

SHORTBRISTLE BEAKSEEDGE

Rhynchospora galeana Naczi, W. Knapp, & Gerry Moore

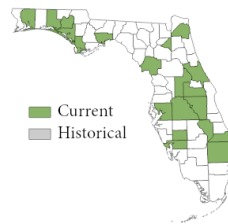
Synonyms: *Rhynchospora breviseta* (Gale) Channell

Family: Cyperaceae (sedge)

FNAI Ranks: G3?/SNR

Legal Status: US-none FL-none

Wetland Status: US-OBL+ FL-FACW



John Bradford



Joshua Campbell

Field Description: Perennial sedge with very slender, wiry leaves (25-60 cm long). Spikelets 1-2 per culm. Achene body obovoid. The tubercle is seated like a cap on the apex. Bristles plumose, half the length of the achene or less.

Similar Species: *Rhynchospora breviseta* looks similar to featherbristle beaksedge (*R. oligantha*), but the latter species has longer bristles nearly equaling or exceeding the achene.

Related Rare Species: The state-threatened coastalplain beaksedge (*Rhynchospora stenophylla*) occurs in deep bogs and sphagnum seeps of the Florida Panhandle. The state-endangered large-plumed beaksedge (*R. megaplumosa*) is endemic to the central peninsula of Florida, occurring in scrubby flatwoods.

shortbristle beaksedge

Rhynchospora galeana

Habitat: Wet prairies, bogs, and grassy wet flatwoods.

Best Survey Season: Flowering spring through summer.

Range-wide Distribution: Coastal Plain from North Carolina to Florida and west to southern Mississippi. Lesser and Greater Antilles

Conservation Status: Shortbristle beaksedge is not tracked in Florida. Habitat is plentiful for this species, but it is not well documented throughout its range, perhaps due to the wispy plants being overlooked and easily blending in with other grasses.

Protection and Management: Maintain wet prairies and grassy flatwoods with prescribed burns every 2-3 years.

References: Clewell 1985, Godfrey and Wooten 1979, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011.