

BEACH JACQUEMONTIA

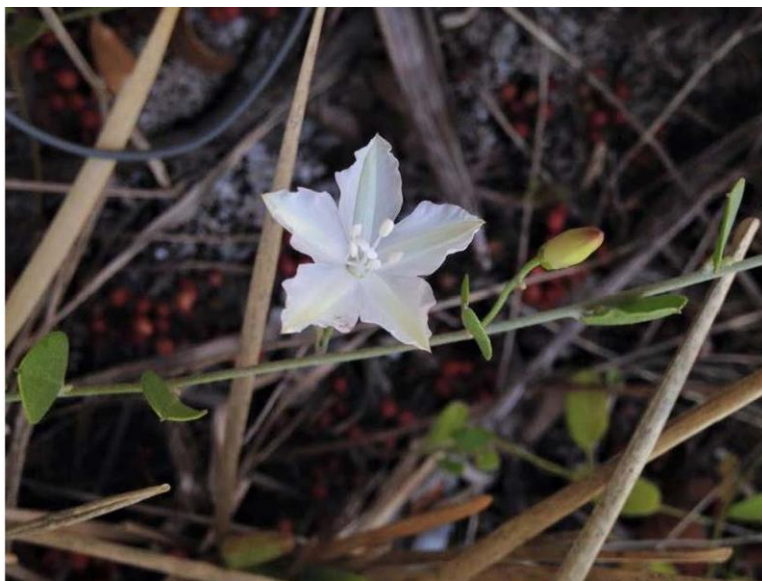
Jacquemontia reclinata House

Synonyms: none

Family: Convolvulaceae (morning-glory)

FNAI Ranks: G1/S1

Legal Status: US-Endangered; FL-Endangered



Flowers solitary and axillary, white or pale pink. Photo by Amy Jenkins.

Field Description: A low growing **vine** with a woody base and non-woody, creeping or twining **stems** to 1.8 m long. **Leaves** about 2.5 cm long, oval, entire, alternate, somewhat fleshy, with rounded or notched tips; young leaves and stems whitened by dense hairs. **Flowers** 2.5 cm across when open, deeply 5-lobed with a short tube, white; solitary or in clusters on 2.5 cm long stalks arising in the angle of leaf and stem; **sepals** small with a narrow fringe of hairs. **Fruit** a small, round capsule with persistent sepals.

Similar Species: Hairy clustervine (*Jacquinia tamnifolia*) has clusters of blue flowers and occurs in disturbed sites throughout Florida, while whorled clustervine (*Jacquemontia verticillata*), a non-native that occupies disturbed sites in central Florida has singular blue flowers.

Related Rare Species: Pineland clustervine (*Jacquemontia curtissii*), state-threatened, closely resembles beach jacquemontia, but lacks the fringe of hairs on the sepals and has narrower, non-fleshy leaves; it occurs in pine flatwoods and pine rocklands in Collier, Dade, and Monroe counties. Havana clustervine (*Jacquemontia havanensis*), state-endangered, also lacks the fringe of hairs on the sepals and has non-fleshy leaves; it occurs in hammocks and coastal berms in Dade County and Monroe County Keys. Skyblue clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*) state-endangered, also occurs in pine rocklands, rockland hammocks, and coastal rock barrens but has blue flowers instead of white.

Habitat: Dunes; disturbed openings in maritime hammocks, coastal strands, and coastal scrub, often with seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), sand spurs (*Cenchrus* sp.), poisonwood (*Metopium toxiferum*), and prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia* sp.).

Best Survey Season: All year; November - May.

Range-wide Distribution: Endemic to southeast coast of FL. Brevard, Broward, Dade, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach counties, FL.

Conservation Status: There are 14 extant occurrence records in Florida, of which 11 are on public property. The occurrences are scattered along the eastern coast from Palm Beach County to Dade County, Florida. Beach front is under tremendous development pressure and little habitat remains. All remaining populations are threatened by a combination of fire exclusion, woody species succession, non-native invasive plant species, habitat fragmentation, and global sea level rise. Very little natural habitat remains on the SE Florida coast. Most populations are small and surrounded by urban development. Several occurrences located in disturbed openings within maritime hammock and coastal strand communities have been extirpated or are declining due to habitat degradation.

Protection and Management: Protect coastal habitats from development by conservation purchase or easement. Remove exotic pest plants, especially Australian pine, beach naupaka, carrotwood, Brazilian pepper, and turf grasses. Where populations occur, maintain openings in forest habitat by removing woody species. Establish new populations in protected areas.

References: Coile 2000, IRC 1999, Langeland and Burks 1998, Small 1934, USFWS 1998, Ward 1979, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011, Weakley, A. S. and the Southeastern Flora Team 2024.

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Flowers white or pale pink; outer sepals with tiny, stiff hairs. Photo © Keith Bradley.

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