

PINELAND PASSION-FLOWER

Passiflora pallens Poepp. ex Masters

Synonyms: none

Family: Passifloraceae (passionflower)

FNAI Ranks: G3G4/S2

Legal Status: US-none FL-Endangered



Roger Hammer

Field Description: High-climbing **vine** with hairless, waxy stems and long, curling tendrils. **Leaves** to 3.2 inches long, alternate, 3-lobed, with 2 stalked glands on the leaf stalk and 2 small, leaf-like stipules at the base of the leaf stalk. **Flower** showy, solitary on a long stalk arising in the angle between stem and leaf stalk; **sepals** 5, petal-like, white with a green, pointed appendage on the tip; **petals** 5, white, slightly shorter than sepals; crown composed of many white and purple filaments; 3 small, leaf-like bracts underneath the flower. **Fruit** 2 inches long, oval, yellow when ripe.

Similar Species: See white passionflower (*Passiflora multiflora*) in this guide; it has much smaller white flowers without the sepal appendages, velvety stems, and oblong leaves. Goatsfoot (*Passiflora sexflora*), state-endangered, has small, pale green flowers and hairy, greenish-purple fruit; its leaf stalks lack glands.

pineland passion-flower

Passiflora pallens

Related Rare Species: Goatsfoot (*Passiflora sexflora*), state-endangered, has broad 3-lobed leaves; leaf stalks without glands; small, pale green flowers; and hairy, greenish-purple fruit. White-flowered passionvine (*Passiflora multiflora*), state-endangered, unlobed leaves with margins that are entire; leaf stalk with two glands; small, greenish-white to white flowers; and round, smooth, dark blue fruits.

Habitat: Rockland hammocks, coastal berms, strand swamps, and roadside thickets in strand swamps.

Best Survey Season: All year.

Range-wide Distribution: FL, West Indies.

Conservation Status: There are 12 populations in Florida, 8 on conservation lands, with a total of fewer than 10,000 plants.

Protection and Management: Purchase and protect remaining intact habitats. Eradicate exotic pest plants.

References: Coile 2000, IRC 1999, Small 1933, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.