

Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes ¹

R. J. Black²

Of all the states, Florida has the greatest wealth of native plants for use in the average rural or urban home landscape. Native plants desirable for home use range from the spectacular southern magnolia to the miniature creeping vine of the partridge berry. The state has nearly half of the species of trees available in North America north of Mexico. So many of Florida's native plants are useful that the tables included here list only those with the greatest potential landscape use.

Native plants are equally practical and attractive on rural and urban home grounds. You may already know and appreciate some native plants but be unfamiliar with many others that could be used freely. Native plants are adapted to the climate and soil conditions of a given area and usually have fewer pest problems. Therefore their use in landscaping can decrease maintenance. Some plants have specific growth requirements; others thrive under a variety of climatic and soil conditions. You need to consider the native habitat of a plant and plan its use in a similar environment.

Remember that Florida's native wild plants are protected under the Plant Protection Law.[†] Under this law both preservation and propagation are

encouraged. It is against the law to destroy, injure, harvest, collect, pick or remove any plants covered by the law without prior written permission from the landowner or legal occupant of the land. Another Florida law specifically protects sea oats and sea grapes. It is against the law to dig up or remove these plants whose growth helps prevent beach erosion. Some nurseries stock native plants.

In the tables of native Florida plants included here, plants are first grouped by type such as ground cover or small tree. Within a type they are listed alphabetically by common name.

- **Table 1** . Ground Covers.
- **Table 2** . Vines.
- **Table 3** . Shrubs.
- **Table 4** . Small Trees.
- **Table 5** . Large Trees.
- **Table 6** . Palms.

1. This document is ENH-25 (which supersedes OH-25), one of a series of the Department of Environmental Horticulture, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Date first printed: September 1985. Dates reviewed/revise: June 1997, October 2003. Please visit the EDIS website at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>

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Endnote

† **Note on Plant Protection Law:** Section 581.185 of the Florida Statutes is an act to preserve the state's native trees and plants. Section 370.041 prohibits the removal or digging up of sea oats and sea grapes. Copies of the entire law and the plant list are available on request from the Florida Department of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industry, P. O. Box 1269, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

Table 1. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Ground Covers.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|--|---|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Dichondra, penny grass <i>Dichondra carolinensis</i> | S | 2 inches | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Moist | + |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks over entire state. Landscape Uses: Edging, mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Gopher apple <i>Licania michauxii</i> | NCS | 3-12 inches | E | White, pink | Spring, summer | Sn | Dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Pinelands and sand dunes over entire state. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Partridge berry <i>Mitchella repens</i> | NC | 1-2 inches | E | White | Spring | S | Moist, acid | + |
| Native Habitat: Moist, acid sites in north central Florida. Landscape Uses: Edging, mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Railroad vine <i>Ipomoea pescaprae</i> | CS | 4 inches | E | Pinkish lavender | Summer | Sn | Well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Sandy shores. Landscape Uses: Costal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Boston fern <i>Nephrrolepis exaltata</i> | CS | 18-36 inches | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Pt Sh to Sh | Moist | - |
| Native Habitat: Moist hammocks. Landscape Uses: Mass, hanging basket. | | | | | | | | |
| ¹ Section of State to Which Adapted: N = north Florida - Pensacola to Jacksonville and south Ocala; C = central Florida - Leesburg south to Punta Gorda and Fort Pierce; S = south Florida - Stuart to Fort Myers and south to Homestead; CS = entire state | | | | | | | | |
| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
| ⁴ Salt Spray Tolerance: + = tolerant, exact degree of tolerance unknown for most native plants; - = not tolerant; ? = tolerance unknown | | | | | | | | |

Table 2. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Vines.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|--|---|---------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Carolina yellow jessamine <i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> | NC | 20 feet | SEV | Yellow | Spring | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Woodlands south to Osceola county. Landscape Uses: Trellis, fence. | | | | | | | | |

Table 2. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Vines.

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|--|---|---------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Southern honeysuckle <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> | NC | 20 feet | D | Red | Summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Any except light sands | - |
| Native Habitat: Pine flatwoods in northwestern Florida. Landscape Uses: Screen. | | | | | | | | |
| Trumpet creeper <i>Campsis radicans</i> | NC | 50 feet | D | Orange | Spring to summer | Sn | Any except alkaline | - |
| Native Habitat: Throughout north and central Florida, except on alkaline soils. Landscape Uses: Screen. | | | | | | | | |
| Virginia creeper, <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> | N | 30 feet | SEV | Inconspicuous | -- | SN | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Pine flatwoods over entire state. Landscape Uses: Fences; on trees. | | | | | | | | |
| ¹ Section of State to Which Adapted: N = north Florida - Pensacola to Jacksonville and south Ocala; C = central Florida - Leesburg south to Punta Gorda and Fort Pierce; S = south Florida - Stuart to Fort Myers and south to Homestead; CS = entire state | | | | | | | | |
| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
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Table 3. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Shrubs.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season and Fruit Color | Light Req. ³ | Soil | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|---|---|--------|----------------------|--------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Small shrubs | | | | | | | | |
| Adam's needle, beargrass <i>Yucca smalliana</i> | NCS | 4 feet | E | White | Summer | Sh | Any | + |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods in northwest Florida. Landscape Uses: Rock gardens; background. | | | | | | | | |
| Coontie <i>Zamia floridana</i> | NCS | 3 feet | E | -- | Orange seed in winter | Sn to Sh | Any if well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Pinelands and flatwoods of northcentral Florida. Landscape Uses: Border. | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|---------|----------------------|--------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Eastern coralbean <i>Erythrina herbacea</i> | NCS | 4 feet | D | Red | Spring; red seeds in fall | Pt Sh | Average | - |
| Medium shrubs | | | | | | | | |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks over the entire state. Landscape Uses: In front of large shrubs. | | | | | | | | |
| American beautybush <i>Callicarpa americana</i> | NC | 8 feet | D | Purple | Spring; purple fruit in fall | Pt Sh | Well drained | - |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks and rich woodlands in northcentral Florida. Landscape Uses: Mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Fetterbush <i>Lyonia lucida</i> | NC | 6 feet | E | White | Spring | Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Screen. | | | | | | | | |
| Firebush <i>Hamelia patens</i> | CS | 10 feet | E | Red | Year round; black fruit year round | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | + |
| Native Habitat: Throughout central and south Florida. Landscape Uses: Foundation, base screen. | | | | | | | | |
| Gallberry <i>Ilex glabra</i> | NCS | 10 feet | E | -- | Black fruit in winter | Sn to Pt Sh | Acid, wet | + |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods over entire state. Landscape Uses: Trimmed hedges, foundation. | | | | | | | | |
| Inkberry <i>Scaevola plumieri</i> | S | 6 feet | E | White | Spring and summer | Sn | Dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Coasts of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Oakleaf hydrangea <i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> | N | 6 feet | D | White | Summer | Pt Sh | Acid, well drained | - |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods and swamps of northwestern Florida. Landscape Uses: Mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Sea lavender <i>Tournefortia gnaphalodes</i> | S | 6 feet | E | White | Year round; black fruit year round | Sn | Sand | + |
| Native Habitat: Beaches and sand dunes. Landscape Uses: Coastal conditions. | | | | | | | | |
| Strawberry bush <i>Euonymus americana</i> | N | 8 feet | D | Pink | Summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Rich woodlands in northern Florida. Landscape Uses: Foundation. | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|------------|----------------------|----------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Swamp hibiscus <i>Hibiscus coccineus</i> | CS | 10 feet | E | Red | Summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Moist to wet | ? |
| Native Habitat: Swamps of central and south Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Sweet pepperbush <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> | N | 10 feet | D | White to pink | Summer | Pt Sh | Acid, well drained | ? |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks of northwestern Florida. Landscape Uses: Natural areas, small tree. | | | | | | | | |
| Sweet shrub <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> | N | 10 feet | D | Red to brown | Spring | Sn to Pt Sh | Well drained, fertile | ? |
| Native Habitat: Rich woodland soils. Landscape Uses: Natural areas. | | | | | | | | |
| Walter viburnum <i>Viburnum obovatum</i> | NC | 8 feet | SEV | White or black | Spring, summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: South to Sarasota county. Landscape Uses: Foundation, base. | | | | | | | | |
| Wild coffee <i>Psychotria nervosa</i> | S | 8 feet | E | White | Spring; red fruit in summer | Pt Sh to Sh | Average | ? |
| Large shrubs | | | | | | | | |
| Bay cedar <i>Suriana maritima</i> | S | 20 feet | D | Yellow | Spring | Sn | Dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Coasts of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Blueberry <i>Vaccinium</i> spp. | NC | 3-15 feet | E | White | Spring; black fruit in fall | Pt Sh to Sh | Acid, well drained | ? |
| Native Habitat: South to Manatee county. Landscape Uses: Informal plantings. | | | | | | | | |
| Cocoplum <i>Chrysobalanus icaco</i> | CS | 20 feet | E | White | Spring | Sn | Average, wet or dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Throughout southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Screen, clipped specimens. | | | | | | | | |
| Devilwood <i>Osmanthus americanus</i> | NC | 20-45 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: South to Marion county. Landscape Uses: Specimen, foundation. | | | | | | | | |
| Eugenia <i>Eugenia</i> spp. | CS | 20 feet | E | White | Summer; red fruit in fall | Sn | Average | - |

Table 3. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Shrubs.

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|---|---|-----------|----------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Native Habitat: Most of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Clipped hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida anise <i>Illicium floridanum</i> | NC | 20 feet | E | Red to purple | Spring | Pt Sh to Sh | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Western Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen, mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Golden dewdrop <i>Duranta repens</i> | CS | 18 feet | E | Blue | Spring; yellow fruit in summer and fall | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Everglades and the Keys. Landscape Uses: Background, screen. | | | | | | | | |
| Large gallberry <i>Ilex coriacea</i> | NCS | 10 feet | SEV | -- | Black fruit in fall | Pt Sh | Fertile, well drained | ? |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods of northwestern Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen, informal hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Marberry <i>Ardisia escallonioides</i> | S | 20 feet | E | White | Year round; Black fruit | Pt Sh to Sh | Moist | + |
| Native Habitat: Coastal hammocks of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Screen, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Mountain laurel <i>Kalmia latifolia</i> | N | 20 feet | E | Pink to white | Spring | Sh to Pt Sh | Acid, well drained | ? |
| Native Habitat: Western Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen, patio. | | | | | | | | |
| Native azaleas, wild honeysuckle <i>Rhododendron</i> spp. | N | 8-20 feet | D | Pink to white | Spring | Sh to Pt Sh | Moist, acid, well drained | - |
| Native Habitat: Moist, acidic soils throughout northwestern Florida. Landscape Uses: Mass. | | | | | | | | |
| Scrub holly <i>Ilex opaca arenicola</i> (<i>I. cumulicola</i>) | NC | 15 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in fall | Pt Sh | Dry | ? |
| Native Habitat: Scrubland of central Florida. Landscape Uses: Informal hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Silver bush <i>Sophora tomentosa</i> | S | 15 feet | E | Yellow - | Year round | Sn | Dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Sand dunes and coastal hammocks of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|------------|----------------------|--------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Southern wax myrtle <i>Myrica cerifera</i> | NCS | 20-30 feet | E | -- | Gray fruit in summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Wet or dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Over entire state. Landscape Uses: Specimen, informal hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Spanish bayonet <i>Yucca aloifolia</i> | NCS | 20-25 feet | E | White | Spring | Sn to Sh | Any if well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Sandy soils over entire state. Landscape Uses: Barriers, enclosures. | | | | | | | | |
| Varnish leaf <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> | S | 15 feet | E | Yellow | Summer, fall | Sn to Pt Sh | Dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Inland woodlands and hammocks throughout southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Informal plantings, hedges. | | | | | | | | |
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| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
| ⁴ Salt Spray Tolerance: + = tolerant, exact degree of tolerance unknown for most native plants; - = not tolerant; ? = tolerance unknown | | | | | | | | |

Table 4. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Small Trees.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season and Fruit Color | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|---|---|------------|----------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| American cherry laurel <i>Prunus caroliniana</i> | NC | 30-40 feet | E | White | Spring; black fruit in summer | Pt Sh to Sh | Fertile | - |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks and rich woodlands of northern Florida. Landscape Uses: Clipped hedge, screen. | | | | | | | | |
| American hornbeam, blue beech <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> | NC | 30 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sh | Average | ? |

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|---|---|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Native Habitat: Low areas south to Lake county. Landscape Uses: Shaded areas. | | | | | | | | |
| Bontia <i>Bontia daphnoides</i> | S | 30 feet | E | Yellow | Spring | Sn | Average or dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Florida Keys. Landscape Uses: Foundation, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Chickasaw plum <i>Prunus angustifolia</i> | NC | 25 feet | D | White | Spring; red to yellow fruit in summer | Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks and fence rows of northcentral Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Cinnamon bark <i>Canella winterana</i> | S | 30 feet | E | Purple | Fall; red fruit in spring | Pt Sh to Sh | Average, well drained | ? |
| Native Habitat: Woodlands of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Devil's walking stick <i>Aralia spinosa</i> | NC | 15 feet | D | White | Summer; black fruit in fall | Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Low areas in northern and central Florida. Landscape Uses: Exotic specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Downey serviceberry, shad berry <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> | N | 25 feet | D | White | Spring | Pt Sh | Wet | ? |
| Native Habitat: Woodlands and swamps of western Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen due to early bloom. | | | | | | | | |
| Flowering dogwood <i>Cornus florida</i> | N | 30 feet | D | Greenish with white bracts | Spring | Pt Sh | Fertile, well drained | - |
| Native Habitat: Moist woodlands south to Orange county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Fringe tree <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> | NC | 25 feet | D | White | Spring | Pt Sh | Moist | ? |
| Native Habitat: Low woodland areas south to Manatee county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Geiger tree <i>Cordia sebestena</i> | S | 25 feet | E | Orange | Year round | Sn | Alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Dade county to the Florida Keys. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Lignum vitae <i>Guaiaacum sanctum</i> | S | 25 feet | E | Blue | Spring; orange fruit in summer | Sn | Average | + |
| Native Habitat: Rare; in Florida Keys. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|------------|----------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mahoe <i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> | S | 35 feet | E | Yellow | Year round | Sh | Sand, well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Sand dunes of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Myrtle dahoon holly <i>Ilex cassine myrtifolia</i> | NCS | 25 feet | E | -- | Red to yellow fruit in fall | Pt Sh | Moist | ? |
| Native Habitat: Moist to wet soils over northcentral Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Redbud, Judas tree <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | NC | 30 feet | D | | Winter | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Fertile woodlands south to Marion county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Sand live oak <i>Quercus germinata</i> | NC | 30 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Dunes and scrubland south to the Everglades. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Satin leaf <i>Chrysophyllum oliviforme</i> | S | 30 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Average | + |
| Native Habitat: Coastal hammocks from Brevard county southward. Landscape Uses: Specimen, patio. | | | | | | | | |
| Sea grape <i>Coccoloba uvifera</i> | CS | 15-25 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Sand | + |
| Native Habitat: Coastal hammocks, dunes and beaches. Landscape Uses: Espalier, screen, hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Shining sumac, winged sumac <i>Rhus copallina</i> | NCS | 25 feet | D | -- | Red fruit in summer | Sn | Well drained to dry | ? |
| Native Habitat: Over entire state. Landscape Uses: Screen, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Southern crab apple <i>Malus angustifolia</i> | N | 25 feet | D | Pink | Spring; green fruit in summer | Sn | Fertile | - |
| Native Habitat: Western Florida to Taylor county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Southern red cedar <i>Juniperus silicicola</i> | NCS | 25 feet | E | -- | Blue fruit in winter | Sn to Pt Sh | Average to alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Limestone areas south to Sarasota county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Southern wax myrtle <i>Myrica cerifera</i> | NCS | 20-30 feet | E | -- | Gray fruit in summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Wet or dry | + |

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|--|--|---------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Screen, clipped hedge. | | | | | | | | |
| Yaupon holly <i>Ilex vomitoria</i> | NC | 25 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in winter | Pt Sh to Sh | Average | + |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks and stream beds of northcentral Florida. Landscape Uses: Screen, clipped hedge. | | | | | | | | |
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| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
| ⁴ Salt Spray Tolerance: + = tolerant, exact degree of tolerance unknown for most native plants; - = not tolerant; ? = tolerance unknown | | | | | | | | |

Table 5. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Large Trees.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season and Fruit Color | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|---|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| American holly <i>Ilex opaca</i> | NC | 50-100 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in winter | Sn or Pt Sh | Fertile, well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Fertile woodlands and hammocks south to Orange county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Bald cypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i> | NCS | 150 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Sh | Wet, acid | + |
| Native Habitat: Swams throughout Florida, except in the Keys. Landscape Uses: Shade, specimen, street. | | | | | | | | |
| Black olive <i>Bucida buceras</i> | S | 50 feet | E | -- | Black fruit in summer | Sn to Pt Sh | Alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Rare, in the Florida Keys. Landscape Uses: Specimen, windbreak. | | | | | | | | |
| Buttonwood <i>Conocarpus erectus</i> | S | 50 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Wet or dry | + |
| Native Habitat: Coastal areas, south from Brevard and Levy counties. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |

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|---|---|------------|----------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dahoon holly <i>Ilex cassine</i> | NCS | 40 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in winter | Pt Sh | Wet | + |
| Native Habitat: Swamps over the entire state. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Devilwood <i>Osmanthus americanus</i> | NC | 20-45 feet | E | White | Winter | Sn to Pt Sh | Fertile | - |
| Native Habitat: Fertile woodlands south to Marion county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern cottonwood <i>Populus deltoides</i> | NC | 80 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Moist | ? |
| Native Habitat: Swamps and rivers. Landscape Uses: Windbreak. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida basswood, linden <i>Tilia caroliniana</i> | NCS | 60 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks south to Orange county. Landscape Uses: Street. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida boxwood, yellowwood <i>Schaefferia frutescens</i> | S | 40 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in winter | Pt Sh | Moist | ? |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks in Dade and Monroe counties. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida torreya, stinking cedar <i>Torreya taxifolia</i> | N | 50 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Pt Sh | Average | ? |
| Native Habitat: Inland on moist sites. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Gumbo limbo <i>Bursera simaruba</i> | S | 60 feet | D | -- | Red fruit in summer | Sn | Average to alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Coasts of southern Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Laurel oak <i>Quercus laurifolia</i> | NCS | 75 feet | SEV | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Entire state to Everglades. Landscape Uses: Shade. | | | | | | | | |
| Live oak <i>Quercus virginiana</i> | NCS | 70 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Average to alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Shade, framing. | | | | | | | | |
| Loblolly bay <i>Gordonia lasianthus</i> | NC | 70 feet | E | White | Spring | Pt Sh | Fertile, moist | - |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods, bays and hammocks. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Longleaf pine <i>Pinus palustris</i> | NC | 120 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Any | + |

Table 5. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Large Trees.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season and Fruit Color | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|--|---|----------|----------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods and sandhills. Landscape Uses: Shade, windbreak. | | | | | | | | |
| Mahogany <i>Swietenia mahagoni</i> | S | 50 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Dh | Acid or alkaline | + |
| Native Habitat: Hammocks in southern Florida and the Keys. Landscape Uses: Street. | | | | | | | | |
| Pigeon plum <i>Coccoloba diversifolia</i> | S | 70 feet | E | -- | Red fruit in winter | Sn | Sand | + |
| Native Habitat: Brevard county to the Keys. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Red maple <i>Acer rubrum</i> | NCS | 80 feet | D | Red | Winter; red fruit in winter | Sn to Pt Sh | Fertile, moist | - |
| Native Habitat: Moist to wet sites. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| River birch, black birch <i>Betula nigra</i> | N | 60 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Moist | - |
| Native Habitat: Stream banks south to Alachua county. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Sand pine <i>Pinus clausa</i> | NCS | 70 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Sand | + |
| Native Habitat: Dunes and scrublands. Landscape Uses: Coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Shumard oak <i>Quercus shumardii</i> | NC | 100 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Fertile, well drained | - |
| Native Habitat: Well-drained soils underlain by limestone south through Marion county. Landscape Uses: Specimen, street. | | | | | | | | |
| Slash pine <i>Pinus elliotii</i> | NCS | 100 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Any | + |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Shade, windbreak. | | | | | | | | |
| Southern magnolia <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> | NC | 100 feet | E | White | Spring | Sn | Fertile | + |
| Native Habitat: Fertile woodlands south to Desoto county. Landscape Uses: Specimen, street, framing. | | | | | | | | |
| Spruce pine <i>Pinus glabra</i> | NC | 100 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Fertile, moist | ? |
| Native Habitat: Fertile, moist soils. Landscape Uses: Shade. | | | | | | | | |
| Sweet bay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> | NCS | 75 feet | E | White | Spring | Pt Sh | Fertile, wet | - |
| Native Habitat: Flatwoods, bays and swamps. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |

Table 5. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Large Trees.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season and Fruit Color | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|--|---|----------|----------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Sweet gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | NCS | 100 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn or Pt Sh | Average | + |
| Native Habitat: South to Brevard county. Landscape Uses: Specimen, shade. | | | | | | | | |
| Tulip tree, yellow poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | NC | 100 feet | D | Orange | Spring | Sn or Pt Sh | Moist | - |
| Native Habitat: Woodlands and swamps south to Orange county. Landscape Uses: Street. | | | | | | | | |
| Water oak <i>Quercus nigra</i> | NCS | 75 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Street. | | | | | | | | |
| Winged elm <i>Ulmus alata</i> | NC | 50 feet | D | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn | Average | - |
| Native Habitat: Throughout northern Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| ¹ Section of State to Which Adapted: N = north Florida - Pensacola to Jacksonville and south Ocala; C = central Florida - Leesburg south to Punta Gorda and Fort Pierce; S = south Florida - Stuart to Fort Myers and south to Homestead; CS = entire state | | | | | | | | |
| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
| ⁴ Salt Spray Tolerance: + = tolerant, exact degree of tolerance unknown for most native plants; - = not tolerant; ? = tolerance unknown | | | | | | | | |

Table 6. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Palms.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|---|---|----------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Cabbage palm <i>Sabal palmetto</i> | NCS | 90 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Sh | Any | + |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Specimen, coastal locations. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida royal palm <i>Roystonea elata</i> | S | 100 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Moist, rich | + |
| Native Habitat: Southern and southwestern portion of mainland. Landscape Uses: Street, specimen, framing. | | | | | | | | |

Table 6. Native Florida Plants for Home Landscapes: Palms.

| Common Name Scientific Name | Section of State to Which Adapted ¹ | Height | Foliage ² | Flower Color | Flowering Season | Light Req. ³ | Soil Req. | Salt Spray Tol. ⁴ |
|--|---|---------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Florida silver palm <i>Coccothrinax argentata</i> | S | 25 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Sandy, well drained | + |
| Native Habitat: Broward county south through the Keys. Landscape Uses: Specimen, tropical effect. | | | | | | | | |
| Florida thatch palm <i>Thrinax radiata</i> | S | 36 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Any | + |
| Native Habitat: South Florida. Landscape Uses: Street, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Key thatch palm <i>Thrinax morrisii</i> | S | 30 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Any | + |
| Native Habitat: Lower end of mainland and the Keys. Landscape Uses: Street, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Needle palm <i>Rhapidophyllum hystrix</i> | NC | 6 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Pt Sh | Fertile, moist | + |
| Native Habitat: Central and northern Florida. Landscape Uses: Specimen, foundation. | | | | | | | | |
| Saw cabbage palm <i>Acoclorrhaphe wrightii</i> | CS | 30 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Variable | + |
| Native Habitat: Collier county and Everglades. Landscape Uses: Street, specimen. | | | | | | | | |
| Saw palmetto <i>Serenoa repens</i> | NCS | 4 feet | E | Inconspicuous | -- | Sn to Pt Sh | Variable | + |
| Native Habitat: Entire state. Landscape Uses: Natural areas. | | | | | | | | |
| ¹ Section of State to Which Adapted: N = north Florida - Pensacola to Jacksonville and south Ocala; C = central Florida - Leesburg south to Punta Gorda and Fort Pierce; S = south Florida - Stuart to Fort Myers and south to Homestead; CS = entire state | | | | | | | | |
| ² Foliage: E = evergreen; SEV = semi-evergreen; D = deciduous | | | | | | | | |
| ³ Light Requirement: Sn = sun; Sh = shade; Pt Sh = partial shade | | | | | | | | |
| ⁴ Salt Spray Tolerance: + = tolerant, exact degree of tolerance unknown for most native plants; - = not tolerant; ? = tolerance unknown | | | | | | | | |