MOCK PENNYROYAL

Stachydeoma graveolens (Chapman ex Gray)

Small

Synonyms: *Hedeoma graveolens* Chapman ex

Gray

Family: Lamiaceae (mint) FNAI Ranks: G2G3/S2S3

Legal Status: US-none; FL-Endangered





Amy Jenkins

Field Description: Perennial herb or sub-shrub to 51 cm tall, with a short, woody **stem** and numerous upright, hairy **branches**. **Leaves** 13 mm long (smaller near tips of stems), aromatic, opposite, oval, lacking leaf stalks, margins entire or slightly toothed, surfaces hairy and with glistening amber glands. **Flowers** solitary or few in the angle of leaf and stem near the top of the plant; **calyx** tubular, 2-lipped, 10-ribbed, glandular, and hairy; **flower** 13 mm long, pink, 2-lipped, upper lip is 2-lobed and erect, lower lip is 3-lobed and spreads downward; flower has 2 fertile **stamens**, both with obvious **anthers**.

Similar Species: Toothed savory (*Calamintha dentata*), state-threatened, is another pink-flowering mint found in sandhills in the Panhandle; its lower leaves have small teeth, and flowers have 4 fertile stamens.

Related Rare Species: Several rare mints occur in the Panhandle, including Apalachicola rosemary (*Conradina glabra*), Florida skullcap (*Scutellaria floridana*), and white-birds-in-a nest (*Macbridea alba*).

Habitat: Sandhills, upland pine, and drier areas in pine-palmetto-wiregrass flatwoods.

Best Survey Season: Spring-fall; May - September.

Range-wide Distribution: Endemic to FL Panhandle.

Conservation Status: About 50 populations of this species are known, most on the Apalachicola National Forest.

Protection and Management: Burn sandhills and flatwoods every 2 - 3 years. Avoid clearcutting and mechanical site preparation in these habitats.

References: Coile 2000, Godfrey 1988, Kral 1983, Ward 1979, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011, Wunderlin et al. 2018.

