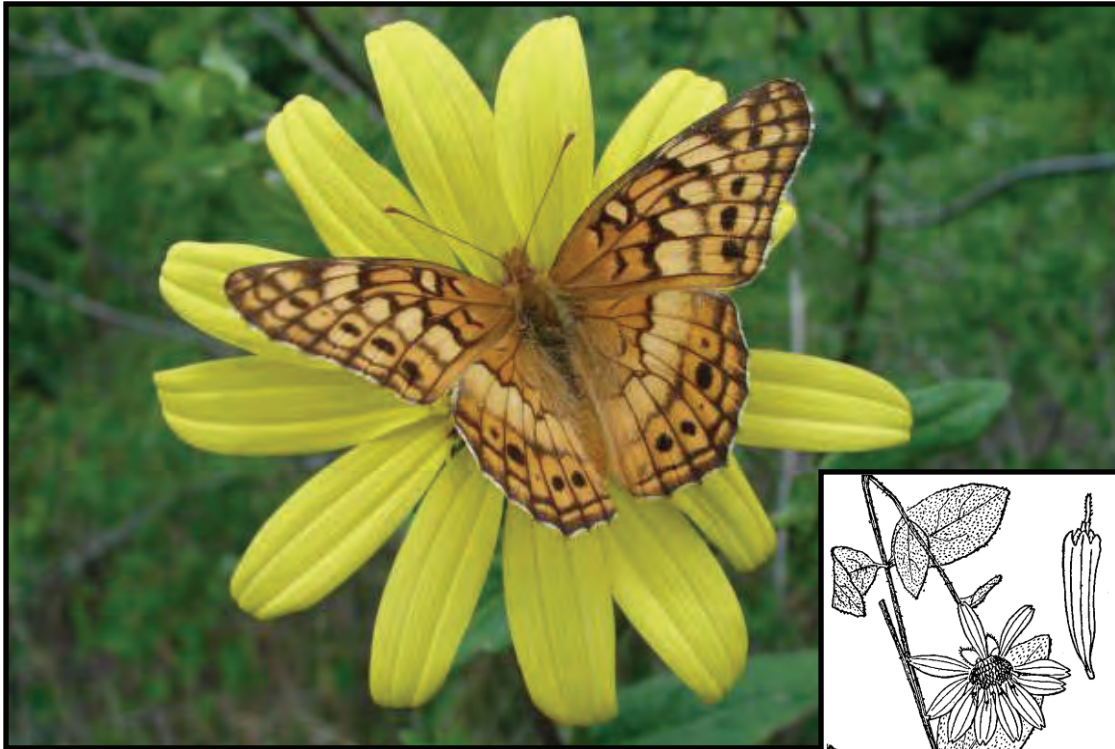


USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:129.

Lyreleaf Sage is a perennial herb with erect quadrangular stems. Plant height ranges from 1 foot to 2.5 feet tall. Leaves are primarily in a basal rosette. Basal leaves are elliptic to obovate in shape 2 inches to 6 inches long and 1 inch to 4 inches wide. Flowers are blue to violet. Blooms and seed appear March- June. Seeds are dark brown. Habitats range from open woodlands, roadsides, and open wet areas.

Starry Rosinweed

Silphium asteriscus v. asteriscus



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:461.

Starry Rosinweed is a large coarse erect perennial herb. Plant height ranges from 2 feet to 8 feet tall. Leaves are opposite and alternate. Leaves are elliptic to lanceolate in shape 3 inches to 5 inches long and .75 inch to 2.5 inches wide. Flowers are light yellow with yellowish green centers. Blooms and seed appear June-September. Seeds are rounded nutlets. Habitats range from pinewoods, open woodland and mixed woodlands. .

Prairie Rosinweed

Silphium terebinthinaceum



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern US Canada and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:462.

Prairie Rosinweed is a large coarse erect perennial herb. Plant height ranges from 3 feet to 7 feet tall. Leaves are mostly basal with a few leaves on the stem. Leaves are wide elliptic to lanceolate in shape 4 inches to 1.5 feet long and 4 inches to 8 inches wide. Flowers are light yellow with yellowish centers. Blooms and seed appear July-September. Seeds are rounded nutlets. In our area Prairie Rosinweed occurs in heavy clay soils of Northwest Georgia and Northeastern Alabama. Habitats range from open woodland to woodland borders.

Canada Goldenrod

Solidago altissima



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:395.

Canada Goldenrod is an erect perennial herb with long slender rhizomes. Plant height ranges from 3 feet to 7 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic in shape 2 inches to 5 inches long and .5 inch to 1 inch wide. Flowers are bright yellow. Blooms and seed appear September-October. Seeds are small nutlets. Habitats range from open woodland, old fields, roadsides to open wet areas.

Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod

Solidago rugosa v. *aspera*

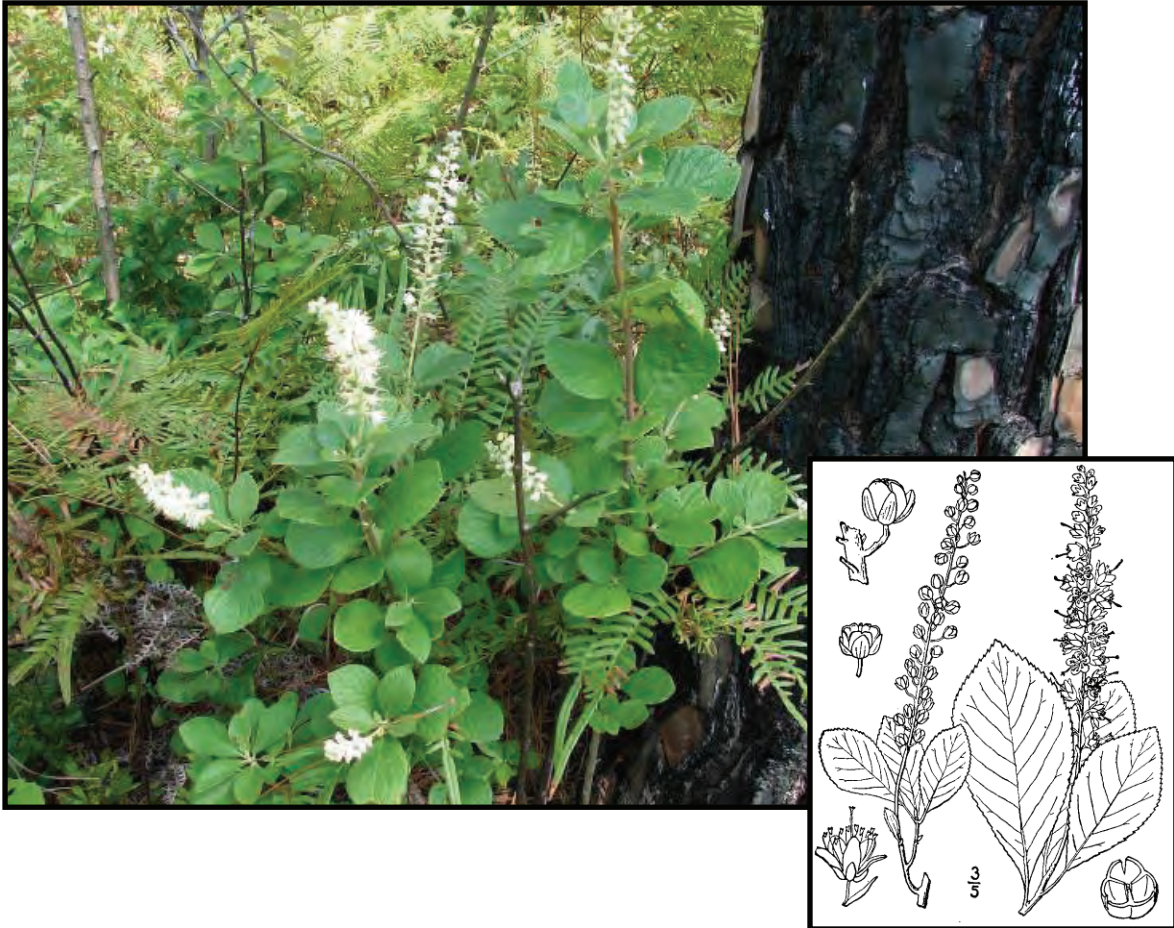


USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:396.

Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod is an erect perennial herb with long slender rhizomes. Plant height ranges from 2 feet to 4 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic in shape 2 inches to 5 inches long and .5 inch to 1.5 inches wide. Flowers are bright yellow. Blooms and seed appear September-October. Seeds are small nutlets. Habitats range from open woodland, and old fields to roadsides.

Coastal Sweetpepperbush

Clethra alnifolia



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:667.

Coastal Sweetpepperbush is a perennial shrub. Stems range from 3 feet to 7 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic to oblanceolate in shape. Leaves range from 1.5 inch to 4 inches long and .75 to 2 inches wide. Flowers are white with stamens and stigmas long exerted. Blooms and fruit appear in June- September. A small capsule contains pinkish to whitish tan seed. Habitats range from isolated depression wetlands, flatwoods, creek swamps to wet pinewoods.

May Hawthorn *Crataegus aestivalis*



USDA-NRCS Plants Database Wetland
flora: Field Office illustrated guide to plant
species. USDA-NRCS.

May Hawthorn is a perennial shrub or small tree with prominent thorns on the branches. Plant height ranges from 6 feet to 17 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic to lance-obovate in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 2 inches long and .5 to 1.5 inches wide. Flowers are white with typical rose characteristics. Blooms and fruit appear in March- June. Fruit is a small red globose structure similar to a small apple. Habitats are wetlands such as isolated depression wetlands, creek swamps and wet pinewoods.

Yellowleaf Hawthorn

Crataegus flava



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:310.

Yellowleaf Hawthorn is a perennial shrub or small tree with prominent thorns on the branches. Plant height ranges from 3 feet to 15 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and obovate in shape. Leaves range from .5 inch to 2 inches long and .25 to 1 inch wide. Flowers are white with typical rose characteristics. Blooms and fruit appear in March- June. Fruit is a small yellow to red globose structure similar to a small apple. Habitats are sandhills, dry woodlands, and mixed woodlands.

Comfortroot
Hibiscus aculeatus



Comfortroot is a perennial spreading to erect shrub. Stems range from 2.5 feet to 4 feet tall. Leaves are rough to the touch with 3 to 5 prominent lobes. Leaves range from 2 inches to 4 inches long and 2 to 3 inches wide. Flowers are cream fading to pink with a deep crimson center. Blooms and fruit appear in June- September. A capsule contains brown seed. Habitats are wetlands such as pond margins, pine savannahs, flatwoods to wet pinewoods

Inkberry

Ilex glabra

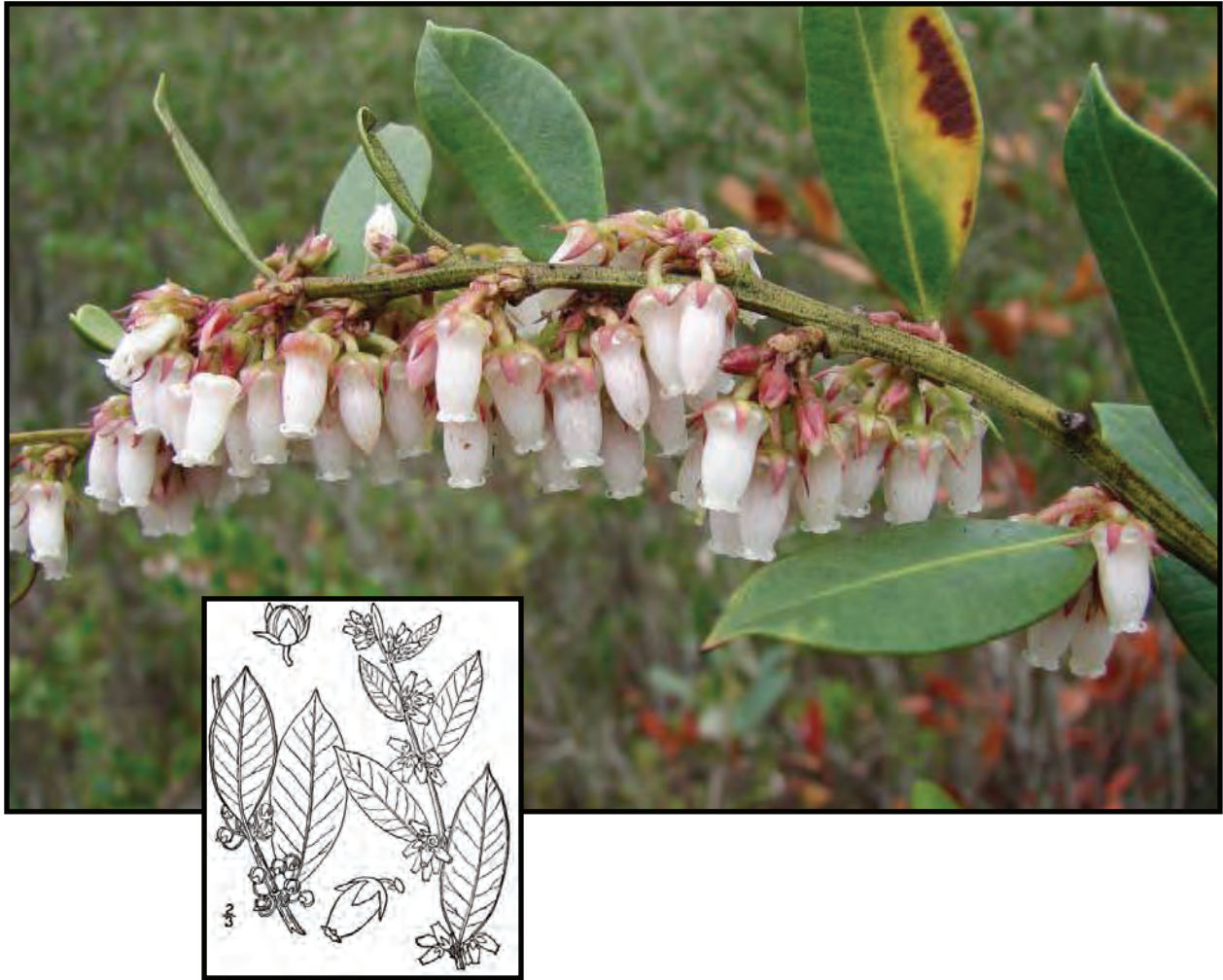


USDA-NRCS Plants Database Wetland
flora: Field Office illustrated guide to plant
species. USDA-NRCS.

Inkberry is a perennial rhizomatous shrub forming extensive colonies. Plant height ranges from 4 feet to 9 feet tall. Evergreen leaves are alternate and elliptic to obovate in shape. Leaves range from .75 inch to 2 inches long and .25 to .75 inches wide. Flowers are white with typical holly characteristics. Blooms and fruit appear in May- September. Fruit is a small green to black globose drupe. Habitats are wetlands such as isolated depression wetlands, flatwoods, wet pinewoods and other low woods.

Fetterbush *Lyonia*

Lyonia lucida



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:690

Fetterbush *Lyonia* is a perennial rhizomatous shrub with sharply angled stems. Plants range from 3 feet to 7 feet tall. Evergreen leaves are alternate and elliptic to obovate in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 3 inches long and .5 to 1.75 inches wide. Urn shaped flowers are pink to white. Blooms and fruit appear in April- September. A small capsule contains many dark seed. Habitats are wetlands from isolated depression wetlands, creek swamps, flatwoods, wet pinewoods and low woods.

Chickasaw Plum *Prunus angustifolia*

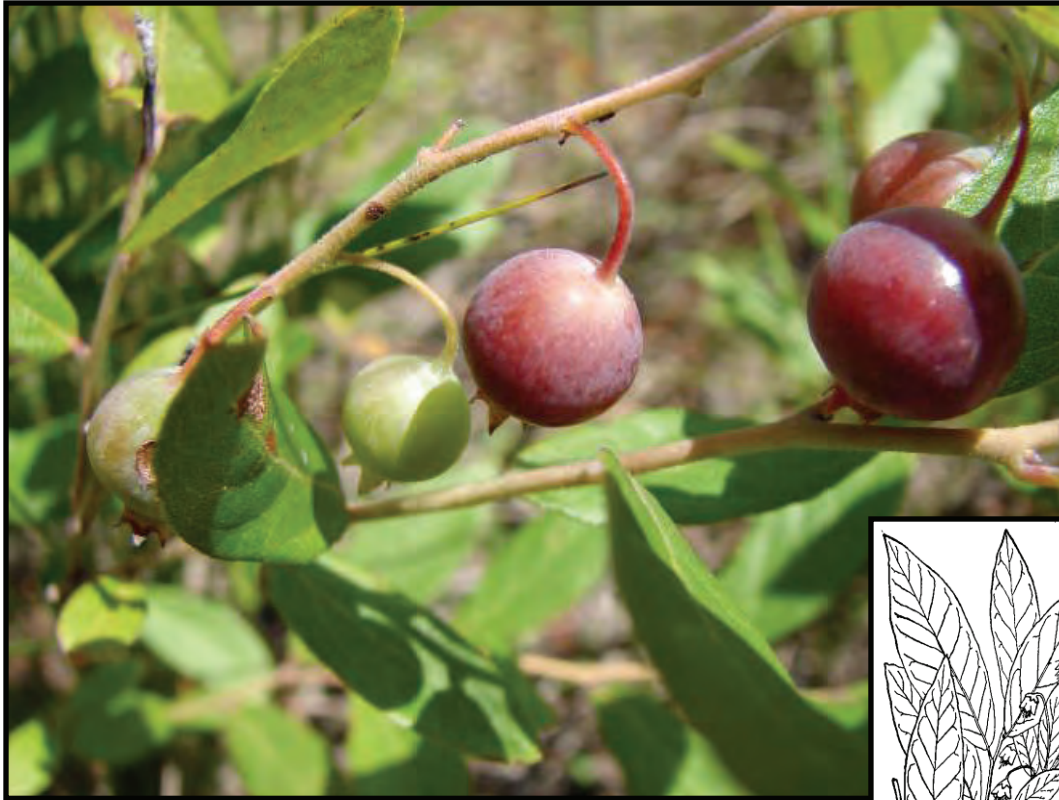


USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:324.

Chickasaw Plum is a perennial thicket-forming shrub. Plant height ranges from 4 feet to 9 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic to lanceolate in shape. Leaves range from 1.5 inch to 2.5 inches long and .5 to 1 inch wide. Flowers are white. Blooms and fruit appear in March- August. Rounded fruits mature from green to yellow to red. Habitats are fence rows, dry woodlands, and open mixed woodlands.

Deerberry

Vaccinium stamineum



USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:697.

Deerberry is a perennial erect shrub. Plant height ranges from 1.5 feet to 15 feet tall. Leaves are alternate and elliptic to oblanceolate in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 3 inches long and .75 to 1.75 inch wide. Flowers are white with very exerted stamens. Blooms and fruit appear in April- October. Fruit is a globose small berry green to dark purple. Habitats are sandhills, dry woodlands, flatwoods and mixed woodlands.

Evening Trumpetflower

Gelsemium sempervirens

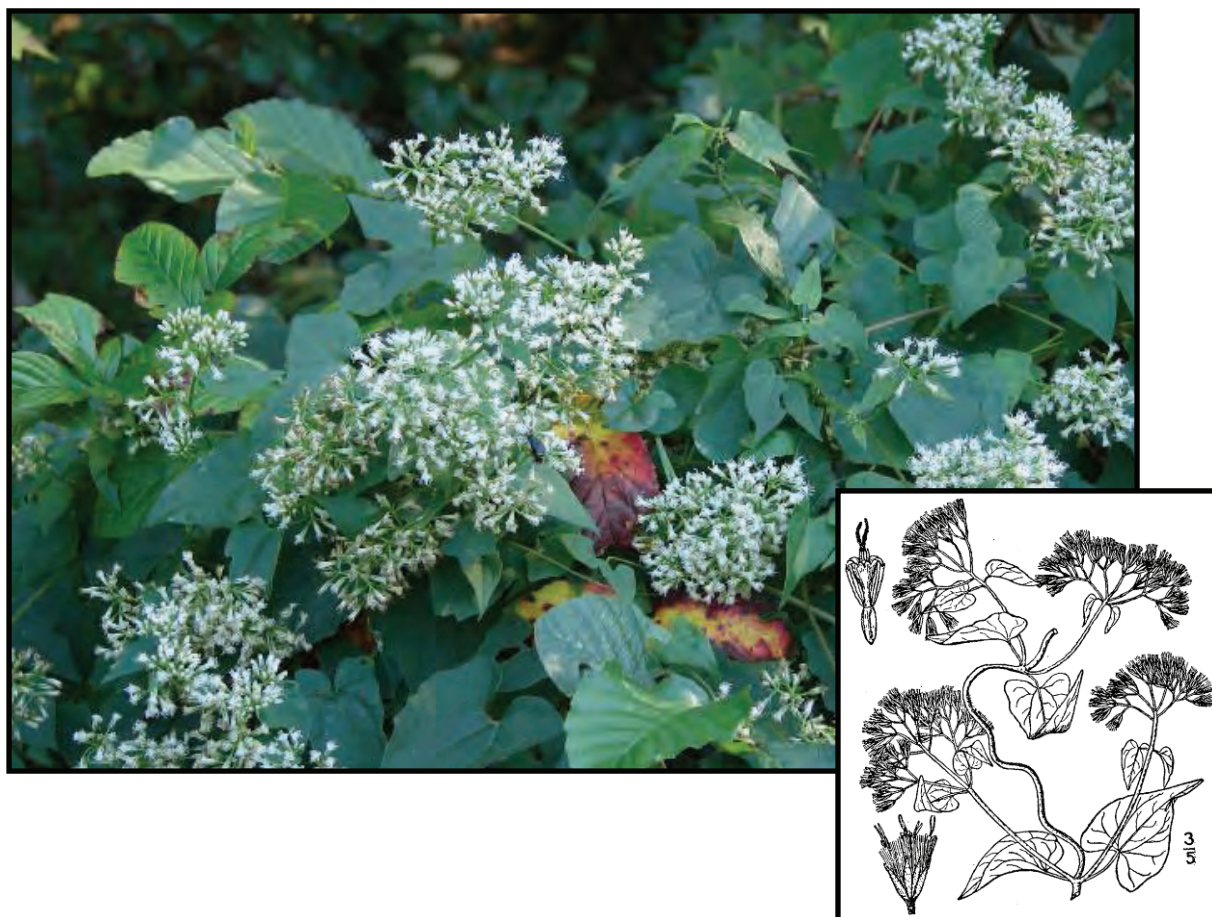


USDA-NRCS Plants Database.
Britton N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrated flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:730.

Evening Trumpetflower is a perennial high-climbing or trailing vine. Stems can extend and climb for several feet. Leaves are evergreen, opposite and lanceolate to elliptic in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 2.5 inches long and .5 to 1 inch wide. Flowers are very fragrant and yellow in color. Blooms and fruit appear in Late February- Early Summer. Fruit is a capsule containing many dull brown seed. Habitats range from mixed woods, flatwoods, mesic floodplains sites, secondary woods, to roadsides.

Climbing Hempvine

Mikania scandens



USDA -NRCS Plants Database.
Britton , N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrate flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 3:363.

Climbing hempvine is a perennial climbing or twining vine. Stems can extend and climb over 9 feet. Leaves are opposite and ovate to triangular-ovate in shape. Leaves range from 1 inch to 4 inches long and .5 to 2.5 inches wide. Flowers are white to pinkish in color. Blooms and fruit appear in July- October. Small fruit produces many black nutlets. Habitats are wetlands such as isolated depressions, pond margins, floodplains, marshes, seeps and wet woods.

Purple Passionflower

Passiflora incarnata



USDA -NRCS Plants Database.
Britton , N.L. and A. Brown. 1913. An
illustrate flora of the northern US Canada
and the British Possessions. Vol. 2:565.

Purple Passionflower is a herbaceous climbing or trailing vine. Stems can extend and climb over 6 feet. Leaves are alternate and palmately 3-lobed in shape. Leaves range from 2 inches to 5 inches long and 2 to 5 inches wide. Flowers are purple with white and purple bands. Blooms and fruit appear in April- September. Fruit is a large green to yellowish ellipsoid fleshy berry with dark brown seeds. Habitats are fields, roadsides, fence rows, thickets, and other open areas.

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