

TAMPA MOCK VERVAIN

Glandularia tampensis (Nash) Small

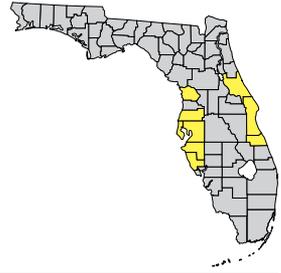
Synonym: *Verbena tampensis* Nash

Family: Verbenaceae (vervain)

FNAI Ranks: G1/S1

Legal Status: US—none FL—Endangered

Wetland Status: US—FACW FL—UPL



Billy B. Boothe

Field Description: Perennial **herb** with 4-sided, sprawling **stems** to 2 feet long. **Leaves** 1.5 - 2.5 inches long, margins coarsely toothed although sometimes entire below the middle; leaf tips broadly pointed; upper leaf surface dark green, lower surface pale green; base of leaf narrowing to form wings on the **leaf stalk**; leaf stalk 0.5 - 1 inch long. **Flower** blue-purple, 5-lobed, tube and each lobe approximately 0.5 inch long. **Calyx** with straight, stiff hairs but **no glands**; calyx lobes with bristly tips.

Similar Species: Rose vervain (*Glandularia canadensis*) has glands on the calyx, rose-purple flowers, and leaves with blunt tips. Moss verbena (*Glandularia pulchella*, synonym: *Verbena tenuisecta*), a roadside weed from South America, has similar flowers but finely dissected leaves.

Related Rare Species: Coastal vervain (*Glandularia maritima*), state-endangered, resembles Tampa vervain; its flowers are lavender with an orange throat; leaves are more succulent and irregularly lobed and toothed, and have shorter leafstalks; its calyx has stalked glands and pointed but not bristle-tipped lobes (see drawing). It occurs primarily on the SE FL coast.

Tampa mock vervain

Glandularia tampensis

Habitat: Tampa mock vervain: live oak–cabbage palm hammocks and pine–palmetto flatwoods. Coastal mock vervain: back dunes, dune swales, and coastal hammocks. Both occur in disturbed, sandy areas.

Best Survey Season: Both species flower primarily in the spring and intermittently all year.

Range-wide Distribution: Both Tampa mock vervain and coastal mock vervain are endemic to peninsular FL.

Conservation Status: Tampa mock vervain has been seen in only one conservation area in the last 20 years; its habitat has been severely reduced by development and silviculture. Coastal mock vervain is locally abundant in several parks and preserves areas on the SE coast.

Protection & Management: Protect coastal habitats from development. Use occasional ground fire in mesic and xeric hammocks and frequent fire in flatwoods. Eradicate exotic pest plants.

References: Coile 2000, IRC 1999, Kral 1983, Small 1933, Umber 1979, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

