



Native Wildflower Groundcovers for North Florida¹

Scientific Name	Common Name	Plant Type	Flower Season ²	Flower Color	Vegetative Height	Height, in flower	Native Habitat ³	N, C, S Florida	Comments
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Lanceleaf Coreopsis	Perennial; evergreen	Mid-spring, summer, fall	Yellow	6 to 12 inches	10 to 20 inches	Sandhills; disturbed areas; edges of cypress swamps	N, N-C	Reseeds; will spread vegetatively
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Blanket Flower; Firewheel	Annual/ short-lived per.; can be evergreen	Late spring, summer, fall	Red and yellow; red; yellow; rose	10 to 18 inches	1 to 3 feet	Disturbed areas; sandy open sites	N, C, S	Excellent for hot, dry sites; reseeds
<i>Helianthus debilis</i> subsp. <i>debilis</i> 'Flora Sun' ⁴	'Flora Sun' Beach Sunflower	Annual/ Perennial; semi-evergreen	Late spring, summer	Yellow	Up to 3 feet	Up to 3 feet	Disturbed areas; beaches	N, C, S	Not freeze tolerant
<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	Railroad Vine	Perennial	Summer	Pinkish purple	N/A	Creeping vine	Coastal beaches; dunes	N, C, S	Individual flowers only last 1 day
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral Honeysuckle	Perennial	Late spring, summer	Red	N/A	Creeping, climbing vine	Thickets; woodland edges	N, C	Use it to replace Japanese honeysuckle
<i>Mimosa strigillosa</i>	Powderpuff	Perennial	Late spring, early summer	Pink	<1 inch	1 to 3 inches	Moist, disturbed sites; streambanks; pinelands	N, C, S	Not freeze tolerant
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge Berry	Perennial; evergreen	Spring	White	<1 inch	1 to 3 inches	Moist, upland forests; hammocks	N, C, S	Very shade tolerant; red berries

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<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Matchweed; Capeweed	Perennial; deciduous to evergreen	Spring, summer, early fall	Pink	<4 inches	<4 inches	Damp, sandy soils; dunes; sandy disturbed sites	N, C, S	Drought tolerant once established
<i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>	Grassleaf Golden Aster	Perennial; evergreen	Late summer, fall	Yellow	6 to 12 inches	1 ½ to 3 feet	Sandhills; flatwoods; scrubs	N, C, S	Silvery grass- like foliage; will spread vegetatively
<i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Lyreleaf Sage; Cancer Weed	Perennial	Spring	Purple	2 to 4 inches 1 st yr; 8 to 10 inches	1 to 1 1/2 feet	Disturbed areas; marshes	N, C, S	Sun or shade; reseeds
<i>Senecio aureus</i>	Golden Ragwort	Perennial; evergreen	Spring	Yellow	4 to 8 inches	2 to 3 feet	Moist areas; woodlands	N	Good for shady area; will spread vegetatively
<i>Sisyrinchium atlanticum</i>	Blue-Eyed Grass	Perennial; evergreen	Spring	Blue	6 to 10 inches	1 to 1/1/2 feet	Moist areas; flatwoods; grassy fields; marshes	N, C, S	Grass-like foliage; clumps; true blue flowers

¹ The species listed in this table are plants that are native to the U.S. and occur in Florida; most of them are considered native to Florida. Information shown in this table is based on personal observations and on information obtained from the references on the next page. Species information primarily refers to plants as they occur in their natural environment in Florida.

² Native habitat - This information is provided as a guide to help determine what type of site on which to use these species.

³ Flowering season in North Florida.

⁴ Do not use in Pinellas to Sarasota Counties so as to avoid possible genetic crossing with the threatened Gulf Coast species *Helianthus debilis* subsp. *vestitus*.

REFERENCES

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- Enviroscaping to Conserve Energy: Ground Covers for North Florida - EES 37
- Enviroscaping to Conserve Energy: Ground Covers for Central Florida - EES 38
- Enviroscaping to Conserve Energy: Ground Covers for South Florida - EES 39
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