



Dade Chapter

TILLANDSIA

Newsletter of the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.
- For Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys -

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2017

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, November 28, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami
Free and open to the public

Refreshments begin at 7:15 pm., merchandise sales before and after the program. The plant raffle follows the program. Contributions of **raffle items** and **refreshments** are always greatly appreciated. **Please label your raffle plant donations!**

**“Orchid Conservation Translocation Efforts in the USA:
Which, Why, Who and Future Priorities”
- Dr. Hong Liu, Florida International University**

Orchids are a highly diverse group of plants that are threatened due to habitat destruction and overharvesting. Globally, conservation translocation (sensu IUCN 2013) - the deliberate movement of organisms from one site for release in another with an intended conservation benefit - has been an important recovery strategy for orchids. In this study, we review current conservation translocation efforts of orchids in the United States to understand: 1) the choice of plants for translocation; 2) the length of monitoring time; 3) the success of translocation efforts and 4) the type of agencies invoking translocation as a management action. We hope to unveil the motivation for orchid translocations in the US, including Florida.

Dr. Hong Liu is an Associate Professor at Florida International University, Dept. of Earth and Environment and the International Center for Tropical Botany. She is also a Research Associate at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Her current research, both in Florida and tropical



China, addresses important environmental issues such as what are the impacts of climate change on rare and threatened species, how to conserve heavily exploited plant species, the role of biotic interactions in population persistence and expansion, and the ecological consequences of invasive pollinators. She is also interested in rare plant restoration, including endangered orchids. She has published more than 60 peer-reviewed papers, and her research in wild orchid conservation has been recognized by academic peers worldwide. The journal *Science* prominently featured her work in China in 2010 (*Science* 329: 1592-1594). She currently serves on the editorial board of *Conservation Biology*, a flagship journal in the field of biodiversity conservation. (Photo: fairchildgarden.org)

Calendar

November

10-12 (Fri.-Sun.): FTBG Fall Garden Festival/Ramble
16 (Thur.): Give Miami Day – support DCFNPS
25 (Sat.): Field trip - Ann Kolb Nature Center, Broward Co.
28 (Tue.): Chapter meeting at Pinecrest Gardens

December

9 (Sat.): Chapter workday, Everglades National Park
16 (Sat): Field trip (TBA)
No meeting or *Tillandsia* newsletter
in December (email announcements only)

March 24, 2018 - Native Plant Day at A.D. Barnes Park
May 17-20, 2018 - FNPS Annual Conference in Miami

FIELD TRIPS

All of our field trips are joint Broward/Dade Chapter activities. The next two trips have been planned by the Broward Chapter. If you have suggestions for field trips, please contact Patty (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404)

• **Saturday November 25, 2017, 9:00 to 11:30 am. Anne Kolb Nature Center**

Time, address and directions are in the newsletter mailed to members. Please join to enjoy all the activities of the chapter!

Difficulty: Easy, short off-trail exploration possible (moderate)
Bring: Sun protection, water, insect repellent, shoes for possible wet/mud, lunch if you want to picnic afterward.
Late/lost: Richard, 954-661-6289
<http://www.broward.org/Parks/WestLakePark/Pages/AnneKolbNatureCenter.aspx>

Molly Taylor, Park Naturalist of Secret Woods and formerly at West Lake Park, will lead us on a botany walk. This 1,722 acre park is Broward County's largest urban natural area. It has many acres of open water, mangroves, miles of trails, a 68-foot tower with elevator and stairs providing great views. The exhibit hall has educational exhibits, art gallery, and 3,500-gallon saltwater aquarium (\$2 fee). Once extensively covered with Australian pine, the site has undergone a series of restoration efforts and we see native species coming back on their own.

• **Saturday, December 16, 2017. Jimmy Lange, Field Botanist at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, will lead a trip in a Broward or Big Cypress natural area. Details will be in the December email from the Dade**

Chapter. (There is no December *Tillandsia* newsletter.)
If you do not receive these emails, please
see: <http://coontie.fnpschapters.org/index.php?id=calendar>
or contact Patty (305-878-5705) or Richard (954-661-6289).

FNPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 17-20, 2018 in Miami at the Miccosukee
Resort www.fnps.org/conference/2018

• **Local coordinators are needed for several activities:** Plant Sale, Volunteers, Silent Auction, Youth Program, Game Night and more. *You can receive free conference admission!* Contact Juliet Rynear (julietrynear@yahoo.com) for more information on these or other volunteer positions.

• **The conference artwork is the beautiful Resurrection Fern by the late Dr. Marjorie Brown,** member of DCFNPS and the Tropical Botanic Artists. What could better express the conference theme, “**Renewal**”?



• See fnps.org/participate/awards for details of **grants** for **research, conservation and ethnobotany research, and landscape awards** in numerous categories. All will be announced at the conference. **Deadlines are March 2, 2018.** Take photos of your landscape now while it's still nice and lush! *Submitting a landscape (residential, commercial, professional, restoration, school, and more) is a wonderful way to promote native plants.*

DADE CHAPTER & FNPS NEWS

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Fall Garden Festival and Ramble – Friday-Sunday, November 10-12, 2017

Our educational display will promote FNPS and the importance of native plants and habitats. We will share part of the display with Miami Blue NABA to feature native butterfly plants and caterpillars. **Stop by to enjoy the display or offer to help!** **We still need caterpillars that have local native plant hosts.** Please contact Patty (305-255-6404, pharespl@gmail.com) if you have caterpillars or chrysalises to share for the display.

Give Miami Day – Thursday, November 16, 2017

A community-wide day of online giving! Your donation to the Dade Chapter FNPS at GiveMiamiDay.org will support the educational mission of our chapter. *What is special is that the Miami Foundation and partners make a bonus gift for donations of \$25 to \$10,000 made on Give Miami Day.*

Chapter Workday, Everglades National Park, Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center – Saturday, December 9, 2017, 9 a.m. - noon

We will continue post-Irma repair and maintenance of our landscape. Cold water is provided; bring snacks to share if you care to. Gloves and hand tools are available, but you may prefer your own. **New helpers are encouraged to come!** Afterward, you are admitted to the park free. Contact Patty (305-878-5705, pharespl@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Broward Chapter FNPS. coontie.fnpschapters.org/. Meets at

Secret Woods, 2701 W. SR 84, Dania Beach, FL 33312
December 13, 2017, 7 p.m.: “Endemic Plants of South Florida”
– Jimmy Lange, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

The November-December *Sabal minor* from FNPS is now at www.fnps.org/assets/pdf/sabalminor/sabalminor19_6_2017nov-dec.pdf.

Welcome new Dade Chapter member! Lian Plass

Give the Gift of Natives

All Year Round!

The Gift of DCFNPS/FNPS Membership
Starting at \$35

Support native plant, habitat and wildlife conservation and introduce your friends to the benefits of FNPS membership.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ARE DOING

(How you can help and enjoy native plants and natural areas!)

Dade Native Plant Workshop: Note time: 5 p.m. MDC Kendall Campus Landscape Technology Center, third Tuesdays. www.nativeplantworkshop.com or contact Steve Woodmansee at steve@pronative.com. Bring at least three cuttings, which need not pertain to the topic. **All levels welcome.** **November 21 topic: Morning glory family (Convolvulaceae)** **December 19 topic: See website.** Also, holiday refreshments!

FIU Biology Department's informal and entertaining lunchtime seminars, Wednesdays, noon-1 p.m., WC 130. See faculty.fiu.edu/~kopturs/planttalk17.html for talk schedule. Bring lunch! **To receive a reminder** (including any program changes) contact Dr. Suzanne Koptur (kopturs@fiu.edu). No December programs. **Parking tip:** Around noon (if not earlier) guest spaces in garages 4, 5 & 6 north of building WC open up.

Everglades National Park Free Entrance Days: November 11-12, 2017, Veterans Day weekend. See <https://www.nps.gov/ever/planyourvisit/everglades-national-park-is-open.htm> for information on the post-Irma park. **Some closures are still in effect**, including Shark Valley and services at Flamingo. But it's a very interesting time to see the park after a severe weather event and the incredible water levels.

Livablecutler Coastal Pinelands Restoration Workdays (part of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Restoration). **November 11-12, 2017.** To help prepare the site and set up on Friday, Nov. 10, contact Eduardo at 305-299-9809. **Location:** east of **Old Cutler Rd. on SW 184 St.** Planting, mulching, debris removal, weeding, fixing damaged signs, having fun doing it. Snacks, drinks, most tools provided. Bring gloves, shovels, wheelbarrows if you can. www.facebook.com/livablecutler/, livablecutler@gmail.com

Kenwoods Outdoor Learning Center - Irma cleanup, Nov. 11, 2017, 9 a.m.-noon at our favorite, award-winning native hammock. **Kenwood K-8**, 9300 SW 79th Ave., Miami. Contact Henry Block (hbpobop@gmail.com). Water and *stylish work gloves* will be provided for a fun time hauling branches!

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Volunteer Workdays. Help to protect and restore Miami-Dade's natural areas. www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp or 305.372.6611 for info and to register.

- **November 18, 2017: Hattie Bauer Hammock Preserve**, 26715 SW 157 Ave. (Invasive plant removal)
- **December 2, 2017: Goulds Pineland Preserve**, SW 224 St. & 120 Ave. (Clean up)

Advertising

VEBER'S *Jungle Garden*

HUGE FALL PLANT SALE

November 17 & 18, 2017 (Fri. –Sat.), 8:30 a.m. -2 p.m.

24605 SW 197 Ave., Homestead FL 33031

Natives, Palms, Bamboo and Flowering Plants

We need to reduce inventory of some 15 & 25 gallon items.
Bring your family and friends and a big truck!!
For directions please visit www.vebersjungle.com
CASH or CHECKS ONLY....no credit cards.

WEED OR WILDFLOWER?

Rustweed – *Polypremum procumbens*

By Martin Roessler

The common rustweed or juniper leaf, *Polypremum procumbens*, is a prostrate, diffusely branched herbaceous perennial herb described by Carl Linnaeus in 1753. The genus name is from the Greek *polys* (many) and *premon* (stump or stem), alluding to the multi-branched habit. The species name *procumbens* means low growing or prostrate. The stems are ribbed and the leaves



are sessile (without a stalk), narrowly linear and about 6 – 12 mm long and 1.5 mm wide. They may be green or rust colored. This photo taken in a disturbed section of Everglades National Park that floods seasonally illustrates why rustweed is an appropriate common name.

The axillary flowers are white, have 4 petals and are about 2 mm in diameter. In South Florida they flower nearly all year long. (Photo: Shirley Denton)



Rustweed is known from the eastern and southern United States, Mexico, Central and South America and Bermuda, the Bahamas and the Caribbean Islands. It has been introduced to Hawaii, some South Pacific islands and Australia. Rustweed may occur in pine woods and barrens, sand dunes, sandy fields, roadsides and waste places.

Rustweed is used to treat metritis, an inflammation of the uterus, in parts of Central America (Austin 2004).

An excellent botanical drawing can be found in Correll and Correll (1982) and photographs can be found in Hammer (2004) and on the Internet.

While the species concept of *P. procumbens* has remained constant over time, the location of the genus in the hierarchy of plant relations has been much more confused. It has been placed in the families Buddlejaceae, Loganiaceae, Rubiaceae or in Tetrachondraceae, along with members of the genus *Tetrachondra* from the Southern Hemisphere. This is the family accepted by Wunderlin and Hansen (2011) in their book and in the online Atlas of Florida Plants (florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/Plant.aspx?id=3616). Recent genetic research using DNA analysis has supported the relationship of *Tetrachondra* with a clade in the Lamiales. Because the family Tetrachondraceae is based on the genus *Tetrachondra*, it was proposed that *Polypremum* be placed in a new family Polypremaceae. Although *Polypremum* resembles some members of the Caryophyllaceae, it appears more closely related to the Scophulariaceae or Solanaceae.

References:

- Austin, D.F. 2004. *Florida Ethnobotany*. CRC Press. Boca Raton, Fla. 909Pp.
- Correll, D.S. and H.B. Correll. 1982. *Flora of the Bahama Archipelago*. J. Cramer. Hirschberg, Germany. 1692 Pp.
- Hammer, R. L. 2004. *Florida Keys Wildflowers*. Falcon Press. Guilford, Conn. 231 Pp.
- Wunderlin, R.P., and B.F. Hansen. 2011. *A Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida*. University Press of Florida. Gainesville, Fla. 284 Pp.

DADE CHAPTER FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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Dade Chapter – FNPS Council of Chapters: vacant

Refreshment coordinators: Cheryl & Ben Morgan (ckmorg@bellsouth.net)
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TILLANDSIA

Editor: Patty Phares (pharespl@gmail.com, 305-255-6404)
Please contact the editor if you would like to join the Tillandsia staff!

Articles, announcements and news items are invited for *Tillandsia* from Dade and Keys members. **Advertising rates** from \$12 per month.

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FNPS office: info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702
FNPS website, blog, social media: <http://www.fnps.org>
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