

PRIDE-OF-BIG-PINE

Strumpfia maritima Jacq.

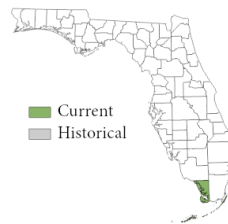
Synonyms: none

Family: Rubiaceae (coffee)

FNAI Ranks: G4/S1

Legal Status: US-none FL-Endangered

Wetland Status: US-OBL*+ FL-FACW



Amy Jenkins

Field Description: Much-branched **shrub** to 5 feet tall, with stout, densely hairy branches that appear segmented due to old leaf scars. **Leaves** to 1 inch long, without leafstalks, stiff and leathery, linear with blunt tips; margins curled under, covering the lower leaf surface; 3 leaves per node, whorled, crowded at ends of branches. **Flowers** small, about 0.25 inch across, white, hairy, with 5 spreading lobes and short tube. **Fruit** small, fleshy, round, white, smelling of cedar.

Similar Species: Bay cedar (*Suriana maritima*), also found on dunes and strand, has similar leaves and growth form, but yellow, non-tubular flowers; fruits are dry, 5-segmented capsules. Coker's beach creeper (*Ernodea cokeri*), a similar rare species, is included in this guide.

Related Rare Species: See in this guide: princewood (*Exostema caribaeum*), small-flowered lily-thorn (*Catesbaea parviflora*), and Bahama wild-coffee (*Psychotria*

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ligustrifolia).

Habitat: Coastal strand, upper dunes, edges of pine rocklands, inland edges of mangrove swamps, and brackish soils of tidal rock barrens.

Best Survey Season: Flowers and fruits all year.

Range-wide Distribution: Monroe County Keys, FL; West Indies, Mexico.

Conservation Status: Six populations have been documented, only 2 in conservation lands.

Protection and Management: Protect coastal areas from development. Eradicate exotic pest plants.

References: Coile 2000, Correll and Correll 1982, IRC 1999, Nelson 1996, Small 1933, Ward 1979, Wunderlin 1998, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.