SCRUB PIGEON-WING
*Clitoria fragrans* Small

**Synonyms:** *Martiusia fragrans* (Small) Small

**Family:** Fabaceae (pea)

**FNAI Ranks:** G2/S2

**Legal Status:** US-Threatened FL-Endangered

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

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**Field Description:** Perennial herb 6 - 20 inches tall, with erect, purplish, waxy stems. Leaves alternate, with 3 leathery leaflets, 0.8 to 2 inches long, narrowly oblong, leaflet tip rounded with a minute bristle, upper surface dark green with conspicuous veins, lower surface pale green and waxy. Flowers showy, fragrant; 2 short wing petals curve forward, almost covering 2 keel petals; banner petal almost 2 inches long, pink to lavender-blue with purplish veins and large white spot; flowers twisted on their stalks so that the banner petal is lowest. Fruit a pod, 1 - 2 inches long on 0.5 inch stalk, waxy, flattened, depressed between the seeds.

**Similar Species:** Pigeon-wing (*Clitoria mariana*) has similar flowers, but is a trailing vine with tendrils and oval or lance-shaped leaves.

**Related Rare Species:** Sand butterfly pea (*Centrosema arenicola*) has similar flowers, but it is a trailing vine, leaflets are ovate with a papery texture, and the lower banner petal is notched.

**Habitat:** Turkey oak barrens with wire grass, bluejack and turkey oak; also scrub, scrubby high pine, and dry roadsides.
scrub pigeon-wing  

*Clitoria fragrans*

**Best Survey Season:** Flowers May - June.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Endemic to Central Florida, occurring mostly along the Lake Wales Ridge. From Marion County south through Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk and Highlands counties.

**Conservation Status:** Approximately 45 of the 63 element occurrences for scrub pigeon-wing are on protected lands. Private sites are threatened with agricultural and residential development.

**Protection and Management:** Apply prescribed fire to scrub and turkey oak barrens to create a mosaic of habitats. Purchase and protect private sites. Prevent vehicle access to sites.