

Asclepias tuberosa

Butterflyweed;

Butterfly Milkweed

Life cycle:

Perennial

Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

2 - 3 feet

Grows in sunny sandhills, pastures and pine flatwoods.



Erigeron quercifolius

Oakleaf Fleabane

Life cycle: Annual

Flowering: Summer, winter, spring

Height in flower:

1 - 2 feet

Grows in disturbed sites and open moist woods.

NOTE: Flower color can be white to light pink to light purple.



Mimosa strigillosa

Powderpuff

Life cycle:

Perennial

Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

3 - 6 inches

Grows in open disturbed sites, pinehills, and moist areas.

NOTE: Closely resembles *Mimosa quadrivalvis* (Sensitive Briar), which has prickly stems.



Rudbeckia hirta

Black-eyed Susan

Life cycle:

Annual to short-lived perennial

Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

1 - 2 feet

Grows in open disturbed sites and pine flatwoods.

NOTE: Plants with lemon yellow flowers occasionally occur.



Balduina angustifolia

Coastalplain

Honeycombhead

Life cycle: Annual

to short-lived

Flowering:

All year

Height in flower:

Up to 3 feet

Grows in sandhills, scrub, dunes and pine flatwoods.



Gaillardia pulchella

Blanketflower;

Firewheel, Indian

Blanket

Life cycle:

Annual to short-lived

Flowering:

All year

Height in flower:

1 - 2 feet

Grows in open disturbed sites and beaches.

NOTE: Flowers may also be all red, all yellow, red with white tips, or all white (very rare).



Pontederia cordata

Pickersweed

Life cycle:

Perennial

Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

1 - 3 feet

Grows in shallow wet areas like ditches, lake margins, ponds and streams.



Sabatia grandiflora

Largeflower

Rosegentian,

Marsh Pink

Life cycle:

Annual

Flowering:

All year

Height in flower:

1 - 3 feet

Grows in marshes and wet pinehills.



Chamaecrista fasciculata

Partridge Pea

Life cycle:

Annual

Flowering:

All year

Height in flower:

3 - 4 feet

Grows in open disturbed sites, sandhills and pine flatwoods.



Lythrum alatum var. *lanceolatum*

Winged Loosestrife

Life cycle:

Perennial

Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

2 - 3 feet

Grows in wet areas like ditches, marshes, swamps, pond, lake margins and flatwoods.



Rhexia cubensis

West Indian Meadowbeauty

Life cycle:

Perennial

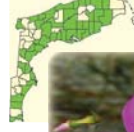
Flowering:

Spring, summer, fall

Height in flower:

1 - 2 feet

Grows in moist open areas, ditches, pond margins and pine flatwoods.



Sagittaria lancifolia

Bulltongue Arrowhead

Life cycle:

Perennial

Flowering:

All year

Height in flower:

3 - 4 feet

Grows in ditches, marshes, swamps, stream and river banks, and lake margins.



Not Present

Present

References

- Bell, C. R. and B. J. Taylor. 1982. Florida wild flowers and roadside plants. Laurel Hill Press, Chapel Hill, NC.
- Norcini, J. G. 2002. Coreopsis: A guide to identifying and enjoying Florida's state wildflower. Fla. Coop. Ext. Serv. Publ. ENH867 (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EPI21>).
- Rickett, W. R. Wild flowers of the United States; Volume 2: The southeastern states. McGraw Hill Book Company, NY.
- Taylor, W. K. 1992. The guide to Florida wildflowers. Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, TX.
- Taylor, W. K. 1998. Florida wildflowers in their natural communities. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- USDA, NRCS. 2002. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.5 (<http://plants.usda.gov>). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.
- Wunderlin, R. P. 1998. Guide to the vascular plants of Florida. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- Wunderlin, R. P., and B. F. Hansen. 2008. Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants (<http://www.plantatlas.usf.edu/>). [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research,] Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa.
- Written by:
Jeffrey G. Norcini
- Designed by:
Melissa A. Thorpe
- Photos by:
James H. Aldrich, Shirley Denton, Michael E. Kane and Jeffrey G. Norcini.

Native Wildflowers on Roadside of Central and South Florida



UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

ENH881

Many beautiful native wildflowers grace Florida's roadides, among them several species of *Coreopsis* (tickseed)*, Florida's state wildflower. Hundreds of these species grow from Central to South Florida, some of which frequent roadside habitats. The species included in this publication are those that commonly can be seen in ditches and other wet areas, the backslashes of ditches, and along margins of wooded areas. You are likely to notice more naturally occurring native wildflowers in rural areas than in urban settings. The best time to view wildflowers is from late winter through fall, but in South Florida, native wildflowers can be in bloom at any time of the year.

General information is provided about flowering, life cycle, and the habitats in which these species grow in Florida. This information only refers to naturally occurring populations.

Common names: While there may be many common names for a species, the most frequently used names are listed.

Life cycle: **annual** – plant completes its life cycle in one growing season; dies after fruit and seeds mature; **perennial** - plant grows year after year, does not die after fruit (set) but the top growth may die back in the cool weather; new shoots will emerge the next growing season.

Flowering: This refers to the main flowering season; however, keep in mind that plants found in southern Florida may flower earlier than those in central Florida. Given Florida's warm climate, it is not unusual for plants to occasionally flower in seasons other than noted.

Height in flower: This is the typical height of a species when it's flowering. However, a plant could be taller or shorter than its characteristic height under extremes of soil moisture, fertility, or shade. In addition, plants growing along roadides may be much shorter than usual if they are in the mowing zone.

Habitat: Information is provided as to where a species may be found other than roadides. The phrase "disturbed site" means roadides, lawns, abandoned fields, vacant lots, grazed fields, etc.

Range maps: The map of Florida next to the flower of each species shows the documented occurrence of that species in Florida counties. The maps are courtesy of "Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants" (see References), and are used with permission of Dr. Richard Wunderlin.

*All 14 tickseed species... "Coreopsis: A Guide to Identifying and Enjoying Florida's State Wildflower", which was revised in 2009.

Enjoy the natural beauty native wildflowers give our roadides, but please do not pick them.

