**WILD CINNAMON**  
_Canella winterana_ (L.) Gaertn.

**Synonyms:** _Canella winteriana_ (L.) Gaertn.

**Family:** Canellaceae (canella)

**FNAI Ranks:** G5?/S2

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

**Wetland Status:** US-none+ FL-UPL

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**Field Description:** This is an attractive, slow-growing hardwood that reaches 30 feet if allowed to fully mature. Trees have a straight trunk and gray bark. The smooth, leathery, rich green, aromatic (when crushed), obovate to oblanceolate, persistent leaves are 2 to 5 inches long and 1/3 as wide. These have entire margins, rounded or notched tips, and short grooved petioles. Flowers are bright red, 5-petaled, 1/8 inch long, and occur in tight clusters at the branch tips, often with many flowers, but with only a few blossoms opening at any one time, and with the buds having a green/white to purple appearance. The red, ½ inch fruit is round and fleshy, with 2 to 4 black, shiny ¼ inch seeds.

**Similar Species:** None in FL.

**Related Rare Species:** None in FL.

**Habitat:** Tropical hammocks of extreme South Florida and Keys.

**Best Survey Season:** All year; can be distinguished by its leaves year round

**Range-wide Distribution:** Native to South Florida, the West Indies, and parts...
wild cinnamon

*Canella winterana*

of Central America.

**Conservation Status:** Listed state-endangered, this species is restricted to the coral cay archipelago located off the southern coast of Florida, many of which are on conservation lands.

**Protection and Management:** Protect all remaining tropical hammocks from disturbance, clearing and development. Enforce plant protection laws and prosecute plant poachers. Eradicate exotic plant species from preserves.