

MANGROVEBERRY

Mosiera longipes (O. Berg) Small

Synonyms: *Eugenia longipes* O. Berg; *Myrtus verrucosa* Berg; *Psidium longipes* (Berg)

McVaugh

Family: Myrtaceae (myrtle)

FNAI Ranks: G3G4/S2

Legal Status: US-none; FL-Threatened



Amy Jenkins

Field Description: Evergreen **shrub or small tree**, up to 3.7 m tall, with thin, flaking bark, a twisted trunk, and a drooping or 'weeping' growth habit with trailing branches to about 1 m long. **Leaves** opposite, simple, entire, oval to nearly round, about 2.5 cm long, shiny with reddish, translucent veins and gland dots visible from below; often on short shoots. **Flowers** 13 mm across, with 4 white to pink petals and numerous stamens, solitary on 2.5 cm long stalks. **Fruit** round, red turning to black, on long stalks.

Similar Species: Numerous stoppers and other tropical shrubs have opposite, oval leaves. Look for translucent veins on the leaves, and for fruits and flowers on very long stalks.

Related Rare Species: Red stopper (*Eugenia rhombea*) and myrtle-of-the-river (*Calypttranthes zuzygium*).

Habitat: In mostly sunny areas of hammocks and pine rocklands.

Best Survey Season: Flowers spring and summer, but may be identified all year from leaves and fruits.

Range-wide Distribution: Florida Keys, Miami-Dade County, and the West Indies.

Conservation Status: 34 populations are reported, although many have not been confirmed in over 20 years; about 20 populations are reported in conservation areas.

Protection and Management: Acquire privately owned sites and manage for conservation; control exotic pest plants; use fire to maintain a mosaic of rockland habitats.

References: Coile 2000, Correll and Correll 1982, IRC 1999, Long and Lakela 1971, Nelson 1996, Patterson and Stevenson 1977, Tomlinson 1980, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

