



Dade Chapter

# TILLANDSIA

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

OCTOBER 2020

## MONTHLY MEETING (ONLINE)

Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

Virtual meeting room opens at 7:15 p.m.

Free and open to all.

The chapter board is investigating a new streaming system that will allow you to view and participate in the meeting via several online platforms. An email with links will be sent to current chapter members the weekend before the meeting.

Or see [dadefnps.org](http://dadefnps.org) events tab for the [calendar](#).

**Problems?** Contact DCFNPS (see info box in this newsletter).

## *“Ecology and diversity of fungi in south Florida”*

– Dr. Alan Franck, Florida International University

What species of fungi are found in south Florida? While the plant and animal diversity is fairly well known in south Florida, with numerous rarities and endemics, so very little is known about a whole other kingdom: the fungi. Our ongoing explorations in the Keys, Everglades, and the Miami area have revealed there are many beautiful, strange, and rare species of fungi in south Florida. Many of our discoveries represent the first known occurrence in the USA and Florida. Many are new, undescribed species. Many have very specific ecological associations with one or few plant species. Given their often ephemeral nature, any chance encounters with fungi are worth documenting and even collecting as specimens (with permission, of course). There is an incredible amount yet to learn about the fungi of south Florida.

Alan Franck grew up in Ohio and received his bachelor's degree from Ohio University. His next 14 years were spent at the University of South Florida in Tampa, earning his Ph.D. and becoming director of the USF Herbarium. Since 2018, he has been at Florida International University as the curator of the Wertheim Conservatory and greenhouse. He primarily works on the flora and fungi of Florida.



**November 24 presentation:** “All About Fairchild’s Native Plant Conservation Program” – Jennifer Possley, Fairchild Conservation Program Manager

## Calendar

**Oct. 17 (Sat.): Field trip** (Black Creek Trail) - *Please register, space is limited due to current restrictions.*

**Oct. 27 (Tue.): Monthly meeting** (online)

**Nov. 15 (Sun.): Field trip** (Matheson Hammock) - *Please register, space is limited due to current restrictions.*

**Nov. 24 (Tue.): Monthly meeting** (online)

**TBA - Chapter workdays**, Everglades National Park

Please check our [calendar](#) at [dadefnps.org](http://dadefnps.org) for updated info

## **Other events of interest coming up soon**

**Oct. 14:** Broward Chapter FNPS meeting (online)

**Oct. 19-30:** Pine Rockland Working Group (online)

**Oct. 20:** Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (online)

**Nov. 1:** Miami Blue NABA Quarterly meeting (online)

## FIELD TRIPS

**Registration is required** as space is limited due to county guidelines on group size. Thus only current DCFNPS members may register. **To register, please contact Steve Woodmansee ([steve@pronative.com](mailto:steve@pronative.com))**

- **Black Creek Trail. Saturday, October 17, 2020.**  
*Please register by Thursday, October 15.*

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

**Leader:** Steve Woodmansee, Pro Native Consulting

**Difficulty:** Easy, walking mostly on paved open trail. Plan to keep a six foot distance from participants.

**Bring:** Facemask, Drinks, Insect and sun protection.

This conservation land is part of the Miami-Dade Park System. It consists of coastal wetlands including mangrove dominated tidal swamp and coastal uplands. The critically imperiled Florida swampbush ([Pavonia paludicola](#)) occurs here.

- **Matheson Hammock Park. Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020.** Details will be provided next month.

### Everglades Workdays: Oct.-Dec. dates TBA / 9 AM-noon

Help with maintenance of our habitat restoration/landscaping project at the **Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center**, begun in 2001. We are catching up with delayed weeding and pruning. It's easy work! Our regular volunteers will be notified of dates. New volunteers should contact Patty (pharespl@gmail.com).



**If you are considering joining us and have not completed the one-time advance paperwork now required by ENP, please contact Patty as soon as possible. We'd love to have you!**



### DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

● **Welcome new members!** Brandon Calvet, Andrew Mossberg. Thank you to Phyla Landscape Studio LLC in Coral Gables for the added support of a business membership.

● **Check our YouTube channel for past programs and other video when available.** Go to [dadefnps.org/](http://dadefnps.org/) for "Connect With Us" links. *The September program is being edited for posting.*

● **Ongoing plant sale to benefit DCFNPS. Plants grown by chapter member Raul Moas** in Pinecrest. Contact him at [rmoas63675@aol.com](mailto:rmoas63675@aol.com) for info and to arrange a visit. \$3 donation for most plants, usually 4" pots. **The inventory is mostly pineland wildflowers and shrubs, and is constantly changing.** Some available now include *Asclepias verticillata*, *Amorpha crenulata*, Spiderwort, Bahama senna, Chapman's goldenrod, a few asters. (See [IRC](#) for descriptions.) *Thank you to Raul and recent shoppers for raising \$54 for DCFNPS in September.*

● **Did you receive the September-October Sabal minor newsletter from FNPS on September 8?** If you did not receive this issue by email, please contact the editor, Valerie Anderson, at [communications@fnps.org](mailto:communications@fnps.org). The July-August issue is available as a pdf file on [fnps.org](http://fnps.org) under [Resources](#). This newsletter is distributed only by email.

● **Broward Chapter programs and other activities** are listed in our combined [calendar](#) online.

**Oct. 14, 7 PM, online presentation:** "Virtual Autumnal Adventure at Cypress Creek Natural Area"

● **Check out the new FNPS website.** See the [News](#) section for a website intro and a list of future "Lunch and Learn" presentations (*Sea Level Rise with Eugene Kelly on Oct. 16; Vascular Plant Extinction, Lake Apopka's Little Italy - Sandhill Restoration, and Beautyberry Research Update* in later weeks). Also see FNPS [merchandise](#) under Support. And much more!

● **Help ensure that you receive email from the state FNPS:**

- Continue checking your junk/spam/promotions folder; **move all email from "@fnps.org"** addresses to your inbox.
- **Add @fnps.org addresses to your email contacts.** (info, communications, president)

**If you think you are still having problems**, please contact FNPS at 321-271-6702. FNPS email will include renewal notices, the *Sabal minor* bimonthly newsletter, announcements of FNPS activities (e.g., the current ongoing Lunch and Learn series) and other messages.

### PINE ROCKLAND WORKING GROUP 2020 22 Years Later: Past, Present & Future of Pine Rocklands A VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

**Lectures: October 19 – 23 ♦ Field trips: October 26 - 30**  
<https://sites.google.com/view/prwg2020/home>  
(Click the sidebar menu at top left for more info and to register.)

Since 1998, people who manage, research and conserve pine rocklands have convened every other year to learn from one another about how to best manage this globally critically imperiled ecosystem. This year, speakers will describe what they accomplished over 22+ years working in pine rocklands.

On the **10-minute virtual field trips**, you can venture into pine rocklands you might otherwise never see!

Members of the public may attend the virtual live talks (will also be recorded and posted online) and virtual field trips. **It's free, but donations to the non-profit partners are welcome!**

### MORE NEWS and THINGS TO DO

*Learn about, enjoy and help native plants and natural areas.*

● **Dade Native Plant Workshop.** It's not yet back to meeting, but Steve Woodmansee reminds us that we can post photos for identification. You must first **join in the website** (free!). Then you can also share or comment on photos and information. See [nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/](http://nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/)

● **Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop - Virtual meeting Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.**

James Lange from Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden will be presenting on grasses. For the link or any workshop-related questions, please contact Jim at [james.duquesnel@fiu.edu](mailto:james.duquesnel@fiu.edu).

● **Miami Blue Chapter, North American Butterfly Association - Virtual meeting, Sunday, May 3, 2020.**

<http://miamiblue.org/> for details. Marianna Wright, Executive Director of the National Butterfly Center will present. 12:30 p.m. - technical & social gathering, 1 p.m. - meeting begins

### A HARBINGER OF FALL:

**Skyblue Clustervine (*Jacquemontia pentanthos*)**

By Steve Woodmansee, Pro Native Consulting

As the days grow short, and the summer rains cease, the Skyblue



clustervines begin to bloom. Florida lists Skyblue clustervine as Endangered, where in Florida it is recorded as native only in Broward, Collier, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. It is also native outside of Florida in the Tropical Americas. It can be sparingly found on the edges of hammocks, Keys cactus barren, and in disturbed weedy lots.



Skyblue clustervine is a striking member of the Morning-glory Family (Convolvulaceae), which is known for vine species with showy flowers and aggressive growth. It is very well representative of the Morning-glory Family, and spends most of the rainy season putting forth vigorous vines. Come October, it curtails its vegetative growth, and forms buds. Spectacular quarter-sized bright blue blossoms bloom beautifully throughout fall and winter months. Skyblue clustervine is highly favored by bees and their kin, but smaller butterflies including skippers and hairstreaks will also visit its flowers.



Skyblue clustervine lives four years long tops, but if you have more than one individual in your yard, it should set seed, and seedlings often come up nearby where you planted it. Best suited for chain link fences and trellises, it can cover up to 20 linear feet. As with most pretty flowers, it does best in full sun, however it will tolerate as little as 4 hours of daily direct sunlight. Consider adding this delightful vine to your landscape as Skyblue clustervine may be found at many native plant nurseries.

*Steve Woodmansee is a biologist and the owner of Pro Native Consulting (www.pronative.com), native plant expert, chair of the Dade Native Plant Workshop, former president of the Florida Native Plant Society and the Dade Chapter, and current chapter vice president and field trip coordinator. He is a frequent contributor to Tillandsia, speaker and field trip leader.*

### Can't get enough native plant information?

Subscribe to the Treasure Coast Natives blog by George Rogers, John Bradford, and Dee Staley.

This is one of the best blogs on native plants in Florida as the photographs are spectacular and George is an entertaining writer. <https://treasurecoastnatives.wordpress.com/>

- Steve Woodmansee

### CAN'T GET ENOUGH NATIVE PLANTS?

See a list on our website of local sources for native plants: [dade.fnpschapters.org/nativeplants/obtainnatives/](http://dade.fnpschapters.org/nativeplants/obtainnatives/)

We greatly appreciate those who are members of the Dade Chapter FNPS with a personal or business membership:

**Casey's Corner Nursery**  
**Native Tree Nursery**  
**Pro Native Consulting**  
**Silent Native Nursery**  
**Veber's Jungle Garden**

These nurseries support DCFNPS by participating at and promoting Native Plant Day, donating plants for raffles and displays, spreading the word about FNPS, or joining with a Business or Life membership.

Please call them to confirm what arrangements you need to make to buy plants and whether they are selling retail or wholesale. All are in South Dade.

### Support the Dade Chapter FNPS by using Amazon Smile!

Register for Amazon Smile and then always start at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. *Little bits add up!*

### Membership renewal reminders

FNPS now sends printed renewal notices (postal mail) only to members without email addresses on record.

If your membership lapses, you will receive one printed notice and monthly email reminders for up to a year until you renew.

### Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society For Miami-Dade and the Florida Keys

Chapter communication: [DadeFNPS@gmail.com](mailto:DadeFNPS@gmail.com), 305-985-3677  
 DCFNPS website & social media: [www.DadeFNPS.org/](http://www.DadeFNPS.org/)  
 Mail: Dade Chapter FNPS, 6619 S. Dixie Hwy, #181, Miami FL 33143-7919

#### Board members (2019-2020):

**President:** Brian Diaz                      **Vice-President:** Steve Woodmansee  
**Secretary:** Gita Ramsay                  **Treasurer:** Susan Walcutt  
**At Large:** Joey Basna, Janeen Feiger, Amy Leonard, Sanna O'Sullivan,  
 Jeanne Rothchild, Jennifer Stine  
**FNPS Council of Chapters representative:** Kurt Birchenough

Newsletter editor: Patty Phares  
 Webmaster: Haniel Pulido Jr., [dadefnpsweb@gmail.com](mailto:dadefnpsweb@gmail.com)

#### Tillandsia Newsletter

**Please contact the editor if you might 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](mailto:info@fnps.org), 321-271-6702  
 FNPS website, blog, social media: <http://www.fnps.org>

© 2020 Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.