

WHITE IRONWOOD

Hypelate trifoliata Sw.

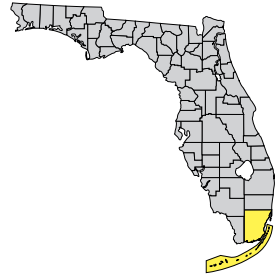
Synonym: *Amyris hypelate* A. Rob. ex Lunan

Family: Sapindaceae (soapberry)

FNAI Ranks: G3G5/S1

Legal Status: US—none FL—Endangered

Wetland Status: US—UPL FL—UPL



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Field Description: Shrub or small tree, 15 - 40 feet tall with smooth, reddish-gray bark. **Leaves** evergreen, alternate, shiny dark green, compound with 3 leaflets attached at a single point. **Leaflets** 1.5 - 2 inches long, wider above the middle, with rounded, notched tips. **Flowers** small, white, with 5 - 6 petals, **female and male flowers** in separate clusters on the same tree. **Fruit** a small, black, fleshy, one-seeded berry.

Similar Species: Inkwood (*Exothea paniculata*) has alternate, evergreen leaves with 2, 4, or 6 leaflets and bright red, scaling bark.

Related Rare Species: See small-fruited varnishleaf (*Dodonaea elaeagnoides*) and Florida cupania (*Cupania glabra*) in this guide.

White inkwood

Hypelate trifoliata

Habitat: Rockland hammocks.

Best Survey Season: Flowers April–July, but leaves are distinctive all year.

Range-wide Distribution: Dade County and Monroe County Keys, FL; Bahamas, Antilles.

Conservation Status: White inkwood occurs in six conservation areas in the Keys and also in the Everglades.

Protection & Management: Purchase remaining fragments of rockland hammock and manage for conservation. Control exotic pest plant species.

References: Coile 2000, IRC 1999, Nelson 1996, Tomlinson 1980, Ward 1979, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

