

LAKELA'S MINT

Dicerandra immaculata Lakela

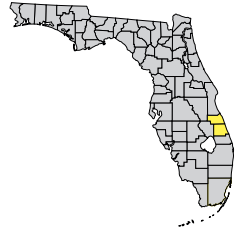
Synonyms: none

Family: Lamiaceae (mint)

FNAI Ranks: G1/S1

Legal Status: US–Endangered FL–Endangered

Wetland Status: US–UPL FL–UPL

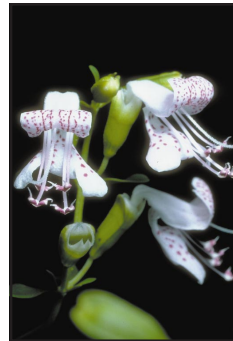


Dicerandra immaculata



Billy B. Boothe

D. immaculata



Billy B. Boothe

D. frutescens

Field Description (photos, left and top right, and drawing): Low shrub, stems to 1.3 feet tall, square with low ridges on the angles, bushy in sun, lax in shade, forming mats or sprawling hummocks. **Leaves** about 1 inch long, opposite, narrowly oval with rounded tips and inrolled margins, covered with glands. **Flowers** 1 - 3 per whorl, in leaf axils, less than 0.8 inch long, rose-purple with no spots or lines; 2-lipped with rounded lobes; tube smoothly curved, not sharply bent; stamens extend beyond the flower, anthers with tiny spurs. Stems and leaves have a strong mint odor.

Similar and Related Species (photo, bottom right): Five central FL species of *Dicerandra* are rare. Scrub mint (*Dicerandra frutescens*), federal and state-endangered, resembles Lakela's mint vegetatively, but the flowers are cream, white, or pale pink with purple lines and dots and purple anthers; the tube is sharply bent. Also see Garrett's mint (*D. christmanii*) in this guide.

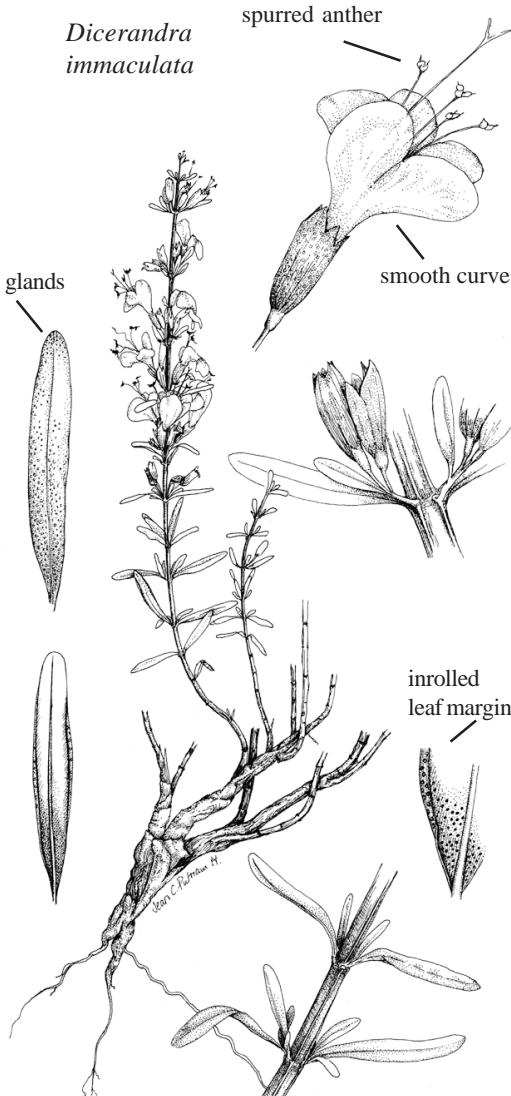
Lakela's mint

Dicerandra immaculata

Habitat: Lakela's mint: scrub on the Atlantic Coast Ridge. Scrub mint: sand pine scrub and sandhill on the Lake Wales Ridge.

Best Survey Season: Lakela's mint flowers primarily September–November, sporadically all year. Scrub mint flowers August–February.

Range-wide Distribution: Both Lakela's mint and scrub mint are endemic to FL.



Conservation Status:

Lakela's mint is known from a single native population scattered across 9 unprotected sites; one planted population is protected. Twelve populations of scrub mint are known, only one on conservation lands.

Protection & Management:

Purchase and protect privately owned sites. Control foot and off-road-vehicle traffic. Eradicate exotic pest plants. Use occasional fire to open up habitat.

References: Coile 2000, Eisner et al. 1990, Huck 1987, Kral 1983, Menges 1992, USFWS 1986b, USFWS 1998, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.