

GARBERIA

Garberia heterophylla (Bartr.) Merr. & F. Harper

Synonyms: none

Family: Asteraceae (composite)

FNAI Ranks: G4/S4

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-none+ FL-none



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Field Description: Heads discoid or disciform, **ray florets** lacking; **disc florets** pink, purple, or whitish; leaves opposite, but usually at least in part alternate higher on the stem; **heads** many, terminal on the branches of corymbiform arrays; heads erect, the **involucre** 4-12 mm high; **leaves** with punctate glands; **pappus** of 60-70 barbellate bristles, 8-12 mm long.

Similar Species: This is the only shrubby member of the composite family (Asteraceae) in Florida that has pink tubular flowers resembling blazing star (*Liatris*). Leaves are sticky and aromatic when crushed.

Related Rare Species: None.

Habitat: Dry sandy habitats in sand pine scrub, oak scrub, and sandhills.

Best Survey Season: Spring-fall; September- November

garberia

Garberia heterophylla

Range-wide Distribution: Endemic to Florida from Clay County south to Highlands, Manatee and Brevard counties.

Conservation Status: Listed state-threatened and tracked as vulnerable, this species is vouchered from 19 counties in central Florida.

Protection and Management: Plants re-sprout after fire and also regenerate strongly from seed after fire (Carrington 1999). Plants can also re-sprout soon after mowing.

References: Carrington, M.E. 1999. Post-fire seedling establishment in Florida sand pine scrub. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 10:401-412.