



*Yucca filamentosa*  
Photo by Shirley Denton



*Yucca filamentosa*  
Photo by Shirley Denton



*Yucca filamentosa*  
Photo by Bob Bierman

- *Yucca filamentosa* (Adam's needle)
- Height: 3-12 feet
- Flowers: creamy white, showy, sometimes tinged with purple at the base, atop tall erect stems
- Fruit: fleshy conspicuous capsules that dry out and turn black at maturity
- Leaves: narrow lance shaped, 2-4 feet long, grayish green, sharply pointed at the tip with threadlike filaments along the margins
- Habitat: sandhills, dry bluffs, and thinly vegetated xeric woodlands



- ***Iva imbricata* (Beach elder)**
- Height: can reach 39 inches.  
Flowers: green and not discernable to the naked eye.  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: 2 inches wide and ½ an inch long. Leaves are alternating; each leaf is entire or slightly toothed, and fleshy.  
Habitat: Coastal sand-dunes.





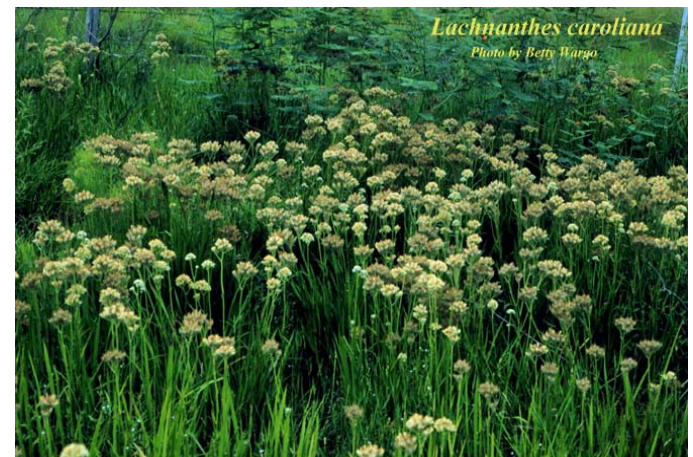
- ***Panicum amarum* (Bitter panic grass)**
- Height: up to 5 feet
- Flowers: yellow and small.
- Fruit: small quantities of poor quality seed are produced on compact clusters 6 to 12 inches long and 2 to 4 inches wide.
- Leaves: 1/4 to 1/2 inch wide, 7 to 20 inches long, smooth without hair, and bluish in color.
- Habitat: dry coastal and inland regions

***Panicum amarum***

Photo by Walter K. Taylor,  
from his book: *Florida Wildflowers  
In Their Natural Communities*

- *Lachnanthes caroliana*  
(redroot)

- Height: up to 3 feet  
Flowers: woolly yellow flowers  
Fruit: inconspicuous capsule  
Leaves: slender and bladelike  
with a hairy stem and some hairy  
leaves.  
Habitat: coastal plains,  
pinewoods, bogs, hammock,  
margins and wetlands



*Ambrosia hispida*

Photo by Keith Bradley



- *Ambrosia hispida* (Coastal Ragweed)
- Height: Typically 1-3 feet in height but sometimes climbing into other vegetation.
- Spreading and forming large mats.
- Flowers: White and semi-showy.  
Fruit: Inconspicuous achene with 1-5 conic spines.  
Leaves: Slightly rough, non-alternating fernlike leaves.  
Habitat: Beach dunes and coastal strand.





- ***Eragrostis elliottii* (Elliot lovegrass)**
- Height: 2-3 feet
- Flower: whitish inflorescence, in a puffy haze 6 inches or higher
- Fruit: inconspicuous caryopsis, simple dried fruit
- Leaves: wispy grass blades
- Habitat: sunny, dry waste places



- *Zamia pumila* (Coontie)
- Height: up to 3 feet, clumps 5-6 wide
- Flowers: cones
- Fruit: cones, female cones fertilized by male pollen to produce shiny red seeds
- Leaves: 3 feet long with narrow leaflets
- Habitat: well drained sandy soils throughout Florida



## *Cyperus odoratus* (Flatsedge)

Height: from 4 to 30 inches tall.

Leaves: few leaves rising from base, about 1/2" wide and may be as long as the plant. Several small bottlebrush-like clusters of spikelets at crown.

Habitat: marshy shores and wet clearings.





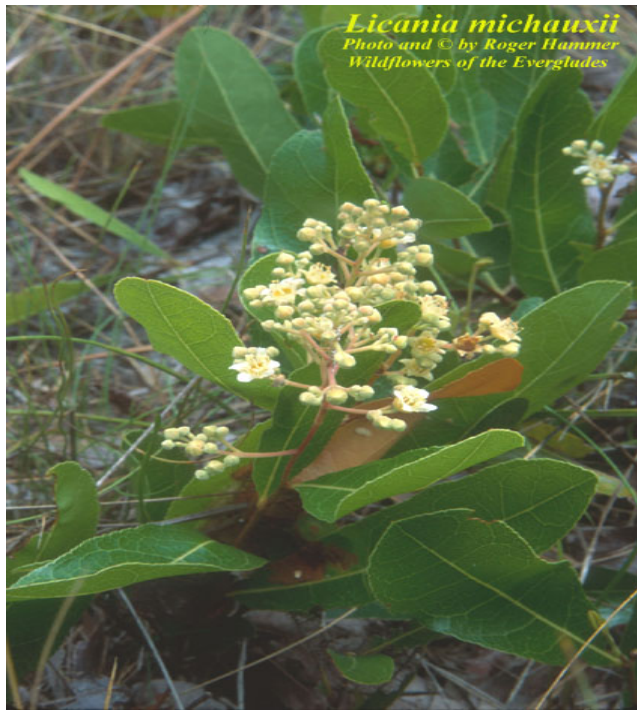
- *Salicornia spp.* (Glasswort)
- Height: up to 12 inches  
Flowers: small and inconspicuous, hermaphroditic  
Fruit: small and succulent and contains a single seed  
Leaves: small and scale-like and as such the plant may appear leafless  
Habitat: brackish sand and saline areas in coastal regions





- ***Ernodea littoralis* (Golden creeper)**
- Height: 3-4 feet  
Flowers: white to pink tubular flowers  
Fruit: pomegranate shaped fleshy orange fruits with an apple-like flavor  
Leaves: lanceolate blades and spiny pointed tip, generally fleshy but sometimes hard  
Habitat: coastal regions, sun-loving





- ***Licania michauxii* (Gopher apple)**
- Height: 3-12 inches  
Flowers: inconspicuous green flowers  
Fruit: fleshy oval shaped fruit ½ and inch to and inch  
Leaves: alternate simple 2-4 inches in length, spatulate shaped with narrow basal end and a wide, rounded spoon-shaped tip  
Habitat: dry sandy soils in the southern most portions of the US

*Monanthochloe littoralis*

Photo and © by Roger Hammer  
Wildflowers of the Everglades



- *Monanthochloe littoralis* (Key grass, shoregrass)
- Height: around 1 foot and creeping
- Flowers: inconspicuous
- Fruit: inconspicuous
- Leaves: short and needle-like, green with brown stems
- Habitat: coastal salt marsh



*Sorghastrum secundum*  
Photo by Dennis Girard

- *Sorghastrum secundum* (Lopsided Indiangrass)
- Height: 3-6 feet
- Flowers: tiny, distinctive one sided inflorescences of hairy tan spikelets
- Fruit: a tiny grain borne with hairy tan spikelets
- Leaves: narrow, green and about 12 inches long.
- Habitat: Flatwoods, sandhills, pine barrens



*Sorghastrum secundum*  
Photo by Patricia Howell



*Ipomoea imperati*  
Photo and © by Roger Hammer  
Wildflowers of the Everglades



*Ipomoea imperati*  
Photo by Glenn Fleming  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection

- *Ipomoea imperati* (Beach morning glory)
- Height/Form: Varies
- Form: Vine  
Flowers: White with a yellow center, around 2 inches long and 2 inches wide.  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: The leaves may be entire or slightly notched, with three to five rounded lobes. Leaf or center lobe oblong or violin shaped; often rounded with shallow indentation at the tip. Leathery texture.  
Habitat: Coastal sand-dunes



- *Muhlenbergia capillaris*  
(Muhly grass)
- Height: 2-3 feet  
Flowers: A mass of oblong wispy plumes is composed of thousands of delicate hair-like mauve strands  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: thin, tubular and grassy  
Habitat: Coastal regions, sandy dunes.





*Opuntia humifusa*  
Photo by Shirley Denton

- *Opuntia humifusa* (Prickly-pear cactus)

- Height: 1-4 feet prostrate or spreading cactus

Flowers: showy and bright yellow, 3-4 inches across

Fruit: egg shaped, 2-3 inches

Leaves: flattened pads 2-3 inches long

Habitat: dry sandy soils



*Opuntia stricta*  
Photo by Walter Hodge  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection



*Opuntia humifusa*  
Photo by Glenn Fleming  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection





- ***Ipomoea pes-caprae* (Railroad vine)**
- Height: Vine
- Flowers: Pink to lavender, funnel-like flowers open in the morning and only one time each. However, the flowers appear year-round, peaking from May till November.
- Fruit: The fruit is brown, and in the form of 1/2 inch pods that each contain four seeds
- Leaves: Leathery green 4-inch leaves are carried on 6-inch petioles. They are two-lobed and look more heart-shaped than the leaves of its near relative the Beach Morning Glory.
- Habitat: Coastal areas



*Distichlis spicata*  
Photo by Shirley Denton



*Distichlis spicata*  
Photo by Shirley Denton

- ***Distichlis spicata* (Saltgrass)**
- Height: medium-tall grass up to 2 feet  
Flowers: broad and spike-like  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: grass-like blades, flat to folded to rolled, ascending and sharp pointed  
Habitat: salt and brackish coastal marshes and can grow into large monocultures

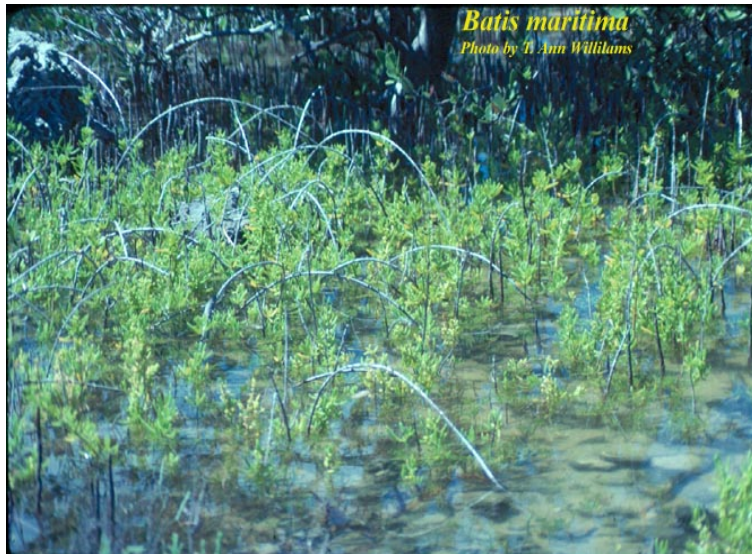
*Spartina patens*  
Photo by Shirley Denton



- *Spartina patens* (Saltmeadow)
- Height: perennial cordgrass growing 1-3 feet  
Flowers: inflorescence emerges at the end of the stem, which is composed of 2 to 10 two-inch-long spikelets, the numerous florets are 0.3 to 0.4 inches long and arranged in an overlapping scale-like fashion on each spikelet.  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: rolled leaf blades half a foot to a foot long, droopy and wiry in appearance  
Habitat: open coastal marshes

*Spartina patens*  
Photo by Shirley Denton





- ***Batis maritima* (Saltwort)**
- Height: sprawling herb rarely more than 3 feet tall
- Flower: simple, opposite, bright green and succulent
- Fruit: multiple of green, fleshy, berry-like fruits, with a rough texture
- Leaves: simple, opposite, bright green and succulent, about one inch long, narrow and often have recurved edges that give them a tuber-like appearance, margins are entire and a petiole is absent.
- Habitat: muddy tidal banks, mangrove swamps, and salt marshes



- *Blutaparon vermiculare*  
(Samphire, saltweed, silverweed)
- Height: 11 inches to 9 feet  
Flowers: White and oblong  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: Linear to linear lanceolate or oblanceolate  
Habitat: Saline soils, sands of beaches, dunes, sand bars





*Spartina bakeri*  
Photo by Betty Wargo



*Spartina bakeri*  
Photo by Betty Wargo

- ***Spartina bakeri* (Sand cordgrass)**
- Height: 3-5 feet
- Flowers: N/A
- Fruit: seedhead has 5 to 12 spikes, each 1-1/4 to 2-1/2 inches long, lying close to stem; spikelets grow on one side of rachis and seedhead 2 to 8 inches long
- Leaves: leaf blade is flat and rolls inward when drying; 1/4 inch wide; upper surface is dark green, lower light green and coarse ridges on upper surface, leaf sheath is rounded
- Habitat: margins of sand ponds and fresh marshes throughout range



- *Cladium jamaicense*  
(Sawgrass)
- Height: 4-10 feet
- Flowers: tall, complex inflorescence and often standing several feet above the leaves
- Fruit: tiny wrinkled ovoid
- Leaves:  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide, v-shaped to flat, relatively narrow, small sharp sawteeth on underside midribs
- Habitat: fresh and brackish water wetlands



***Limonium carolinianum***

*Photo by Walter K. Taylor,  
from his book: Florida Wildflowers  
In Their Natural Communities*



- ***Limonium carolinianum***  
**(Sea-lavender)**
- Height: 1-2 feet
- Flowers: small, 1/8 inch purple flowers, creates a purple haze on marsh when in bloom
- Fruit: capsule containing a single seed
- Leaves: simple, entire to lobed,
- Habitat: salt marshes



*Photo by  
Steven C. Penning*

***Limonium carolinianum***  
**Sea lavender**





- *Uniola paniculata* (Sea oats)
- Height: up to 6 feet
- Flowers: drooping clusters, flat and yellowish (panicles)
- Fruit: long seed heads called spikelets
- Leaves: up to 2 feet long and 1 inch wide
- Habitat: coastal dunes





*Sesuvium portulacastrum*  
Photo by Bill Eggers



*Sesuvium portulacastrum*  
Photo by Bill Eggers

- *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (Sea purslane)
- Height: spreads and creeps along the ground by rooting from its joints to form mats of branches 6' long  
Flowers: tiny, star-shaped, solitary flowers have no petals but have greenish sepals and a pink interior  
Fruit: small, ovoid, 3/8" capsule with numerous, shiny, black seeds.  
Leaves: narrow, simple, opposite leaves resemble the shape of a spoon or paddle. They are 1/2" to 2" inches long with a fleshy texture and smooth surfaces. Leaf color is green with some occasional red and leaf bases are winged.  
Habitat: beaches and coastal dunes



*Sesuvium portulacastrum*  
Photo and © by Roger Hammer  
Wildflowers of the Everglades



- ***Sporobolus virginicus* (Seashore dropseed)**
- Height: from 4 to 8 inches  
Flowers: N/A  
Fruit: seedhead has a dense panicle and is spike-like  
Leaves: leaf blade is 1 to 4 inches long with distinctly two-ranked and salt crystals common on leaves and stems  
Habitat: highly saline marsh soils from clays to sands, it does best if water level fluctuates from 2 inches above soil surface to 6 inches below

*Paspalum vaginatum*  
Seashore paspalum  
Photo by Ann Murray  
© 1999 University of Florida



- ***Paspalum vaginatum***  
**(Seashore paspalum)**

- Height: up to 30 inches  
Flowers: small and green  
Fruit: reddish and small winged flattened seeds  
Leaves: Blades range in lengths of 1-5 inches and in widths of around ½ inch, which may be flat or folded inward length wise  
Habitat: brackish sand and saline areas in coastal regions



*Paspalum vaginatum*  
Seashore paspalum  
Photo by Ann Murray  
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***Alternanthera maritima***

Photo by Walter K. Taylor,  
from his book: *Florida Wildflowers  
In Their Natural Communities*

- ***Alternanthera maritima***  
**(Seaside joyweed, beach chaff-flower)**  
Height: 3-12 inches or higher  
Flowers: White inconspicuous flowers.  
Fruit: Inconspicuous utricle occurring all year.  
Leaves: Red and green, simple, short and round  
Habitat: Coastal beaches, thickets, and hammock edges.

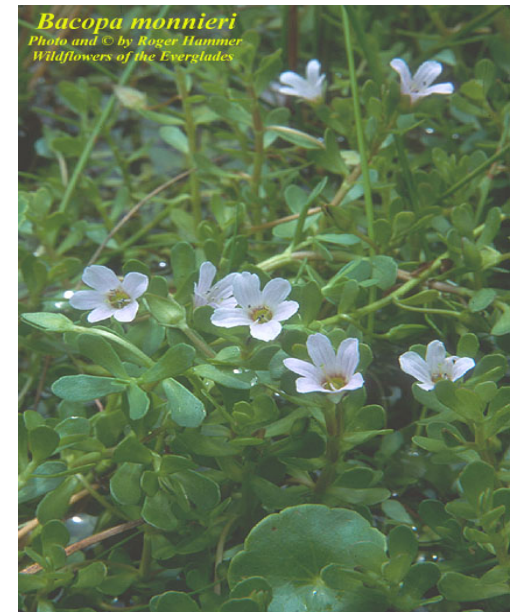


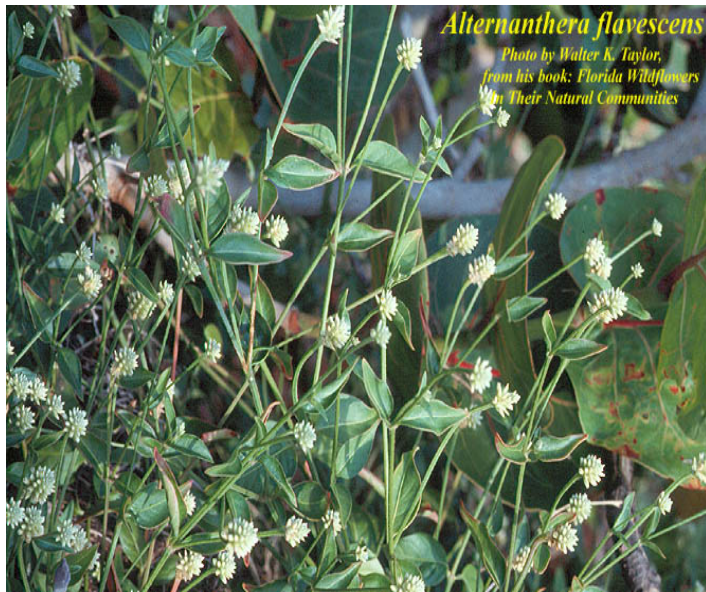
- **Hymenocallis latifolia**  
**(Spider lily)**
- Height: 2-3 feet  
Flowers: White tubular flowers, narrow and long recurving petals  
Fruit: N/A  
Leaves: Simple linear leaves  
Habitat: coastal areas





- *Bacopa monnieri* (Water hyssop)
- Height: creeping herb
- Flowers: small and white with four or five petals
- Fruit: N/A
- Leaves: succulent and relatively thick, opposite and oblanceolate
- Habitat: wetlands and muddy shores





- ***Alternanthera flavescens***  
**(yellow joyweed)**  
Height: 3-12 inches or higher  
Flowers: white inconspicuous flowers  
Fruit: Inconspicuous utricle that occurs all year  
Leaves: Simple and elongated.  
Habitat: Coastal beaches, thickets, and hammock edges.

