CAPE SABLE THOROUGHWORT

*Eupatorium frustratum* B.L. Robinson

**Synonyms:** *Osmia frustrata* (B.L.Rob.) Small  
*Chromolaena frustrata* (B.L.Rob.) King & H.Rob.

**Family:** Asteraceae (composite)

**FNAI Ranks:** G1/S1

**Legal Status:** US–none  FL–Endangered

**Wetland Status:** US–UPL  FL–UPL

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**Field Description:** Erect herb 8 - 40 inches tall, with 1 to several hairy **stems**. **Leaves** 0.6 - 1.6 inches long, aromatic, opposite, slightly toothed, hairy, oval to lance-shaped, with 3 conspicuous veins and short but definite leaf stalks. **Flower heads** on long stalks at ends of branches; **bracts** surrounding each head in several series, all bracts similar in appearance and forming an **involucre** 0.2 - 0.3 inches tall. **Disk flowers** 20 - 25 per head, blue or lavender, no ray flowers.

**Similar Species:** Jack-in-the-bush (*Eupatorium odoratum*, synonym: *Chromolaena odorata*) has leaves 1.5 - 4 inches long and involucres 0.3 - 0.4 inches tall.

**Related Rare Species:** Florida keys thoroughwort (*Eupatorium villosum*, synonym: *Koanophyllum villosum*), state-endangered, is a shrub to 6 feet tall, densely hairy throughout, with small, opposite, 3-veined leaves and flower heads in loose clusters at ends of branches. Flowers white.

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Gil Nelson

*Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 2000*
Cape Sable thoroughwort  

Eupatorium frustratum

**Habitat:** Cape Sable thoroughwort: coastal rock barrens and berms, sunny edges of rockland hammock. Florida Keys thoroughwort: pine rocklands, rockland hammocks.

**Best Survey Season:** Both species flower all year.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Cape Sable thoroughwort: endemic to south FL. Florida keys thoroughwort: south FL, West Indies.

**Conservation Status:** Cape Sable thoroughwort: Only 4 or 5 protected occurrences are known. Florida keys thoroughwort: About 25 populations are known, most on conservation areas.

**Protection & Management:** Acquire populations on private lands and manage for conservation. Control exotic pest plants.


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**Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 2000**