



Native Shrubs for South Florida¹

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A shrub may be defined as a multi-stemmed woody plant of small size (less than 10 feet tall at maturity). In some cases, the distinction between "tree" and "shrub" breaks down, since some large shrubs can be trained to a single trunk and used as a small tree, while some small trees can produce several stems and appear shrub like in the landscape. Shrubs fulfill many important roles in landscape horticulture. Hedges, foundation plantings, accent, and specimen plantings are all uses for which shrubs are well suited. It is usually a combination of tree and shrub plantings that sets the tone of the landscape and defines the outdoor living space.

South Florida's various plant communities contain many native species of shrubs suitable for landscaping. In recent years, interest in the use of native plants for Florida landscaping has greatly increased. Some of the reasons for this include the loss to development of natural areas in the state, coastal deterioration due to disturbance of native vegetation, and concern about water use to support exotic landscapes composed of introduced species with greater irrigation requirements than some native species. The introduction of exotic plants that naturalize and, in some cases, out compete native species, has become of great concern in various parts of Florida. Considerable amounts of time, money, and energy are now spent eradicating such plant pests from many areas of the state. Many counties are considering landscape ordinances that require a percentage of native plant materials to be utilized in all future developments. Several have already implemented such ordinances. This will result in a need for wider availability of native plant materials. Woody landscape plant producers, landscape architects, and home gardeners in Florida need to become informed about and prepared for the production and cultural needs of this type of plant material.

Native plant materials are often better adapted to Florida landscape conditions than some commonly used exotic species. This is especially true if the site conditions duplicate closely those experienced by a particular species in its natural environment. Some native shrubs (for example, wax myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*) show wide latitude in their adaptation to very different conditions, while others fail if planted in conditions not sufficiently similar to their natural home.

COASTAL SOUTH FLORIDA VEGETATION ZONES

When choosing native shrub species, it is important to understand both the conditions at the planting site and of the original habitat of the species being considered. In south Florida, the majority of the population is concentrated within a 10-12 mile wide coastal area. Moving shortly inland from the coast, three vegetation zones are encountered: the pioneer, the scrub, and the forest zone.

The pioneer zone occurs on the primary dunes that build along beach front with wave action. Few plants are adapted to this harsh environment, and of these, even fewer are shrubs. Well adapted species function as sand binders. Sea oats, *Uniola paniculata*, a perennial grass, is the most important species in the pioneer zone. Many of the plants typical of the pioneer zone are discussed in detail in the companion publication, "Native Ground Covers for South Florida (EES 60)."

Where wave building is absent, mangroves and saltwater marshes replace the pioneer zone. Mangroves are woody plants especially adapted to withstand intense salinity and saltwater flooding and are extremely important in stabilizing and building south and central Florida's coastlines. The maintenance or replanting of mangrove associations requires special care outside the

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scope of this publication. Ask your cooperative extension agent about Florida Sea Grant and Department of Natural Resources publications that address the replanting of mangroves.

The scrub zone occurs where dunes have stabilized, some organic matter has accumulated, and salinity of the soil is lower. It often intergrades with the pioneer zone. It is a vegetation type that is rich in shrubs. Some typical members include: Sea grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), Wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), Saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), Cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*), Sea lavender (*Mallotonia gnaphalodes*), and Bay cedar (*Suyiana maritime*). Scrub also occurs further inland on ancient dunes that formed when much of coastal Florida was underwater, but will usually include several tree species as well as shrub species not found in the coastal scrub. Scrub formations support a number of rare, threatened, or endangered species. Little original coastal scrub remains in much of southeast Florida.

The forest zone occurs yet further inland where dunes have stabilized completely, salinity is yet further decreased, and soils have accumulated sufficient nutrients to support trees. The term 'forest zone,' is really a broad umbrella for various types of tree communities, including Slash pine woods (*Pinus elliotii* var. *densa*) and hardwood hammocks. Little remains of mainland south Florida's unique coastal tropical hammocks composed of many tree species characteristic of the Caribbean islands. Many shrub species occur in the understory and at the margins of these pine and hardwood forests, including Indigo berry (*Randia aculeata*), Firebush (*Hamelia patens*), Locustberry (*Brysonima lucida*), Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*), and various Stoppers (*Eugenia* species).

In recent years, urbanization in south Florida has moved steadily inland towards the Everglades, a unique wetland habitat often likened to a wide, shallow, slow moving river. The original vegetation of this area is dominated by sawgrass marsh, cypress swamps, and island hammocks of hardwood trees, rimmed by a ridge of slash pine woods. When developing these wetlands, the land is drained and dredged, and much of the muck soil is replaced by fill. Consequently, it may be difficult to reestablish the original vegetation of these inland areas.

SITE FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING NATIVE SHRUBS

Careful consideration of the characteristics of the planting site must be used before choosing native shrubs for landscaping. First, some concerns relating to the past history of the site must be answered.

What was the original vegetation of the area? This knowledge will give an indication of which native plants will perform best on the site. Assuming that the answer to the next question is no, native species that once grew in a given location are likely to do best when replanted in comparison with species from very different types of native vegetation.

Have the native soil and/or water flow patterns been modified? During development, topsoil is often removed, and original drainage patterns are disturbed. Fill soil of very different quality may have been brought in to replace the topsoil removed. If such is the case, it may be impossible to reestablish the same species that once grew on the site, or may at least require a great deal of site preparation and maintenance to do so.

Additional considerations must be paid to the present condition of the site. Does the site accumulate standing water? What is the soil type: muck? white sand? coral rock? Is there salt spray exposure on the site? Will the landscape plants be integrated with turf, and possibly be subjected to turf oriented irrigation practices? All of these factors will influence the degree of success with which particular native species will perform in a landscape. The size of the lot may also restrict the use of some species whose mature dimensions require a lot of space.

PLANTING NATIVE SHRUBS

Planting native shrub species is no different than planting exotics. Amending the backfill soil (the soil originally excavated from and then returned to the planting hole) is not recommended. The top of the root ball of nursery stock should be situated at the same level in the soil as occurred in the field or the container. Large masses of circling roots in container stock should be slit lengthwise in a few places from the top to the bottom of the rootball to stimulate lateral root production. It may be necessary or desirable to reduce top growth; this should be accomplished by thinning out (removing one or several, well distributed branches at their point of origin), rather than heading back (cutting all top growth back to approximately the same level). Thinning cuts will preserve the natural shape of the shrub.

The shrubs should be regularly irrigated after planting, and a mulch of organic material is recommended. A surface application of a slow release fertilizer can be applied within the dripline of the shrub (the area of soil contained within the spread of the shrub's branches) before the mulch is placed down. If rainfall is received on a regular basis in the first few months after planting, this may be sufficient for establishment of small container stock (1 gallon size). If not, periodic irrigation will be necessary. In either case, careful monitoring of the new landscape is essential to make sure that the plants are not water stressed during the establishment period. Larger plants may require a year or more to properly establish in the landscape. The frequency of irrigation (weekly, to several times per week during the first month) will depend on temperature and the water holding capacity of the soil. Irrigation frequency can be reduced in successive months. Generally, the production of new growth is the best indication that a shrub is becoming established. Supplementary fertilization 2-3 times per year may be desirable, at least during the first year after planting. Some native plant producers recommend using fertilizer formulations with micronutrients (trace minerals) traditionally designed for palms, particularly if the native shrubs are being planted on fill soils.

HOW TO USE THE NATIVE SHRUB SELECTION TABLE

The table of native shrub species suitable for use in south Florida will help in making the right choices for various landscape situations. The list is by no means a complete inventory of the subtropical or tropical shrub species native to the state, but is representative of those native shrubs that have proven themselves in the landscape, are available from nurseries, or are judged worthy of wider use and availability. The table is arranged alphabetically by scientific name, accompanied by one or more common names. Special attention should be paid to environmental factors such as soil pH and light requirements, and drought and salt tolerances. Drought tolerance refers to Florida conditions only and should be interpreted as follows: High: will not require supplemental irrigation after establishment; Medium: may require occasional irrigation during periods of unusual water stress; and Low: will require supplemental irrigation during periods of drought.

Salt tolerance should be interpreted as follows: High: will withstand direct salt spray and soil salinity; Medium: should be protected from direct salt spray but will withstand moderately saline conditions; and Low: sensitive to salt.

Under the category of 'Hardiness Zone,' subtropical refers to the transitional area between central and tropical Florida where an occasional winter frost will occur. Tropical refers to southernmost mainland Florida and the Keys where winter frosts are rare to nonexistent. Before installing a large scale landscape using native shrubs listed as tropical only, it is best to confer with your county cooperative extension agent about expected winter minimums in your area. If a particular species can be used in central and north Florida as well, this has been indicated.

OBTAINING NATIVE PLANTS

Native plants should not be transplanted from the wild without the permission of the landowner, and never from public lands. In general, it is best to leave wild populations intact, unless the plants face destruction from development. Superior individuals in native populations should be identified where possible, and nursery stock propagated vegetatively or by seed from them. The advantages of seed vs. cutting propagation is that a degree of the genetic diversity of the species is maintained in cultivation. The Florida Native Plant Society regularly publishes a bulletin called The Palmetto containing horticultural information on native plants (FNPS c/o Crow-Segal Management Firm, INC., 1133 West Morse Boulevard, Suite 201, Winter Park, FL 32789). The best source of information on obtaining Florida native plants is the Plant and Service Locator published by:

Association of Florida Native Plant Nurseries
P.O. Box 1045
San Antonio, Florida 33576-1045
(904) 588-3687

Table 1a. Height, growth rate, soil pH, hardiness zone, light requirements, and salt and drought tolerances of native shrubs.

| Scientific Name Common Name | Mature Natural Height (in feet) | Growth Rate* | Soil pH~ | Hardiness Zone** | Light Requirements | Salt Tolerance | Drought Tolerance |
|--|--|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Acacia farnesiana</i> Sweet Acacia | 8-10 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | M | H |
| <i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i> Paurotis Palm | 15-20 | S | W | C, ST, T | M, H | M | M |
| <i>Amphitecna</i> (<i>Enallagma</i>) <i>latifolia</i> Black Calabash | 20-30 | M | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Amyris elemifera</i> Torchwood | 12-16 | S | W | ST, T | M, H | H | M |
| <i>Angadenia berterii</i> Pineland Allamanda | 2-4 | S | Alk | ST, T | H | L | H |
| <i>Ardisia escallonioides</i> Marlberry | 12-15 | M | W | ST, T | L, M, H | H | M |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterfly Weed | 3-4 | M | W | C, N, ST | H | L | H |
| <i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> Salt Bush | 5-7 | M | W | C, N, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Befaria racemosa</i> Tarflower | 4-8 | S | A | C, N, ST | M, H | L | M |
| <i>Borrishia arborescens</i> Silver Sea Oxeye | 2-4 | S | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Bumelia reclinata</i> Slender Buckthorn | 20-30 | M | W | C, N, ST | H | H | M |
| <i>Byronima lucida</i> Locustberry | 15-20 | S | W | T | H | L | H |
| <i>Callicarpa americana</i> Beautyberry | 4-8 | F | W | C, N, ST | H | L | H |
| <i>Calyptanthes pallens</i> Spicewood, Pale Lid-Flower | 10-25 | S | W | T | M | M | H |
| <i>Capparis</i> <i>cynophallophora</i> Jamaican Caper | 8-10 | S | W | T | H | H | H |
| <i>Casasia clusifolia</i> Seven-Year Apple | 5-10 | S | W | ST, T | H, M | H | H |
| <i>Cephalanthus</i> <i>occidentalis</i> Buttonbush | 15 | M | W | C, N, ST | M, H | L | L |

* S - Slow; M - Medium; F - Fast
~ A - Acid; Alk - Alkaline; W - Wide

** C - Central; ST - Subtropical; T - Tropical; N - North
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Table 1a. Height, growth rate, soil pH, hardiness zone, light requirements, and salt and drought tolerances of native shrubs.

| Scientific Name Common Name | Mature Natural Height (in feet) | Growth Rate* | Soil pH~ | Hardiness Zone** | Light Requirements | Salt Tolerance | Drought Tolerance |
|--|--|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Ceratiola ericoides</i> Rosemary | 4-5 | M | A | C, N, ST | H | H | H |
| <i>Chiococca alba</i> Snowberry | 6-9 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Chrusobalanus icaco</i> Cocoplum | 6-8 | M | W | ST, T | H | H | M |
| <i>Coccoloba uvifera</i> Sea Grape | 15-30 | M | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Colubrina arborescens</i> Coffee Colubrina | 15-20 | M | W | ST, T | M, H | H | H |
| <i>Conocarpus erectus</i> var. <i>sericeus</i> Silver Buttonwood | 15-20 | M | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Dalbergia ecastophyllum</i> Coin Vine | 6-9 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> Varnish Leaf | 5-12 | S | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Duranta repens</i> Golden-Dewdrop | 12-15 | M | W | ST, T | M, H | M | M |
| <i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coral Bean | 4-20 | M | W | N, C, ST | M, H | L | M |
| <i>Eugenia</i> spp. Stoppers | 8-20 | S | W | ST, T | M, H | H | H |
| <i>Forestiera segregata</i> Wild Olive; Florida Privet | 5-20 | M | Alk | N, C, ST | H | H | H |
| <i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> Wild Cotton | 10-15 | F | W | ST | H | H | H |
| <i>Hamelia patens</i> Scarletbush | 5-6 | M | W | ST, T | H, M | M | H |
| <i>Ilex cassine</i> Dahoon Holly | 25-40 | M | A | C, N, ST | H | M | M |
| <i>Ilex glabra</i> Gallberry | 6-10 | S | A | C, N, ST | M, H | M | M |
| <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> Yaupon Holly | 2-8 | M | W | C, N, ST | M, H | H | H |

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Table 1a. (continued).

| Scientific Name Common Name | Mature Natural Height (in feet) | Growth Rate* | Soil pH~ | Hardiness Zone** | Light Requirements | Salt Tolerance | Drought Tolerance |
|--|--|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Iva frutescens</i> Marsh Elder | 3-10 | M | Alk | N, C, ST | H | H | M |
| <i>Jacquinia keyensis</i> Joewood | 10-15 | S | Alk | ST, T | H, M | H | H |
| <i>Lycium carolinianum</i> Christmas Berry | 6-8 | M | W | C, N, ST | M, H | H | H |
| <i>Lyonia ferruginia</i> Rusty Lyonia | 10-20 | S | A | C, N, ST | H | L | H |
| <i>Mallotonia gnaphalodes</i> Sea Lavender | 4-6 | S | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Maytenus phyllanthoides</i> Florida Mayten | 4-8 | S | W | ST, T | M, H | M | M |
| <i>Myrica cerifera</i> Southern Wax Myrtle | 12-15 | M | W | C, N, ST | H | H | H |
| <i>Myrsine guianensis</i> Rapanea | 15-20 | M | W | ST, T | M, L | H | H |
| <i>Pithecellobium guadelupense</i> Blackbead | 15-20 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Pithecellobium unguis-cati</i> Cat's-Claw | 15-20 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Psychotria nervosa</i> Wild Coffee | 4-6 | M | W | ST, T | M, L | L | M |
| <i>Randia aculeata</i> White Indigoberry | 6-10 | S | W | C, ST, T | H | H | M |
| <i>Rhapidophyllum hustrix</i> Needle Palm | 3-5 | S | W | C, N, ST | L, M, H | L | M |
| <i>Rhus coppalina</i> Winged Sumac | 5-25 | F | W | N, C, ST | H | L | H |
| <i>Sabal etonia</i> Scrub Palmetto | 3-4 | S | W | C, N, ST, T | M, H | M | H |
| <i>Sabal minor</i> Dwarf Palmetto | 5-7 | S | W | C, N, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Savia bahamensis</i> Maidenbush | 8-10 | S | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Scaevola plumieri</i> Inkberry | 1-6 | S | W | C, ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Serenoa repens</i> Saw Palmetto | 6-15 | S | W | C, N, ST, T | M, H | H | H |
| <i>Sophora tomentosa</i> Necklace Pod | 6-10 | M | W | C, ST, T | H | H | M |

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Table 1a. (continued).

| Scientific Name Common Name | Mature Natural Height (in feet) | Growth Rate* | Soil pH~ | Hardiness Zone** | Light Requirements | Salt Tolerance | Drought Tolerance |
|---|--|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Suriana maritima</i> Bay Cedar | 10-15 | S | W | ST, T | H | H | H |
| <i>Tecoma stans</i> Yellow Elder | 10-20 | F | W | ST, T, C | H | M | H |
| <i>Tetrazygia bicolor</i> Florida Tetrazygia | 5-20 | M | W | ST, T | H, M | M | H |
| <i>Vaccinium myrsinites</i> Shiny Blueberry | 1-2 | S | A | C, N, ST | M, H | L | H |
| <i>Yucca aloifolia</i> Spanish-Bayonet | 12-15 | M | W | C, N, ST | H | H | H |
| <i>Yucca gloriosa</i> Spanish-Dagger | 6-8 | S | W | C, N, ST | H | M | H |

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Table 1b. Nutritional Requirements, plant type, flower color, flower characteristics, flowering season, notes and uses of native shrubs.

| Scientific Name Common Name | Nutritional Requirements | Plant Type | Flower Color | Flower Characteristics | Flowering Season | Notes and Uses |
|---|--------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| <i>Acacia farnesiana</i> Sweet Acacia | M | Ever | Yellow | Showy, fragrant | Year-round | A thorny, much-branched shrub. Flowers used to make perfume. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Acoelorrhaphe wrightii</i> Paurotis Palm | M | Palm | White | Insignificant | Sp | Can be used as a large screen. Petioles persistent and spiny. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Amphitecna (Enallagma) latifolia</i> Black Calabash | L | Ever | Yellow | Insignificant | Sp | Tolerates poor growing conditions. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Amyris elemifera</i> Torchwood | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | F | Green wood used as torches. Often tree-like in form. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Angadenia berterii</i> Pineland Allamanda | L | Ever | Yellow | Showy | Year-round | Well adapted for alkaline soils. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Ardisia escallonioides</i> Marlberry | L | Ever | White, Pink | Insignificant, fragrant | Sp, Su, F | Shiny black fruit attracts birds. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterfly Weed | L | Ever | Orange | Showy | Su | Attracts butterflies to the garden. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> Salt Bush | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | F | Good for wild gardens and seaside plantings. May become weedy. Uses: Specimen plant; problem plant. |
| <i>Befaria racemosa</i> Tarflower | M | Ever | White | Showy, fragrant | Sp, W | Attractive in mass. Petals sticky, once used as flypaper. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Borrishia arborescens</i> Silver Sea Oxeye | L | Ever | Yellow | Showy | Sp, Su | <i>B. frutescens</i> , with green foliage, is also available. Uses: Specimen plant; groundcover. |
| <i>Bumelia reclinata</i> Slender Buckthorn | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | F | Can become a small tree. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Byronima lucida</i> Locustberry | L | Ever | White, Pink | Showy | Sp, Su | Sensitive to over-watering. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Callicarpa americana</i> Beautyberry | L | Ever | Lavender | Insignificant | Sp | Attractive purple fruits attract many birds. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |

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^ Ever - Evergreen; Dec. - Deciduous

Table 1b. Nutritional Requirements, plant type, flower color, flower characteristics, flowering season, notes and uses of native shrubs.

| Scientific Name Common Name | Nutritional Requirements | Plant Type | Flower Color | Flower Characteristics | Flowering Season | Notes and Uses |
|---|--------------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|--|
| <i>Calyptanthes pallens</i> Spicewood, Pale Lid- Flower | M | Ever | White | Insigni- ficant | Sp, Su, F | Good native hedge material, can be clipped. Uses: Formal, informal hedge. |
| <i>Capparis cynophallophora</i> Jamaican Caper | L | Dec. | Pink- white | Showy | Sp | Undersides of leaves rust-colored. Good hedge material. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Casasia clusifolia</i> Seven-Year Apple | L | Ever | White | Showy, fragrant | Su | Good for seaside plantings. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> Buttonbush | M | Dec. | White | Showy | Su | Best in wet sites. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Ceratiola ericoides</i> Rosemary | L | Ever | Red, Yellow | Insigni- ficant | Year-round | Well adapted to the sand pine areas of Florida. Difficult to propagate. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Chiococca alba</i> Snowberry | L | Ever | Yellow | Insigni- ficant | Year-round | Attractive white fruit. <i>C. pinetorum</i> is pineland species. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Chrusobalanus icaco</i> Cocoplum | L | Ever | White | Insigni- ficant | Year-round | New foliage red in some forms. Uses: Formal, informal hedge; specimen plant; edible fruit. |
| <i>Coccoloba uvifera</i> Sea Grape | L | Ever | White | Insigni- ficant | Su | Edible purple fruit. Good seaside plant. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge; edible fruit. |
| <i>Colubrina arborescens</i> Coffee Colubrina | L | Ever | White | Insigni- ficant | Year-round | Can become a small tree. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Conocarpus erectus</i> var. <i>sericeus</i> Silver Buttonwood | L | Ever | Purple- Green | Insigni- ficant | Sp, Su, F | Excellent seaside plant. Medium-textured silvery leaves. Uses: Specimen plant; informal, formal hedge. |
| <i>Dalbergia ecastophyllum</i> Coin Vine | L | Ever | White, Pink | Insigni- ficant | Sp, Su | Grows well in coastal landscapes. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> Varnish Leaf | L | Ever | White | Insigni- ficant | Su | Leaves very shiny. Winged fruit showy. Uses: Specimen plant. |

+ L - Low; M - Medium; H - High

^ Ever - Evergreen; Dec. - Deciduous

Table 1a. (continued).

| Scientific Name Common Name | Nutritional Requirements | Plant Type | Flower Color | Flower Characteristics | Flowering Season | Notes and Uses |
|--|--------------------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------|--|
| <i>Duranta repens</i> Golden-Dewdrop | L | Ever | Blue, White | Showy | Sp, Su, F | Yellow fruit is poisonous to humans. Uses: Specimen plant, informal hedge. |
| <i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coral Bean | M | Dec. | Red | Showy | Sp | Attracts hummingbirds. Seeds poisonous. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Eugenia</i> spp. Stoppers | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp, Su | Many stoppers are slow growing but tolerate poor conditions. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Forestiera segregata</i> Wild Olive; Florida Privet | L | Ever | Green | Insignificant | Sp | Hedge plant with good salt, drought, and alkali tolerance. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> Wild Cotton | M | Ever | White | Showy | Sp, Su | Can be trained as a small tree. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Hamelia patens</i> Scarletbush | M | Ever | Red | Showy | Sp, F | Tubular red flowers all year. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Ilex cassine</i> Dahoon Holly | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp | Red-berried. Grows in boggy sites. Withstands shearing. Uses: Formal hedge. |
| <i>Ilex glabra</i> Gallberry | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp | Clump-forming. Black fruits in winter. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> Yaupon Holly | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp, Su | Many cultivars of various growth habits exist. Uses: Specimen plant; formal, informal hedge. |
| <i>Iva frutescens</i> Marsh Elder | L | Ever | Green | Insignificant | Sp, Su | Useful where brackish water accumulates. Uses: Informal hedge. |
| <i>Jacquinia keyensis</i> Joewood | L | Ever | White | Showy, fragrant | Sp, Su | Seldom used but has interesting architecture. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Lycium carolinianum</i> Christmas Berry | L | Ever | Blue | Insignificant | Su | Good for coastal landscapes. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Lyonia ferruginia</i> Rusty Lyonia | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp | Two other native species are also infrequently cultivated. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Mallotonia gnaphalodes</i> Sea Lavender | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Year-round | Well adapted for beach landscapes. Considered endangered in Florida. Uses: Specimen plant. |

+ L - Low; M - Medium; H - High

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Table 1a. (continued).

| Scientific Name Common Name | Nutritional Requirements | Plant Type | Flower Color | Flower Characteristics | Flowering Season | Notes and Uses |
|--|--------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| <i>Maytenus phyllanthoides</i> Florida Mayten | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Su | Uncommon. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Myrica cerifera</i> Southern Wax Myrtle | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp, Su | Root suckers, can become weedy. Leaves stain masonry. Uses: Specimen plant; problem plant. |
| <i>Myrsine guianensis</i> Rapanea | L | Ever | N/A | Insignificant | Year-round | Can be trained into a small tree. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Pithecellobium guadelupense</i> Blackbead | L | Ever | Pink | Showy | Sp, Su | Lustrous black seeds. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Pithecellobium ungius-cati</i> Cat's-Claw | L | Ever | Green-Yellow | Insignificant | Su | Spiny. Can become a tree. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Psychotria nervosa</i> Wild Coffee | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Sp, Su | Red berries attract wildlife. Medium-textured understory plant. <i>P. ligustrifolia</i> finer-textured. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Randia aculeata</i> White Indigoberry | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Year-round | Spiny. White berries. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Rhapidophyllum hustrix</i> Needle Palm | L | Palm | White | Insignificant | Sp | A good landscape specimen. Has long spines near crown. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Rhus coppalina</i> Winged Sumac | L | Dec. | Green | Insignificant | Sp | Suckers profusely. Fruit attracts wildlife. Not for small yards. Uses: Informal hedge. |
| <i>Sabal etonia</i> Scrub Palmetto | L | Palm | White | Insignificant | Sp | Slow growing. Difficult to transplant. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Sabal minor</i> Dwarf Palmetto | L | Palm | White | Insignificant | Su | Difficult to transplant. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Savia bahamensis</i> Maidenbush | L | Ever | Green | Insignificant | Sp | Good for coastal landscapes. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Scaevola plumieri</i> Inkberry | L | Ever | White | Insignificant | Su | Sprawling shrub is excellent for beach plantings. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Serenoa repens</i> Saw Palmetto | L | Palm | White | Insignificant, fragrant | Su | Tough, difficult to transplant. Blue form most desirable. Uses: Specimen plant; groundcover. |
| <i>Sophora tomentosa</i> Necklace Pod | L | Ever | Yellow | Showy | Year-round | May naturalize. Heavy fruit crop sometimes unattractive. Uses: Specimen plant. |

+ L - Low; M - Medium; H - High

^ Ever - Evergreen; Dec. - Deciduous

Table 1a. (continued).

| Scientific Name Common Name | Nutritional Requirements | Plant Type | Flower Color | Flower Charac- teristics | Flowering Season | Notes and Uses |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <i>Suriana maritima</i> Bay Cedar | L | Ever | Yellow | Insigni- ficant, fragrant | Year-round | Well adapted to coastal landscapes. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Tecoma stans</i> Yellow Elder | M | Ever | Yellow | Showy | Year-round | Prune hard to maintain attractive form. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Tetrazygia bicolor</i> Florida Tetrazygia | L | Ever | White | Showy | Sp, Su | Attractive foliage. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Vaccinium myrsinites</i> Shiny Blueberry | L | Ever | White, Pink | Insigni- ficant | Sp | Prefers acid soil. Spreads by runners. Uses: Specimen plant; informal hedge. |
| <i>Yucca aloifolia</i> Spanish- Bayonet | L | Ever | White | Showy | Sp | Excellent seaside plant. Dangerous dagger-like leaves. Uses: Specimen plant. |
| <i>Yucca gloriosa</i> Spanish- Dagger | L | Ever | White | Showy | Su | Sharp-tipped leaves are dangerous. Uses: Specimen plant. |