

## DWARF BURRHEAD

*Echinodorus tenellus* (Mart.) Buch.

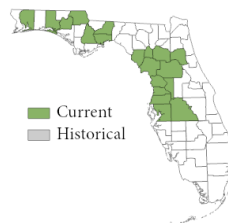
**Synonyms:** *Helanthium tenellum* (Mart. ex Schult. f.) Britton

**Family:** Alismataceae (water plantain)

**FNAI Ranks:** G5?/SNR

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

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



Guy Anglin



**Field Description:** Herbaceous annual, slender up to 25 cm, lacking rhizomes. The leaves may have petioles with 4-5 ridges, 1.2-9.5 cm long. Inflorescence is umbellate with 4-6 white flowers, erect to 6-8 cm. Flowers 6-8 mm wide, with appressed sepals.

**Similar Species:** Flowers look similar to arrowheads (*Sagittaria* spp.). However, arrowheads have separate male and female flowers with the upper flowers being male and the lower flowers female. *Echinodorus* flowers are bisexual and contain both male and female parts. *Echinodorus tenellus* is shorter than 10 cm tall, while other *Echinodorus* species are taller.

**Related Rare Species:** No related rare species.

**dwarf burrhead***Echinodorus tenellus*

**Habitat:** Flatwood depressions, marshes, and pond margins.

**Best Survey Season:** Summer.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Found throughout the southeast, west to Texas, north through the midwest states to Michigan and New York. Gaps in range include Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Maryland.

**Conservation Status:** Widely distributed, but rare or only historical or extirpated reports for almost every U.S. state in its range (east and midwest).

**Protection and Management:** Maintain natural hydrology. Much of habitat is subject to drainage for agriculture and development. Also threatened by chemical herbicides.

**References:** NatureServe, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011, Weakley 2015