**CARTER’S WAREA**  
*Warea carteri* Small  
**Synonyms:** none  
**Family:** Brassicaceae (mustard)  
**FNAI Ranks:** G1/S1  
**Legal Status:** US-Endangered FL-Endangered  
**Wetland Status:** US-none FL-US-none FL-none

**Field Description:** Annual herb with many slender, branching stems, up to 40 inches tall, forming a rounded crown. Leaves to 2 inches long near the base of the stem, decreasing upwards to tiny bracts; alternate, pale yellow-green, with wedge-shaped bases, rounded tips, and entire margins; lower leaves shed by flowering time. Flower clusters numerous, rounded, with up to 60 flowers. Flowers about 0.5 inch wide, white, with 4 paddle-shaped petals and 6 long stamens. Fruit up to 2.5 inches long, in clusters of narrow, down-curving pods that split lengthwise.

**Similar Species:** Wedge-leaf warea (*Warea cuneifolia*) and sessile-leaf warea (*Warea sessilifolia*) occur only in the Panhandle. Clammyweed (*Polanisia tenuifolia*) resembles Carter’s mustard at the end of the growing season, except it has single, upturned pods in the leaf axils. The flowers and fruit of the common garden spiderflower (*Cleome hassleriana*) resemble Carter’s warea’s although they are much larger.

**Related Rare Species:** See clasping warea (*Warea amplexifolia*), whose range slightly overlaps Carter’s mustard, in this guide.
Carter’s warea  

*Warea carteri*

**Habitat:** Sandhill, scrubby flatwoods, inland and coastal scrub.

**Best Survey Season:** Flowers September - October.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Endemic to south and central FL.

**Conservation Status:** Carter’s mustard appears only after fire, making population estimates difficult. Large populations are known in 3 or 4 managed areas.

**Protection and Management:** Protect privately owned sandhill and scrub by purchase or conservation easement. Manage sites with prescribed fire, and prevent trampling and ORV use. Eradicate invasive exotic grass species.