

Recommended Florida Native Beach and Dune Plants for Beachfront Properties and Dune Restoration

Notes:

1. Salt tolerance: high (tolerant of heavy and frequent salt spray, salt water flooding); moderate (tolerant of salt spray but subject to leaf burn from heavy salt spray or root damage from flooding); low (tolerant of salt laden air and short duration, infrequent salt water flooding but usually in protected areas).
2. Region: NW = northwest Florida Panhandle; SW = Pinellas to Collier counties; NE = Nassau to Volusia counties; SE = Brevard to Dade counties; Keys = restricted to the Florida Keys and adjacent Dade and Monroe County islands. Regions have primarily been determined by the historic distribution of the plant in Florida's coastal upland natural communities, not necessarily by the range of areas or habitats where the plant could survive.
3. Soil Moisture: moist (subject to flooding as within low dune swales); moderate (not subject to frequent flooding but not adapted to deepest sands or driest conditions); dry (adapted to deep sands, dune ridges, or well drained rocky soils); and variations for plants adapted across a range of conditions.

References:

1. Nelson, Gil. 2003. Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants: 200 readily available species for homeowners and professionals. Florida Association of Native Nurseries. University Presses of Florida.
2. Williams, M.J. 2007. Native Plants for Coastal Dune Resotration: what, when and how for Florida. USDA, NRCS, Brooksville Plant Materials Center, Brooksville, Florida.
3. Wunderlin, Richard P., etal. Plant Atlas. University of South Florida (www.plantatlas.usf.edu).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Salt tolerance	Region (NW/SW/NE/SE/Keys)	Soil Moisture
Dune Grasses				
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	salt grass	high	all	moist
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> var. <i>filipes</i>	Gulf hairawn muhly grass	moderate	all	moderate
<i>Panicum amarum</i>	bitter panic grass	high	all	dry
<i>Panicum vaginatum</i>	seashore paspalum	high	all	moderate
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	coastal bluestem	high	all	moderate
<i>Spartina patens</i>	marshhay	high	all	moderate
<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>	seashore dropseed	high	all	moist
<i>Uniola paniculata</i>	sea oats	high	all	dry

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Groundcovers				
Borrichia arborescens	sea oxeye	high	SW, SE, Keys	moist
Borrichia frutescens	sea oxeye	high	all	moist
Ernodea littoralis	golden beach creeper	high	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Gaillardia pulchella	blanket flower	moderate	all	dry
Helianthus debilis	East Coast dune sunflower	high	NE, SE, Keys	dry
Helianthus debilis spp. cucumerifolius	cucumber leaf dune sunflower	high	NW, SW	dry
Helianthus debilis ssp. vestitus	West Coast dune sunflower	high	SW	dry
Hymenocallis latifolia	beach spider lily	high	SW, NE, SE, Keys	moist - dry
Ipomoea imperati	beach morning glory	high	all	moderate - dry
Ipomoea pes-caprae	railroad vine	high	all	moderate - dry
Iva imbricata	beach elder	high	all	moist – dry
Sesuvium portulacastrum	sea purslane	high	all	moist - moderate
Solidago sempervirens	seaside goldenrod	high	NW, SW, NE, SE	moist – moderate
Yucca filamentosa	Adam’s needle	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Shrubs				
Ardisia escallonoides	marlberry	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate
Argusia gnaphalodes	sea lavender	high	SE, Keys	dry
Chrysobalanus icaco	coco plum	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Erythrina herbacea	coral bean	low	all	moderate - dry
Eugenia axillaris	white stopper	low	SW, SE, Keys	moderate
Eugenia foetida	Spanish stopper	low	SW, SE, Keys	moderate
Forestiera segregata	Florida privet	low	SW, NE, SE, Keys	moist -moderate

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Shrubs (continued)				
Ilex vomitoria	yaupon	moderate	SW, NE, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Myrica cerifera	wax myrtle	moderate	all	moist - moderate
Quercus geminata	sand live oak	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Quercus myrtifolia	myrtle oak	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Rapanea punctata	myrsine	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moist - dry
Serenoa repens	saw palmetto	high	all	moist - dry
Suriana maritima	bay cedar	high	SW, SE, Keys	dry
Zamia pumila	coontie	moderate	SW, NE, SE, Keys	dry
Thorn/Scrub Plants				
Agave decipiens	false sisal	high	SW, SE, Keys	dry
Caesalpinia bonduc	gray nickerbean	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Erythrina herbacea	coral bean	low	all	dry
Opuntia spp.	prickly pears	high	all	moderate - dry
Serenoa repens	saw palmetto	high	all	moist - dry
Sideroxylon tenax	tough bully	low	NE, SE	dry
Smilax auriculata	earleaf catbrier	moderate	all	dry
Ximenia Americana	hog plum	low	NE, SE	dry
Yucca aloifolia	Spanish bayonet	high	all	dry
Yucca filamentosa	Adam's needle	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Yucca gloriosa	Moundlily yucca	moderate	NW, SW, NE	dry
Zanthoxylum clava-hercules	Hercules' club	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Zanthoxylum fagara	wild lime	moderate	SW, NE, SE, Keys	moderate - dry

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Trees				
Acacia farnesiana	sweet acacia	moderate	all	moist - dry
Baccharis halimifolia	salt bush	high	all	moist - moderate
Bursera simauruba	gumbo limbo	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Capparis cynophallophora	Jamaica caper	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	dry
Celtis laevigata	hackberry	low	NW, SW, NE, SE	moist - moderate
Chrysophyllum oliviforme	satinleaf	moderate	SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Citharexylum spinosum	fiddleleaf	moderate	SE, Keys	dry
Coccoloba diversifolia	pigeon plum	high	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Coccoloba uvifera	sea grape	high	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Conocarpus ererctus	buttonwood	high	SW, SE, Keys	moist - moderate
Cordia sebestana	Geiger tree	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Ficus aurea	golden fig	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate
Ilex x. attenuata	East Palatka holly	low	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate
Ilex cassine	dahoon holly	low	NW, SW, NE, SE	moist - moderate
Ilex opaca	American holly	low	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate
Ilex vomitoria	yaupon holly	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate - dry
Juniperus silicicola	southern red dedar	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate
Laguncularia racemosa	white mangrove	high	SW, SE, Keys	moist - moderate
Magnolia grandiflora	southern magnolia	moderate	NW, SW, NE	moderate
Persea borbonia	redbay	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate

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Trees continued				
Persea humilis	silkbay	moderate	SW, NE, SE	moderate - dry
Pinus clausa	sand pine	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	dry
Pinus elliottii	slash pine	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE, Keys	moist - moderate
Quercus geminata	sand live oak	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE	moderate - dry
Quercus virginiana	live oak	moderate	NW, SW, NE, SE, Keys	moderate - dry
Sideroxylon foetidissimum	mastic	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moderate
Palms				
Acoelorrhaphe wrightii	paurotis palm	moderate	SW, SE, Keys	moist - moderate
Coccothrinax argentata	silver palm	high	SE, Keys	dry
Sabal palmetto	cabbage palm	high	all	moist - moderate
Serenoa repens	saw palmetto	high	all	moist - dry
Thrinax morrissii	brittle thatch palm	moderate	Keys	dry
Thrinax radiata	Florida thatch palm	moderate	Keys	dry

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