

FLORIDA HASTEOLA

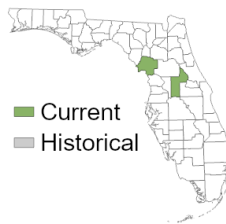
Hasteola robertiorum L.C. Anders.

Synonyms: none

Family: Asteraceae (composite)

FNAI Ranks: G1/S1

Legal Status: US-none; FL-Endangered



Loran Anderson

Field Description: Perennial **herb**, smooth throughout, with strongly ribbed, erect **stems** 0.6 - 1.0 m tall. **Basal leaves** 25 - 54 cm long, triangular and toothed, with long, sometimes winged, petioles. **Middle stem leaves** 12 - 20 cm long, fiddle- or lance-shaped, with eared bases and widely winged leaf stalks. **Upper leaves** much reduced, lance-shaped, without leaf stalks. **Flower heads** in a large, branched **inflorescence**. **Disc flowers** greenish-white, 10 - 14 per head; **no ray flowers**. Plants are sweet-scented.

Similar Species: *Hasteola suaveolens* (synonym: *Cacalia suaveolens*), a common northern species that does not reach FL, has 18 - 55 disk flowers per head; its stems are barely ridged. *Arnoglossum* species have 5 flowers per head, and oval or triangular leaves with wavy or lobed margins.

Related Rare Species: Variable-leaved Indian plantain (*Arnoglossum diversifolium*, synonym: *Cacalia diversifolia*), state-threatened, has stems to 1.8 m or taller and large, fleshy, oval leaves in a basal rosette. It occurs in swamps and floodplains.

Habitat: Saturated, peaty soils of river and creek floodplain swamps; hydric hammocks with cabbage palm, cypress, or hardwoods.

Florida hasteola

Hasteola robertiorum

Best Survey Season: Fall; October, distinctive leaves are recognizable throughout growing season.

Range-wide Distribution: Endemic to Levy and Lake counties, FL.

Conservation Status: A large population occurs on Seminole State Forest; three other populations are on private lands.

Protection and Management: Avoid logging and draining of floodplain and hardwood swamps.

References: Anderson 1994, Anderson 1995, Coile 2000, Cronquist 1980, Wunderlin et al. 2018.

