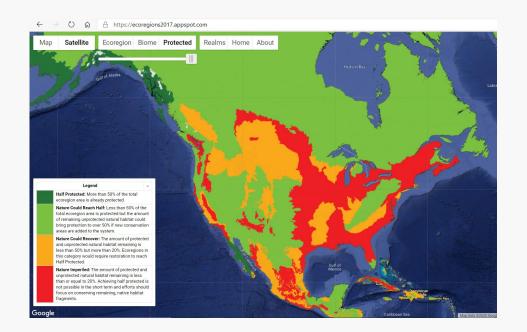
Recovery versus Extinction – Why Local Conservation Efforts Must Drive Global Conservation Initiatives

> Center for Plant Conservation National Meeting October 9, 2020







George D. Gann www.regionalconservation.org www.ser.org



Chief Conservation Strategist

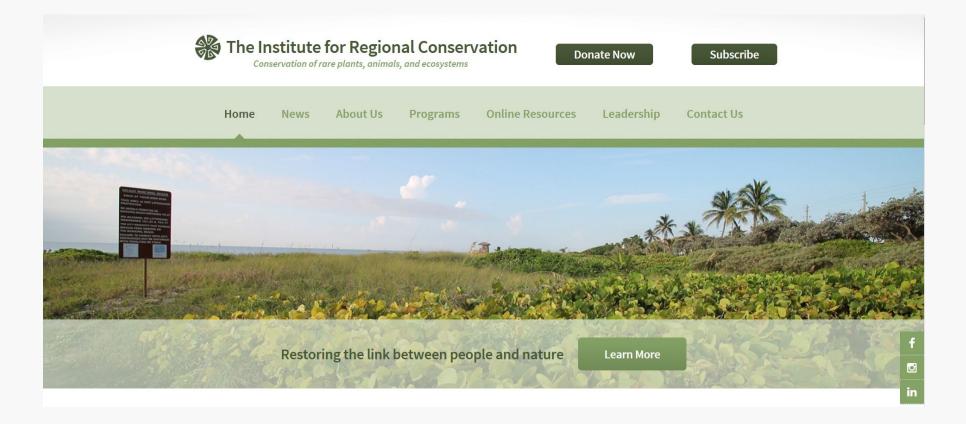
Acknowledgements

- Joyce Maschinski and Katie Heineman for the invitation and coordination.
- All the IRC and SER folks, past and present, and all our conservation partners and funders.
- **Photographers**, including Roger Hammer, Keith Bradley, Shirley Denton, James Johnson, and many others.
- All of you attending, and for all that you do to Save Plants!





My Neighborhood



Rather than focusing on charismatic animals or plants with narrow global ranges, IRC seeks to protect, restore and manage all biodiversity on a regional basis, and to **prevent local extinctions of rare plants**, **animals and ecosystems**.

Global and Local Interface





World Conference on Ecological Restoration Cape Town, South Africa 2019

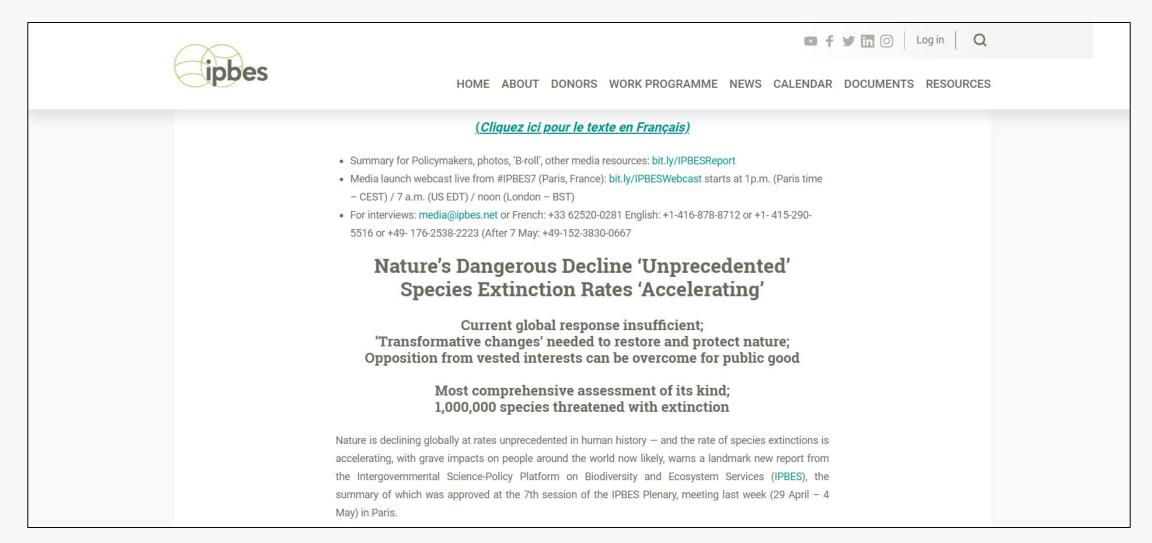




Restoration site, No Name Key National Key Deer Refuge, FL, USA

The Bad News

More than 1 million species threatened with extinction



"Preventing extinction is the lowest bar for conservation success we can set, yet we are not always successful," Wesley M. Knapp, 2020

CONSERVATION CHAMPION Wes Knapp, M.S. North Carolina Natural Heritage Program

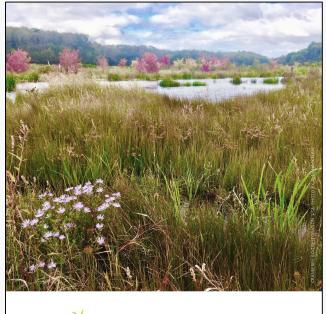
Wes Knapp is leading an important effort to assess plant extinction in North America north of Mexico. Taking up this cause of understanding extinction has opened his eyes to the extent of our knowledge, and sometimes our lack of knowledge, about rare plants. Working with <u>Natural Heritage Programs</u> and in his spare time, he is helping coordinate field surveys and data sharing efforts to understand extinction so that we can better understand how to prevent it. His infectious enthusiasm for plants is key to leading this effort.

Background Photo: Though Wes Knapp has built a career in the Maryland and North Carolina Natural Heritage Programs, his botanical interests are not confined to the East Coast. Photo credit: Scott Schuette.

CPC March 2020 Newsletter

The Good News



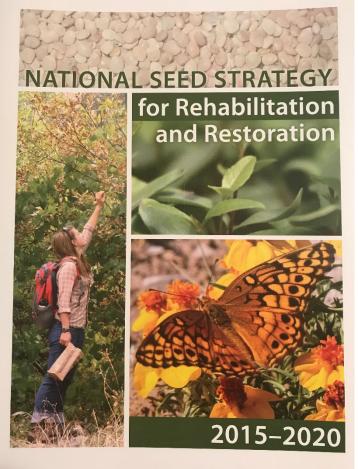




INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS FOR THE PRACTICE OF ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

SECOND EDITION SUMMARY

Confluence of Decades of Experience and Updated Guidance

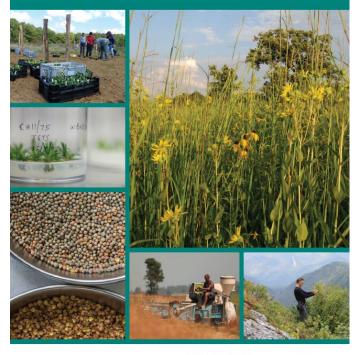


VOLUME 28, NUMBER 53, AUGUST 2020 ISSN 1061-2971

RESTORATION ECOLOGY



BGCI and IABG's Species Recovery Manual



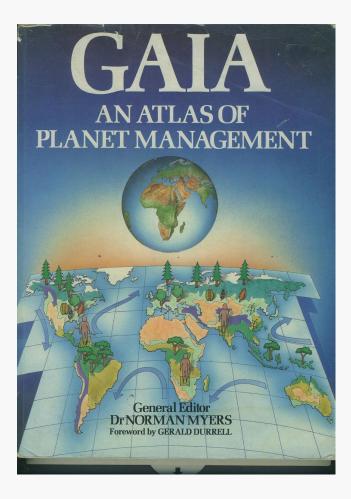




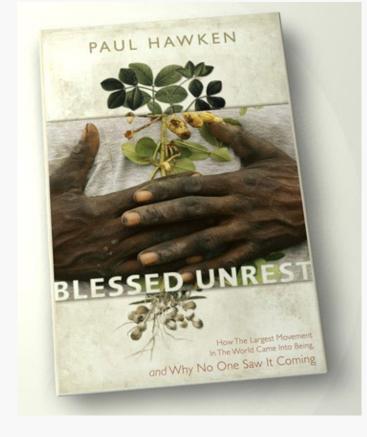
Robust Global Initiatives & Targets

- Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+, UNFCCC)
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Biodiversity Targets/post-2020 Targets
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) program
- Bonn Challenge/New York Declaration on Forests, expansion of Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) concept
- UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration from 2021-2030





In 1984 Norman Myers estimated that there were 12,130 international nonprofit groups (INGOS) worldwide, mostly dealing with environmental and social issues.



Paul Hawken 2007: estimated that there were more than 1,000,000 nonprofit groups and community organizations dedicated to the "environmental and social justice movement".

Incredible Engagement at Community Level

Are we in the extinction prevention business?

Or the biodiversity recovery business?

How do we actually Save Plants?

We Must Do Both

f 🖸 🎔 🚥



CENTER FOR PLANT CONSERVATION at SAN DIEGO ZOO'GLOBAL

NATIONAL COLLECTION V CONSERVATION

CONSERVATION RESOURCES V

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS





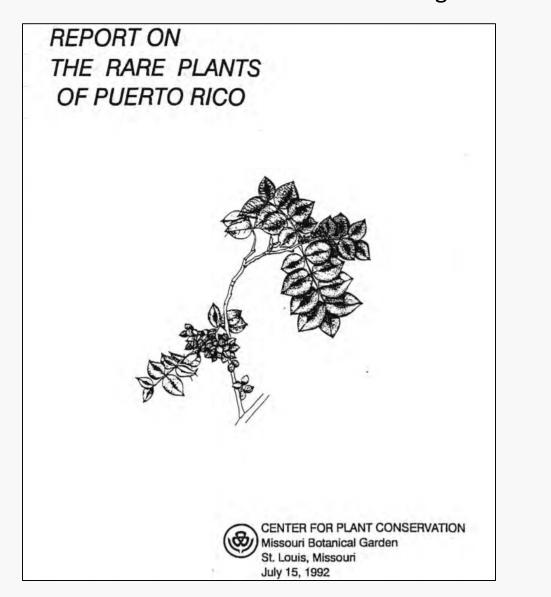


The Native Plant Conservation Campaign is a network of Affiliate native plant societies and other native plant conservation organizations throughout the United States.

Return to NPCC Home Page



National and Regional Leadership Since the 1980s National Collection and Participating Institutions Bridge between Local and Global Scales





Extinctions, Rarity, and Scale

nature ecology & evolution

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nature > nature ecology & evolution > brief communications > article

Brief Communication | Published: 10 June 2019

Global dataset shows geography and life form predict modern plant extinction and rediscovery

Aelys M. Humphreys 🖾, Rafaël Govaerts 🖾, Sarah Z. Ficinski, Eimear Nic Lughadha & Maria S. Vorontsova

Nature Ecology & Evolution 3, 1043–1047(2019) Cite this article

5651 Accesses | 44 Citations | 1292 Altmetric | Metrics

1 A Matters Arising to this article was published on 09 March 2020

Abstract

Most people can name a mammal or bird that has become extinct in recent centuries, but few can name a recently extinct plant. We present a comprehensive, global analysis of modern extinction in plants. Almost 600 species have become extinct, at a higher rate than background extinction, but almost as many have been erroneously declared extinct and then been rediscovered. Reports of extinction on islands, in the tropics and of shrubs, trees or species with narrow ranges are least likely to be refuted by rediscovery. Plant extinctions

US and Canada

Global Assessment: 38 extinct species Regional Assessment: 51 species, 65 taxa IUCN Red List: 2 species assessed as extinct

Different Methods, Different Results

MATTERS ARISING

ecology & evolution

Check for updates

Regional records improve data quality in determining plant extinction rates

Wesley M. Knapp[©]¹[⊠], Anne Frances², Reed Noss³, Robert F. C. Naczi⁴, Alan Weakley⁵, George D. Gann⁶, Bruce G. Baldwin⁷, James Miller⁸, Patrick McIntyre⁹, Brent D. Mishler⁷, Gerry Moore¹⁰, Richard G. Olmstead¹¹, Anna Strong¹², Daniel Gluesenkamp¹³ and Kathryn Kennedy¹⁴

ARISING FROM A. M. Humphreys et al. Nature Ecology & Evolution https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-019-0906-2 (2019

The recent study by Humphreys et al.¹, reporting the extinction of almost 600 plant species globally, represents a groundbreaking effort to compile direct data on seed plants. We applaud Humphreys et al. for quantifying plant extinctions because they formulate an important and testable hypothesis. However, their 2. study missed many extinctions and rediscoveries of seed plants in the United States and Canada. Our team of experts has been compiling a list of extinct plants of North America (north of Mexico). This work is challenging and time-consuming, given the complexities inherent in botanical diversity, the incomplete status of taxonomic understanding, vagaries of reporting and complexities of phytogeography.

as extinct in California, a 53% increase in extinction over that represented by the apparently extinct taxa reported by Humphreys et al. When compounded across North America, the under-reporting of extinction is probably significant. Taxon concepts. Considerable literature has been devoted to what constitutes a species²⁶. The underlying dataset used by Humphreys et al. includes at least seven species that are taxonomically dubious (that is, accepted by <63% of forsist sourcees, such as manuals and floras). These 7 species represent 19% of the dataset for the United States and Canada. Humphreys et al. use the World Checklist of Selected Plan Families²¹ as their taxonomic standard. Although a global checklist is mecessary for a global project, geographically broad checklists has

We have major concerns about the accuracy of the estimates



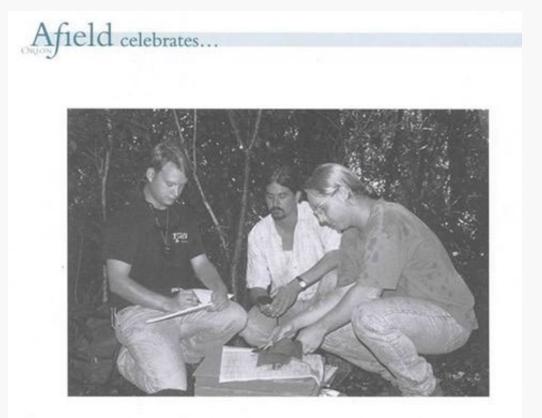
Pisonia floridana => *Guapira discolor* a pubescent form that is taxonomically dubious and extant



Atlas of Flo	orida Plants e for Systematic Botany	Q Advanced Search	entific Name V Sear • Search Help	ch		☑ Contact Us Ø Support the Atlas			
Home Browse By - Sea	arch - Herbarium Specimen Search	Institute for Systematic Botany	Links Abo	ut References					
Atlas of Florida Plants » Species	i Page								
Guapira discolor	Jump to a section: <u>Classification</u> <u>Citati</u>	on Source Synonyms Speci	mens			A Print			
Family:	NYCTAGINACEAE			Map	Photo Gallery Browse Photos	•			
Species:	Guapira discolor (Spreng.)Little			@ Dist	Distribution Map: Based on <u>vouchered</u> plant specimens from wild populations. Cultivated occurr				
Common Name:	BEEFTREE; BLOLLY			are	not mapped. View county names by placing the cursor ove	r the map.			
Status:	Native, <u>FAC (DEP)</u>								
Specimen: ** Not applicable or data not avai	View details of USF Herbarium specimens				SI 5777777				
Classification Order CARYOPHYL Family MYCTAGINA Genus Species Guapira disc Citation									
Citation	GUAPIRA DISCOLOR (Sprengel) Little, Phyto	logia 17: 368. 1968.			F				
Basionym:	Pisonia discolor Sprengel 1825.				Species Distribution Map				
Туре:	JAMAICA: Without data, Bertero s.n. (holoty	pe: B (destroyed?)).			Not Vouchered				
** Not applicable or data not avai	lable.			• 원 • 臣 • 臣 • 正	Vouchered Sies Links Biota of North America Program (BONAP) EDD MapS Flora of North America Naturalist NatureServe Explorer				

Extinct in Humphreys et al. 2019

Documenting extinctions and rarity since 1996 The Floristic Inventory of South Florida



80 Species To Be Added to Florida's Endangered Species List



The Floristic Inventory of South Florida 1995 – present, Online since 2001

Castellow Hammock Park Control Name Control							
		Group By Fa	unity: 🖸 🚮	or Results			
			Introduced Stat				
Scientific Name:	Occurrence:	Native Status:	Introduced Stat	tus: Invasive Status: Cultivat	ed Status: Reference	e: Vou	
Acanthaceae							
Barleria cristata	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Potentially Invasive	2772	2772	
Ruella blechum	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Ruderal	14757		
Ruella simplex	Present	Not Native, Naturalized Native	Introduced Not Introduced	Potentially Invasive Native	<u>14757</u> 14757		
Ruella succienta	mesend	Nacive	Not preveduced	NEW	14/3/		
Amaranthaceae							
Achyrarthes aspera var. aspera	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Rudenal	24752		
Amaranthus spinosus	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Ruderal	14757		
Anacardiaceae							
Manofera indica	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Invasive	14757		
Netapium taxiferum	Present	Native	Not Depadured	Native	14757		
Ebus costinum	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14727		
Schinus temberthifolius	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Invasive	14757		
Toricodendron radicana	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14757		
Anemiaceae							
		No. of Concession, Name	Not Deputyond	Part of	1000		
Anemia adantifolia	Present	Native	NOT PROVIDENCE	Native	14757		
Annonaceae							
Annona glabra	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14757		
Apiaceae							
Ordssemun lettshvilun	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Ruderal	14757		
		AND A REPORT	and the second		<u>Perse</u>		
Apocynaceae							
Angadenia berteroi	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14751		
Andepins curassavica	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Invasive	14737		
Asciepias virida	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14761		
Catharanthus roseus	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Ruderal	14736		
Echites umbellatus	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14757		
Hetasteima scoparium	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14757		
Aquifoliaceae							
Sex cassing	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	24752		
Inc. Icusiana	Present	Native	Not Introduced	Native	14737		
Araceae							
Existency and a	Present	Not Native, Cultivated Only	Not Dependent				
Epipremourn pinnetum ov. Aureum	Present	Not Native, Naturalized	Introduced	Invasive	14752		
Monstera deliciosa	Present	Not Native, Cultivated Only		Cultivated Only Cultivated	14736		
			formed and				

SOME QUESTIONS

- Are very small, fragmented conservation areas important?
- How well does the current conservation system protect rare vascular plants?
- Have there been regional extirpations/extinctions?

Methods of the FISF

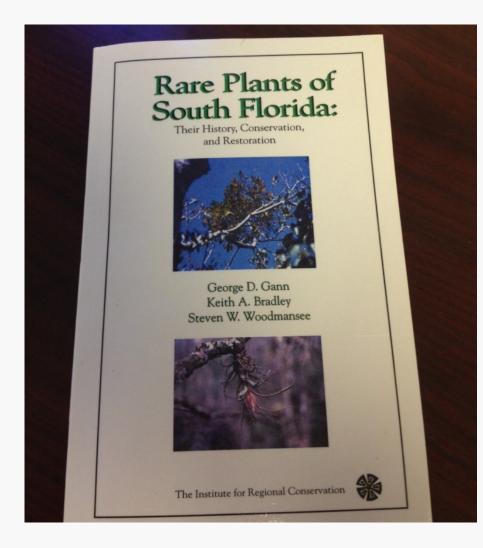


Botanist George Avery, c. 1970s Courtesy Sally Channon

- Comprehensive (looks at all species in region)
- Collates all available data on conservation areas (published and unpublished, FNAI data, herbarium specimens, field notebooks, personal communications)
- Uses NatureServe assessment methods at a regional scale
- Filters for rarest species (SF1, SFH, SFX)
- Intensifies work on rarest species and conservation areas with little or no data



2002





1 in 4 native plant species were critically imperiled or extirpated. About 8% were reported as presumed or possibly extirpated or extinct (now 6%). All four of the South Florida taxa reported as extinct in Knapp et al. were documented by IRC in 2002. Flora of Miami: Being Descriptions of the Seed-plants Growing Naturally on the Everglade Keys ... \leftarrow Back to item details

Down the Rabbit Hole

Reviewing historical accounts of the South Florida endemic grass, *Digitaria pauciflora*.

[#]FLORA OF MIAMI

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Q)

BEING DESCRIPTIONS OF

THE SEED-PLANTS GROWING NATURALLY ON THE EVERGLADE KEYS AND IN THE ADJACENT EVERGLADES SOUTHERN PENINSULAR FLORIDA

BY

JOHN KUNKEL SMALL, PH.D., Sc.D. HEAD CUTATOR OF THE MURRUMS AND BERRAHUM OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

> NEW YORK PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR 1913 [/ January 26]

See Britton in toul. Torrey Club., 1914, xli, p. 11

POACEAE.

12. SYNTHERISMA Walt. Diffuse plants with an inflorescence of spikelike racemes. Spikelets narrow, acute, in 2's or 3's on one side of the flat and winged or triangular rachis, one of the spikelets usually longer-pedicelled than the rest. Scales 3 or 4, the 3 outer membranous, the first small or wanting, the fourth scale chartaceous, glabrous and shining, at length indurated.—CRAB-GRASS or FINGER-GRASS.

Rachis of the racemes with the angles naked, not winged : first scattimes present as an inconspicuous rudiment.	le wanting or some-
Second and third scales pubescent with appressed glandular tipped hairs: stems simple or sparingly branched at the	
base; nodes 5 or fewer.	1. S. filiforme.
Second and third scales glabrous.	2. S. Simpsonii.
Rachis of the racemes with the lateral angles broadly winged,	
thus making it appear flat: first scale usually present.	
Racemes very slender, the rachis usually less than 0.5 mm.	
wide: spikelets $1/5$ as wide as long, acuminate: fourth	
scale greenish when mature.	3. S. digitatum.
Racemes stouter, the rachis usually exceeding 0.7 mm, wide:	or of anythatam.
spikelets 1/4 as wide as long or more, acute: fourth scale	
yellowish white when mature.	4. S. marginatum.
JOINTING WHILE WHEN MACHIC.	I. N. HVW/ YEIEGEWIN.

1. S. filiforme (L.) Nash. Stem 1.5-7 dm. tall: leaf-sheaths papillose-hirsute; blades 3-20 cm. long, 1-4 mm. wide: axis of the inflorescence 1-3 cm. long: racemes 2-5; spikelets 0.75 mm. wide, elliptic, acute, in pairs, the fourth scale exceeding the third, deep chestnut-brown when mature.—Hammocks and pine-lands.—F. K. (Bah., Cuba, Ant.)

2. S. Simpsonii (Vasey) Nash. Stems 8-12 dm. long: leaf-blades 7-30 cm. long, 5 mm. wide or less, papillose-hirsute on both surfaces: axis of the inflorescence 4-6 cm. long: racemes 6-8, 10-13 cm. long, erect or ascending, usually scattered: spikelets a little exceeding 3 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide, elliptic-lanceolate, acute, in pairs.—Pinelands.—(Cuba.)

Misapplied to *D. pauciflora* in South Florida Misapplied to *D. ekmanii* in Cuba Misapplied to *D. texana* in NE Florida Known only from the type (Webster & Hatch 1990) Treated as G2, N2, S2 in NatureServe (1999) Not tracked by Florida Natural Areas Inventory Not listed by State of Florida or US FWS

Digitaria simpsonii (Vasey)Fernald A Print

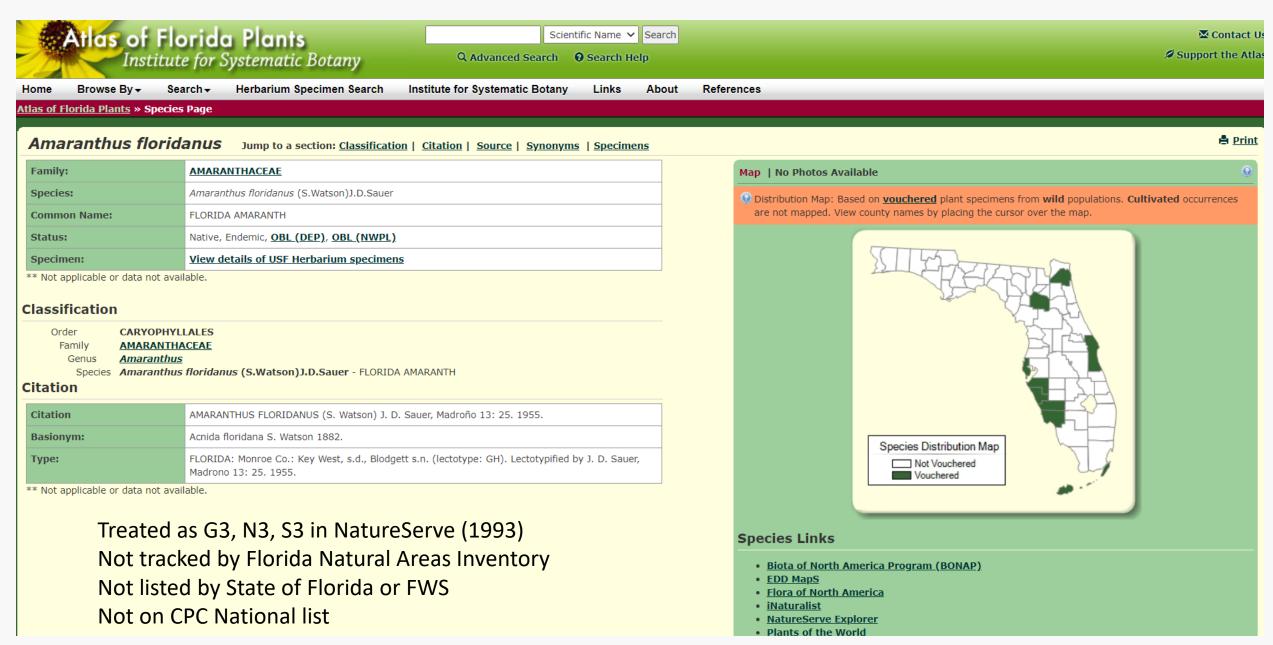
Map | No Photos Available

Obstribution Map: Based on <u>vouchered</u> plant specimens from wild populations. Cultivated occurrences are not mapped. View county names by placing the cursor over the map.

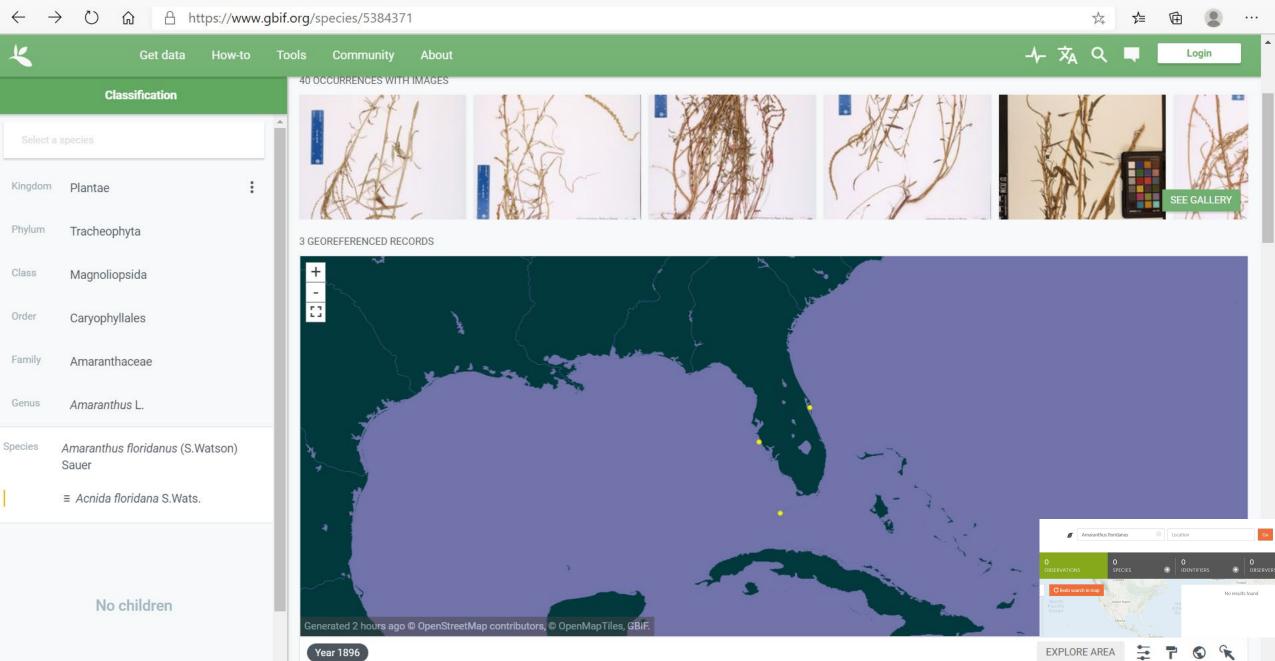


- Biota of North America Program (BONAP)
- EDD MapS
- Flora of North America
- <u>iNaturalist</u>
- <u>NatureServe Explorer</u>
- Plants of the World

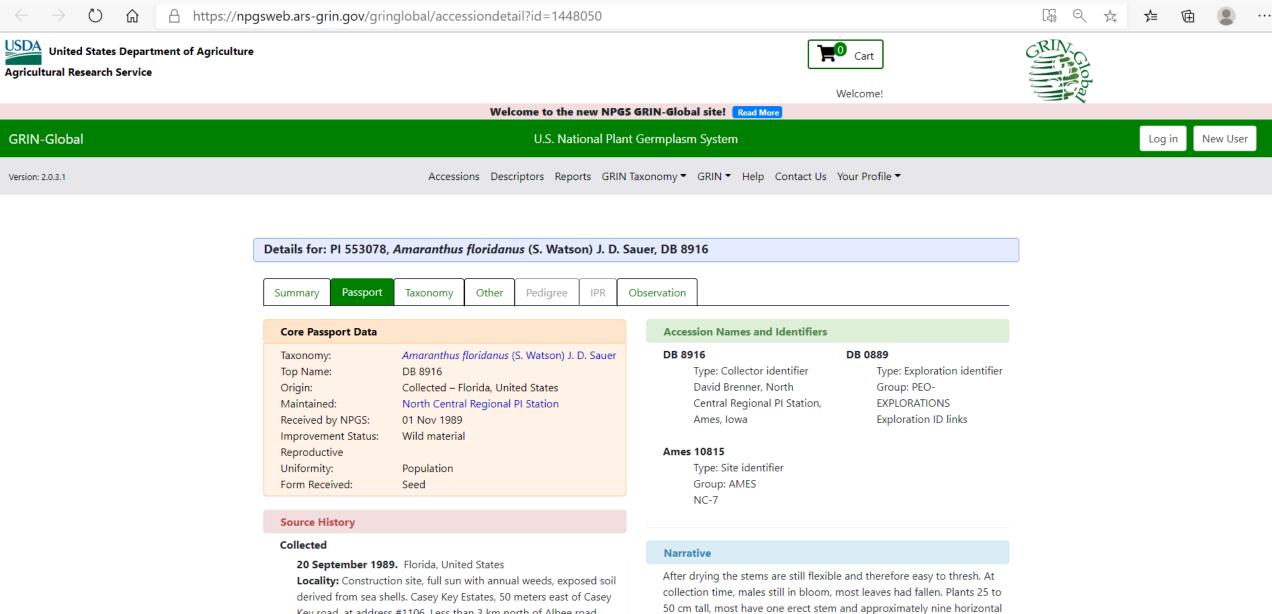
Amaranthus floridanus: Last Collected in South Florida in 1985



Paucity of Records



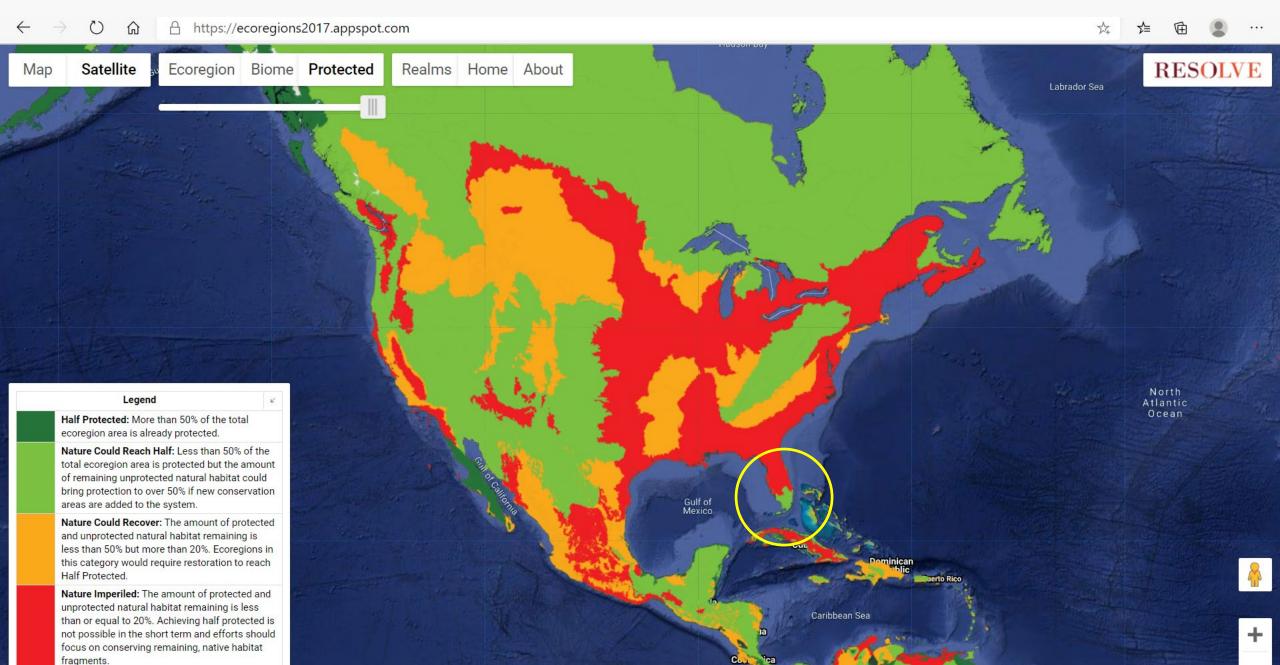
Crop Wild Relative



derived from sea shells. Casey Key Estates, 50 meters east of CaseyKey road, at address #1106. Less than 3 km north of Albee road.Casey Key, near Nokomis, in Sarasota County.Coordinates: 27.1333, -82.4667 (Map it)Coordinates: 27.1333, -82.4667 (Map it)

Elevation: 4m.

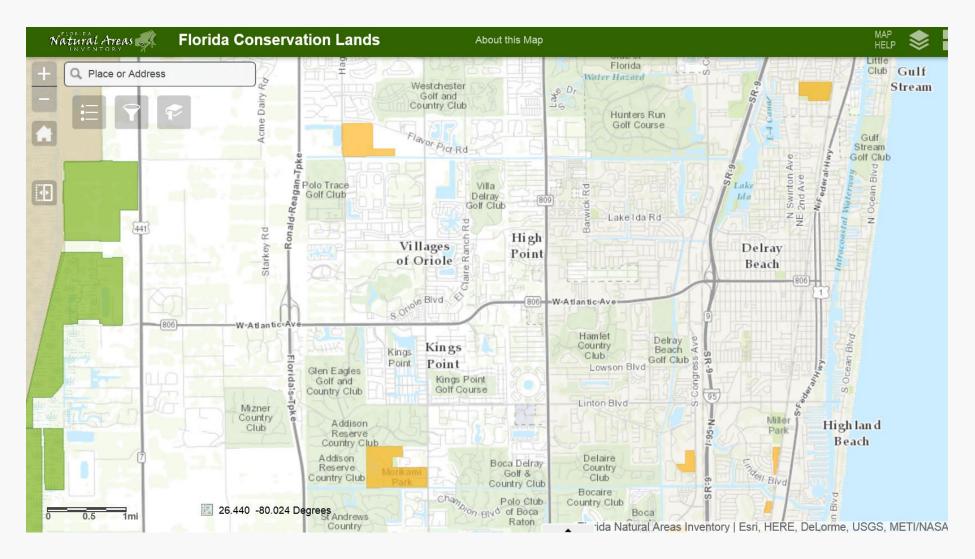
Global Conservation Tools Are Too Coarse



>50% of region in conservation; CBD 2020 Protected Areas Target = 17%.



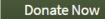
Our Local Reality



Conservation areas in and around Delray Beach.







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Guía Verde/ **Green Guide**

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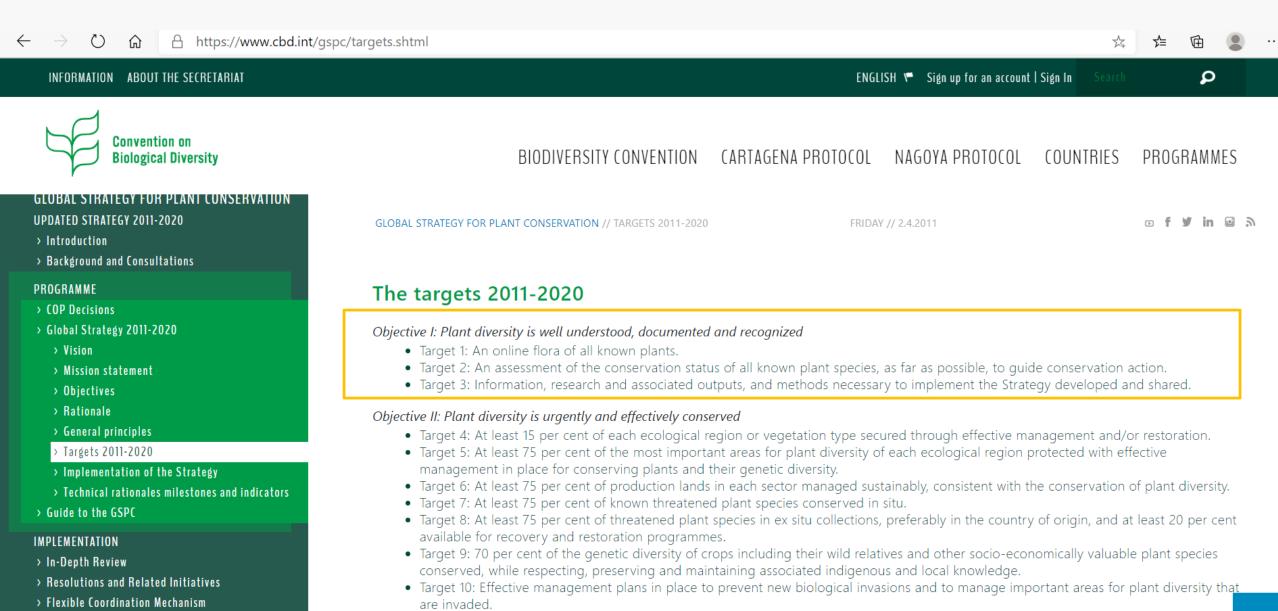
Lista de Plantas por Especie o Familia Plantas por Área de Conservación · Plantas por Elevación Búsqueda Rápida · Búsqueda Avanzada · Búsqueda de Sinónimos

List of Plants by Species or Family Plants by Conservation Area · Plants by Elevation Quick Search · Advanced Search · Search Synonyms

Priva portoricensis Puerto Rico velvetburr

Assessments of 2330 Native Species About 10% presumed or possibly extirpated, including 14 endemics An additional 25% critically imperiled

Global Biodiversity Targets Encourage Shortcuts



National Facal Dainta



Toward Target 2 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: An Expert Analysis of the Puerto Rican Flora to Validate New Streamlined Methods for Assessing Conservation Status

Author(s): James S. Miller, Gary A. Krupnick, Hannah Stevens, Holly Porter-Morgan, Brian Boom, Pedro Acevedo-Rodríguez, James Ackerman, Duane Kolterman, Eugenio Santiago, Christian Torres, and Jeanine Velez Source: Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden, 99(2):199-205. 2013. Published By: Missouri Botanical Garden DOI: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.3417/2011121</u>

Priva portoricensis Puerto Rico velvetburr

Miller et al. (2013) assessment data sheet

					Provisional	Provisional	#	_
PR status	US results	NY results	IUCN 2011	EOO (km ²)	Assessment	Criteria	locations	
native	NAR	NAR		>20,000	LC			
endemic	AR	AR		Unable to calculate	CR	B1ab(iii)	1	
native	NAR	NAR		>20.000	LC			

NAR=not at risk; AR=at risk; LC=least concern; CR=critically endangered. B1ab(iii) = Extent of occurrence estimated to be <100 km2; Severely fragmented or known to exist at only a single location; Continuing decline, observed, inferred or projected, in any of the following: (iii) area, extent and/or quality of habitat. Under current IUCN criteria, species know only from the type would be ranked as EX (extinct). A new subcategory CR(PE) (critically endangered, possibly extinct) has been recently created.

Gann et al. (2020) online data

"Arare herb, the type specimen of which was collected in 1886 by P.E.E. Sintenis (<u>3597 US</u>) near Guánica. Listed as a taxon not recently collected by Axelrod (2011). There are no recent records of this at MAPR (Jeanine Vélez, email comm. 2016)."

"This was first listed as a rare species in Puerto Rico by Woodbury et al. (<u>1975</u>), who classified it as an endangered species endemic to Puerto Rico (species No. 124). It was listed as a Critical Element by DNER in 1988, 1999 and 2007. It was not included as a species known from three or fewer locations in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands by Figueroa Colon & Woodbury (<u>1996</u>) or by Figueroa Colon (<u>1996</u>). Miller et al. (<u>2012b</u>) gave it a provisional global rank of Critically Endangered using the IUCN Red List criteria, based on one location. However, this has not been collected since 1886." This assessment would benefit from the new CR(PE) category, but to present this is still not Red Listed.

Some Critical Issues

Lack of comprehensiveness in local, regional and global assessments

Reluctance to list as Extinct, or even Possibly Extinct

Overuse of concepts like data deficiency

Insufficient consultation with indigenous and local knowledge holders

Overlooking cryptic species or difficult groups

Data ageing

Recovery and Restoration

United National Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 "There has never been a more urgent need to restore damaged ecosystems than now"







Strategy of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

Draft: February 6, 2020 – for comments by 30 April, 2020

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

Showcasing flagship initiatives

"There will be a range of criteria for flagship initiatives, including, for example, a **potential minimum size of 1 million hectares**, government endorsement, activities that fall within the continuum of ecosystem restoration practices developed by the Society for Ecological Restoration, frequent cross-sectoral dialogues amongst stakeholders; and potential for replication and further upscaling."



Comments on the February 6 DRAFT Strategy of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration Submitted April 17, 2020

Authors:

George Gann, International Policy Lead Bethanie Walder, Executive Director Alexis Gibson, Program Manager

Executive Summary of SER Comments

 Implementation of the UN Decade should include and acknowledge that the flagship value of many thousands of small restoration projects are at least equally important as large ecosystem scale projects.

Size requirement was removed from the final Strategy language, but emphasis on large scale projects remains.

Grassroots up is encouraged, but financial and logistical challenges remain

The UN Decade aims to foster a global restoration culture in which restoration initiatives start & scale up across the planet.



Anthony Mills, C4 EcoSolutions (Pty) Ltd. 15 September 2020, UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: Strategy Reveal and Engagement Kickstarter





Food and Agriculture **Organization of the** United Nations



2015 Survey and Assessment of Delray Beach

101 native dune species have been recorded, but 7 are possibly missing

An additional 100 species within historical range are missing and could be restored in area.

Our goal is to restore coastal diversity, which will make the dunes healthier and more resilient.

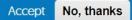




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Protect. Restore. End deforestation.

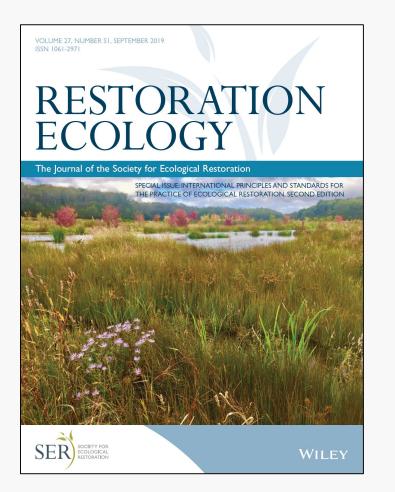
We use cookies on this site to enhance your user experience By clicking the Accept button, you agree to us doing so. <u>More info</u>



Tyranny of trees in grassy biomes

Joseph W. Veldman1,*, Gerhard E. Overbeck2, Daniel Negreiros3, Gregory Mahy4, Soizig Le Stradic4, G. Wilson Fernandes3,5, Giselda Durigan6, Elise Buisson7, Francis E. Putz8, William J. Bond9

Science 30 Jan 2015 (Letters) Vol. 347, Issue 6221, pp. 484-485 DOI: 10.1126/science.347.6221.484-c



www.ser.org/Standards

Updated International Principles and Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration (2019) published simultaneously in *Restoration Ecology* and by SER.





Section 2: Eight Principles that Underpin Ecological Restoration





Principle 2

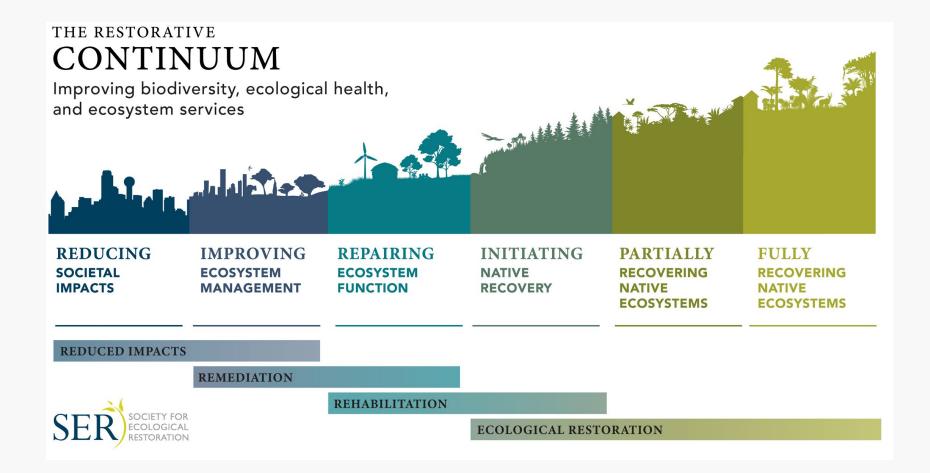
Ecological restoration draws on many types of knowledge

The practice of ecological restoration requires a high degree of ecological knowledge that can be drawn from *practitioner experience*, *Traditional Ecological Knowledge*, *Local Ecological Knowledge*, and *scientific discovery*.

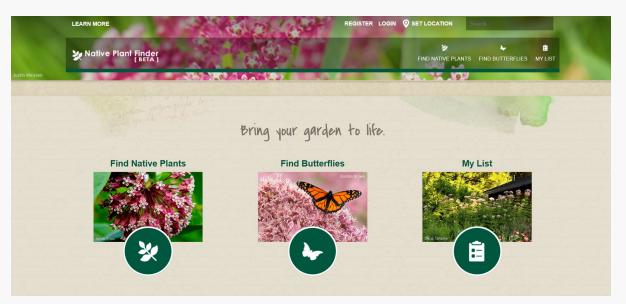




Principle 8 Ecological restoration is part of a continuum of restorative activities

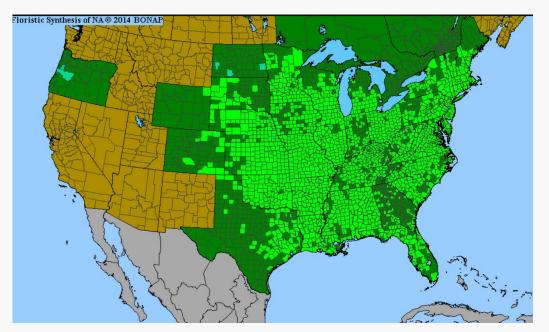


How can we better link national and local resources for native landscaping and restoration?



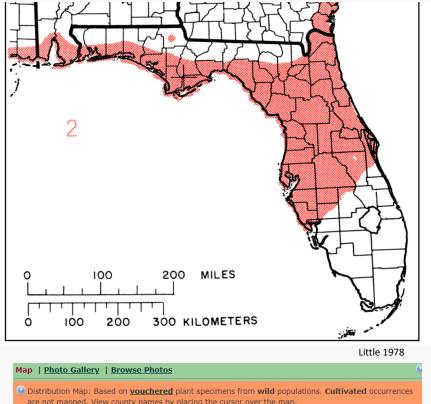
National Wildlife Federation





National Audubon Society

BONAP: Juniperus virginiana





•Filed As Cupressaceae Juniperus virginiana var. silicicola (Small) E.Murray •Collector(s) •<u>N. L. Britton</u> s.n., 09 Mar 1903 Location •United States of America. Florida. Monroe Co. Key West. Description •Planted in a door yard. Phenology of specimen: Flower. •Notes (shown on label) •Male cones on specimen Identifiers •NY Barcode: 18412 •Occurrence ID: 0b26eff9-1ba5-4bef-80a4abe5c83411fb



OPlant

A Resource to Help Change a Hobby for a Few into a Powerful Conservation Tool of Many.

Here you can learn how to turn simple gardening into habitat restoration by using plants that are native to your specific area. This website will provide you with the information you need to do that. By planting native plants and recreating natural habitats that are unique to your area, you will make a valuable contribution to the conservation and restoration of South Florida's natural heritage!

Find out About the Unique Plants, Habitats, and Wildlife in Your Area. Choose what you would like to search:

Florida Zip Code

OBy County

○Animal



Find Native Plants!

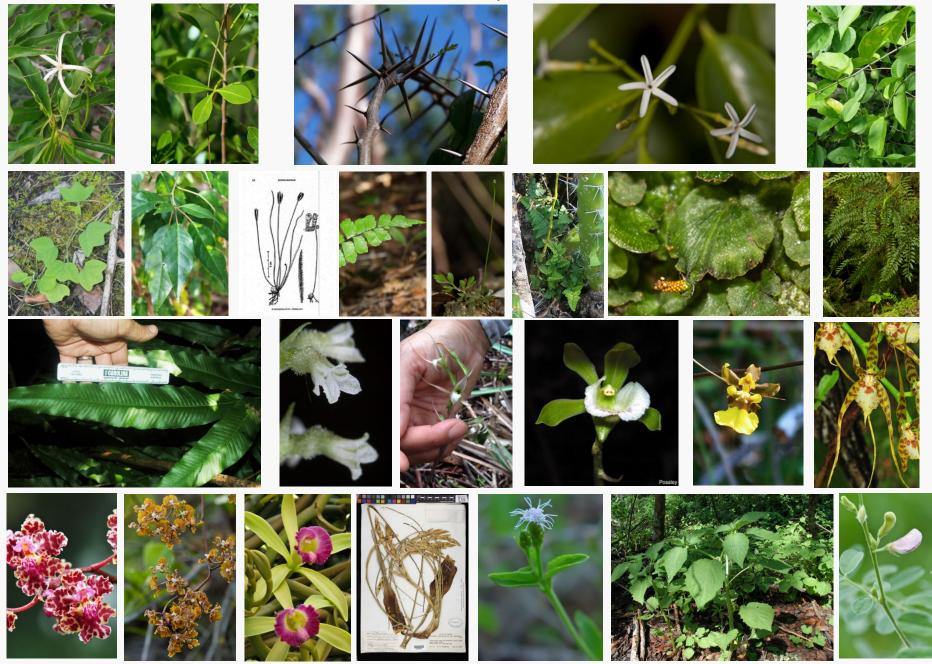
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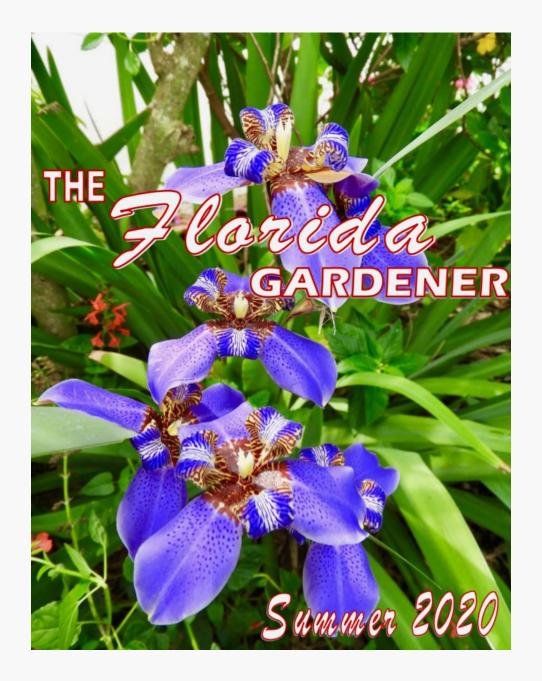




Local Biodiversity Matters!



Species of Management Concern in Everglades National Park, hardwood hammocks.





Get Your Hands in the Sand ~ Native is NOT a Dirty Word!

by Kimberlee Duke Pompeo, FFGC District X, PAT Committee, Vice Chairman of Barrier Islands *with George D. Gann*, IRC Founder



Were you told as a youth not to play in the dirt? Good chance most of us were. Yet, I don't think our parents meant for us to stop caring about mother earth. Here's how the environment sees us. It's as simple as a multiple-choice question. When asked, do you crusade for the environment? ...which do you check?

[] Never [] Rarely [] Sometimes [] Always

If you checked the last box "Always" – read no more, go straight to the end where you'll find your like-minded [donate] button for a modest contribution towards nature's shouldered burden.

If you checked either of the first three than I'm afraid you have a little required reading to do. Don't worry, though. You're not alone. We're writing as a result.

People often view nature conservation and traditional views of gardening as having to choose one way or the other. It's simply not true. It's not a contrast like *hardscapes* – the stepping stones in your garden from the *softscapes* – the feathery, green ferns that delicately sway in the wind. Gardeners know that it resides in "the variety" of methods that make a visually appealing garden. Just as there are varietals of soil and dirt to grow particular flowers and foods, natives offer intrinsic beauty in a variation of colors and textures, forms and functions with the powerful contribution towards mitigating climate change.



The Institute for Regional Conservation

Conservation of rare plants, animals, and ecosystems

BIODIVERSITY STARTER PLANT KITS

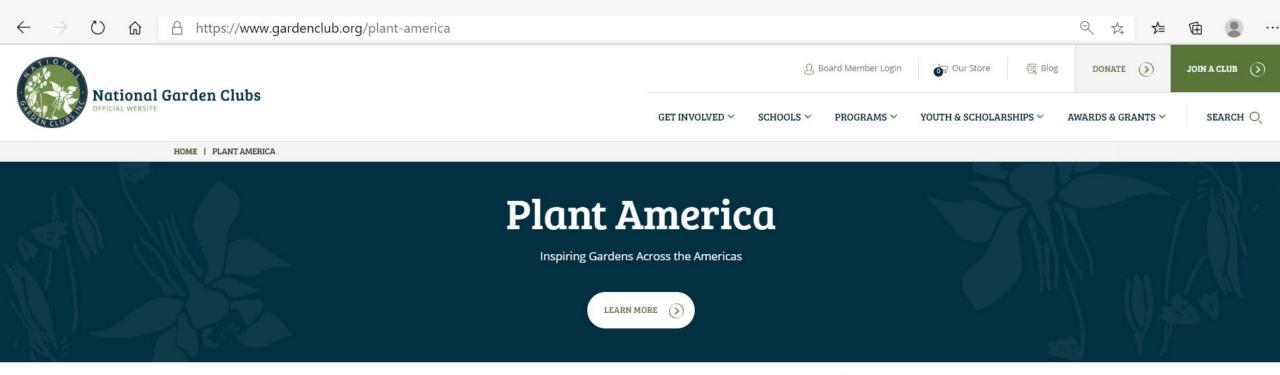
"The natural world protects us so we must conscientiously protect it back."

Kimberlee Pompeo, Barrier Island resident for 18 years, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District X Vice Chair for the Barrier Islands

IRC has the knowledge and tools to make our dunes healthier, more beautiful, and more resilient.

As part of our **Restoring the Gold Coast** program, IRC is offering native Biodiversity Starter Plant Kits for coastal gardens in southern Palm Beach County.

Each kit comes with hand-selected native plants perfect for enhancing your native beach dune system or coastal garden. This service helps make the restoration of native habitats on barrier islands cost effective and time efficient.





The theme for President Gay Austin's administration is Plant America, a singularly focused initiative on gardens and gardening.

What We Need

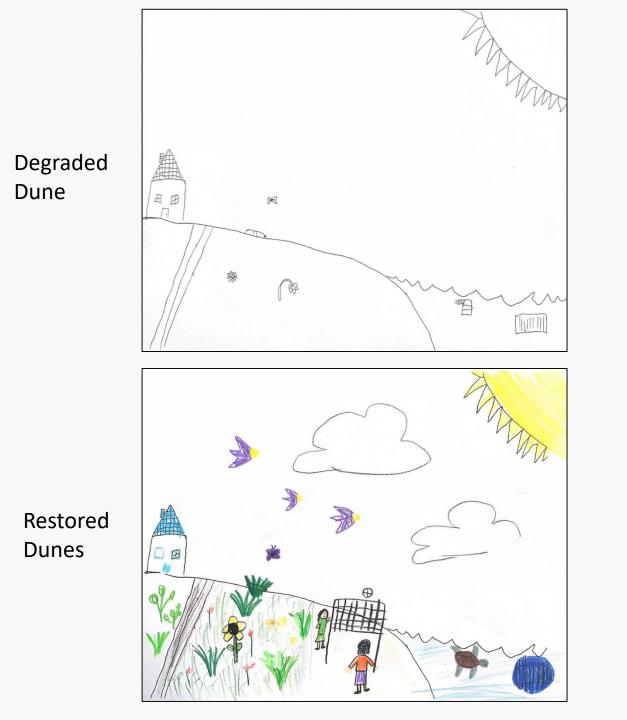
Transformative Change, including the political will, funding, and logistics ensuring local stakeholders, including indigenous and local knowledge holders, are included in all efforts to scale up conservation and restorative activities worldwide.

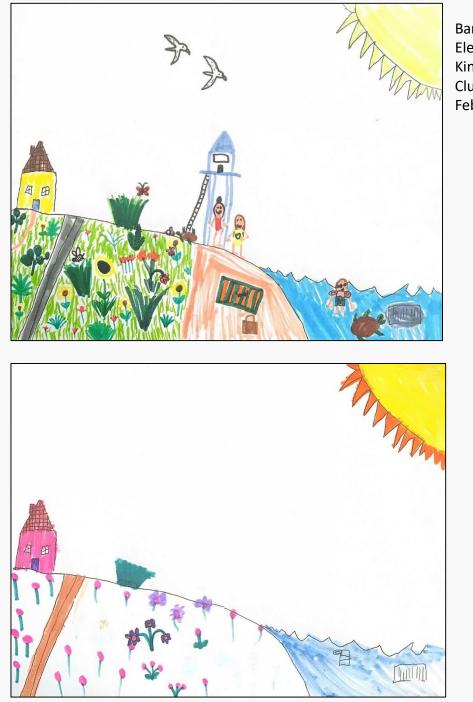
Ecosystem Governance that prioritizes local scale inputs and data.

Science-based Advocacy that integrates local knowledge and expertise.

Increased Collaboration (and fewer silos) among these restorative allies:

- Ecological restoration science and practice
- Rare plant conservation and recovery
- Pollinators
- Wildlife conservation and recovery
- Rewilding
- Invasive species control
- Fire management
- Biome-focused efforts (e.g., forests, wetlands)
- Ecosystem services, Sustainability





Banyan Creek Elementary Kindness Matters Club February 2020

Play the Long Game

