

RAVEN'S SEEDBOX

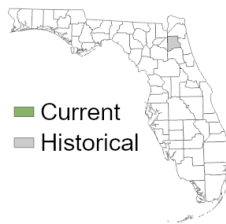
Ludwigia ravenii Peng

Synonyms: none

Family: Onagraceae (evening primrose)

FNAI Ranks: G1G2/SH

Legal Status: US-none; FL-none



No Image
Available

Field Description: Erect herb with stems 35 - 90 cm tall, usually well-branched and leafy, covered with dense, fine hairs. **Leaves** alternate, entire, pale green on both surfaces, narrowly lance-elliptic. Small **flowers** borne from leaf axils, no petals, style glabrous. Four **sepals**, ascending, broadly ovate-deltate, acuminate apex, green. **Bracteoles** attached at base of capsule. Anthers 0.3 mm, filaments 0.7 - 1.1 mm, styles 0.3 - 0.5 mm. **Fruit capsule** oblong ovoid, averaging around 4 mm.

Similar Species: *L. pilosa* has hirtellous styles, flowers usually crowded, sepals creamy and tinged with pink, sepals reflexed, bracteole attached above capsule, anthers 0.6 - 0.9 mm, filaments 1.5 - 2.5 mm, styles 1 - 2 mm, fruit capsule subglobose. *L. sphaerocarpa* is glabrous or strigillose, sepals yellowish, anthers 0.5 - 0.8 mm, filaments 1.0 - 1.7 mm, styles 0.6 - 1.0 mm, fruit capsule subglobose.

Related Rare Species: There are no rare species of the family Onagraceae in Florida.

Habitat: Pond margins.

Best Survey Season: Flowering from June to September. Fruiting from August to November.

Range-wide Distribution: Se. VA south to ne. FL, restricted to the Coastal Plain. Presumed extirpated from Florida.

Conservation Status: This species has not been seen in Florida since 1963 and has not been recorded from any conservation lands.

Protection and Management: Avoid disturbance of wetland edges and conversion of surrounding upland habitat to pine plantation. If collecting seed for reintroduction efforts, it is recommended to collect seed capsules greater than 4 mm in length (Lindelof and Krings 2021).

References: Peng 1984, Weakley, A. S. and the Southeastern Flora Team 2023, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011.