

EVERGLADES GREENBRIER

Smilax havanensis Jacq.

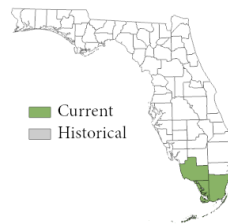
Synonyms: none

Family: Smilacaceae (greenbrier)

FNAI Ranks: GNR/S3

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-none+ FL-UPL



No Image
Available

Field Description: A climbing woody vine with stems up to 10 feet long armed with recurved prickles. Leaves are alternate, elliptic, 2 to 5 inches long, and leathery, with palmate venation and irregularly spinose margins. Flowers are inconspicuous, small, and green, clustered into axillary umbels. Fruits are round berries that turn black at maturity.

Similar Species: There is at least 15 species of greenbrier that occurs throughout Florida. Dune greenbrier (*Smilax auriculata*) has entire leaf margins, with leaf blades of various shapes, however frequently broadened below midpoint; secondary leaf veins are prominently raised on underside; prickles 1-4 mm long.

Related Rare Species: None.

Habitat: Rockland hammock, pine rocklands, and coastal berms.

Everglades greenbrier

Smilax havanensis

Best Survey Season: Fall.

Range-wide Distribution: South Florida and the West Indies.

Conservation Status: Listed state-threatened, this species is vouchered from 3 counties in South Florida.

Protection and Management: Special attention should be made to prevent adversely impacting surrounding natural area.

References: Wunderlin and Hansen 2011