

NUTTALL'S RAYLESS GOLDENROD

Bigelowia nuttallii L.C. Anders.

Synonyms: none

Family: Asteraceae (composite)

FNAI Ranks: G3G4/S1

Legal Status: US-none; FL-none



Bruce A. Sorrie

Field Description: Perennial **herb** with erect **stems** to 0.6 m tall, forming colonies or loose mats. **Basal leaves** 2.4 - 13.2 cm long, very narrow, dotted with minute glands; **stem leaves** relatively numerous, 12 - 23, widely spaced. **Flowers** in terminal, flat-topped clusters of heads, each head with 3 - 5 yellow disk flowers and no ray flowers.

Similar Species: Pineland rayless goldenrod (*Bigelowia nudata*) occurs singly or in small clumps, with relatively few (6 - 15) stem leaves. Flat-topped goldenrod (*Euthamia caroliniana*) also has narrow, gland-dotted leaves and flat-topped flower clusters but has tiny ray flowers and no basal rosettes.

Related Rare Species: There are several rare composite species in the FL Panhandle. See in this guide: ciliate-leaf tickseed (*Coreopsis integrifolia*), Cruise's golden-aster (*Chrysopsis gossypina* ssp. *cruiseana*), Flyr's brickell-bush (*Brickellia cordifolia*), Godfrey's goldenaster (*Chrysopsis godfreyi*), pine-woods aster (*Aster spinulosus*), and Barbara's buttons (*Marshallia obovata*).

Nuttall's rayless goldenrod

Bigelowia nuttallii

Habitat: Sandstone outcrops in mesic longleaf pinelands or in sand pine scrub in Pinellas County, FL.

Best Survey Season: Fall-winter; September - October.

Range-wide Distribution: FL, GA, AL, LA, E TX.

Conservation Status: One population in Washington County is protected on a private conservation preserve; Pinellas County populations are highly disturbed and unprotected on private lands.

Protection and Management: Prevent off-road vehicle use in habitat. Burn every 2 - 3 years.

References: Anderson 1970, Anderson 1977, Coile 2000, Cronquist 1980, Godfrey and Wooten 1981, Guala 1993, Harper 1911a, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

