

What's Blooming?

July & August, 2011

The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Display Garden surrounds the Eco-Living Center at Rutenberg Park. A brochure at the garden's entrance highlights the nine FYN concepts.

COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TYPE
Rouge Plant (pigeonberry)	<i>Rivina humilis</i>	Coastal forests, shell middens & disturbed soils in landscapes	Flowers on a raceme with white or green to pink or purplish sepals turning to a glossy, bright red berries	Vine-like Herb, locate w/some shade
Scorpion's-tail (Butterfly Heliotrope)	<i>Heliotropium angiospermum</i>	Wet canal or property borders, rain gardens & disturbed soil	Tiny, white flowers w.5 petals, paired and appear only on one side of a curved terminal spike	Shrub-like herb, short-lived, self-sowing in sun or shade
Pineland Snowberry	<i>Chiococca (pinetorum) alba</i>	Coastal forest Shrub & under-story for Florida cabbage palms	Sometimes trailing, woody shrub on ground or with support. Mostly white flowers, than white, olive-shaped, round fruit with crystal-clear pulp	Small vine-like, branching shrub in partial shade
Wild Sage	<i>Lantana involucrata</i>	Along coast in dry well-drained soil in full sun	5' high, round shrub, Mostly white flowers with yellow centers, borne in clusters, becoming magenta colored drupes	Upright, woody, native shrub
Seaside Goldenrod	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Beaches, dunes & in very dry soil along salt or fresh water canals or marshes	8-10' high golden yellow flower stems, flowerheads are in clusters, 2-5 inch across with sticky, heavy pollen carried by bees	Aster family, clumping wildflower
Gaillardia	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Meadows, sidewalk borders and bed edges in wet or dry well-drained soils	Brightly colored wildflower w/ red & golden-tipped, ray flower petals. Flowers exhibit considerable variation in color. Spread by crumbling dry seed heads on the soil surface in new garden areas.	Herb-like groundcover and native wildflower.
Sunshine Mimosa, Powderpuff	<i>Mimosa strigillosa</i>	Picnic area, beach-front & small open lawn or partially shady landscape beds & rain gardens.	Prostrate 6-9" tall creeping stems which root wherever they touch. Bluish-green, ferny leaflets sensitive to touch. Bright, pink, stamen, pompom-shaped flower head. Each flower tipped with golden pollen	Creeping groundcover for landscapes or lawn
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Freshwater edges, wet or dry or drainage swales	Produces root suckers, foliage & large umbrels of white flower heads.	Large, rambling shrub

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Firebush (non-native, dwarf or compacta)	<i>Hamelia patens</i> var. <i>glabra</i> or <i>Hamelia patens</i> 'African'	Beach, landscape or disturbed soil, sunny and dry preferred	Compact and dense growing shrub with flowers that are more yellow to red-orange and the leaves are smooth compared to the native. Young stems appear red.	10' or more shrub or small tree (un-pruned)
Firebush (Florida native)	<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Wet or dry, hammock, understory conditions	10' high shrub if un-pruned, 50-8' pruned, has reddish-orange or mostly red flowers and dull hairy leaves.	Tall shrub or small tree
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	dry open fields, moist woods, shady landscapes and hammocks	Mostly pink flowers develop clusters of amethyst-purple berry-like fruit in leaf axils. Albino form w/white flowers & berries - <i>C. americana</i> var. <i>lactea</i>	3-9' high, arching branches on large shrub
Golden Dewdrop (Erect Gold)	<i>Duranta erecta</i> (repens) cvs. 'Goldii'	Dry, coastal areas or wet areas along roads in well-drained sandy soil	Lemon-yellow, foliage with arching clusters of purple flowers develop small round golden berries in hanging clusters. Use as accent or screen	Drooping, compact-growing shrub w/fine roots
White Indigo Berry	<i>Randia aculeata</i>	Well drained, wet or dry coastal landscapes or yard borders	Solitary flowers are small, white, funnel-shaped, with a five-lobed corolla, and located on very short lateral spurs. Ivory or salmon blush fruit	Shrub to 12' high w/thin crown
Tropical Red Sage	<i>Salvia coccinea</i>	Open woods, rain gardens, meadows or sidewalk edges	Spikes to small tubular, red flowers & aromatic leaves, re-seeds easily in shady places & open woods. Dead-heading keeps it bushy.	Perennial herb and wildflower
Scarlet Milkweed	<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>	Dry, wet & very wet disturbed soils, landscapes, empty lots & open fields	Bright, showy flowers on stalks, 3-4' tall with a few pairs of symmetrical branches. The flowers are orange and red and borne in terminal and axillary clusters that are 2-4 inches across.	Wildflower, groundcover & sub-shrub.
Pentas	<i>Pentas lanceolata</i>	Somewhat fertile, well drained soils that retain moisture	Clustered umbels of red star shaped five-petaled red flowers on upright or mounding plants 3' high. Blooms in shade or full sun.	Perennial, sometimes sprawling shrub

See These 'Other' Summer Fruit and Flowers Bloomers

Porterweed (*Stachytarpheta* spp), **Cabbage Palm**(*Sabal Palmetto*), **Crimun Lilies** (*Crinum x amabile*), **Cinnamon-bark** (*Canella alba*), **Beach Sunflower** (*Helianthus debilis*), **Horizontal Coccoplum**, (*Chrysobalanus icaco*), **Red-Tipped Coccoplum** (*Chrysobalanus icaco* 'Red-Tipped'), **Silver Buttonwood**, (*Conocarpus erecta* var. *sericeus* ('Silver')), **Florida Privet**, (*Forestiera segregate*), **Sea Grape**, *Coccoloba uvifera*, **Simpson's Stopper**, (*Myrcianthes fragrans*), **Cat's Claw** (*Pithecellobium unguis-cati*), **Duck Potato** (*Sagittaria lancifolia*), **Necklace-pod** (*Sophora tomentosa* var. *occidentalis*), **Wild Coffee** (*Pschotria nervosa*), **Broadleaf Peperomia** (*Peperomia obtusifolia*), **Mahogany** (*Swietenia mahogani*) and others

Notes: This list of Florida-Friendly, mostly native, plants was prepared to highlight plants recommended for landscaping with blooms in July and August. Plants may have either flower, fruit or seed pods. Other public and private botanic display gardens in the area also highlighting plants that are '**In Bloom.**' For links to "What's Blooming," in other Lee County display gardens, contact the Lee County Master Gardener program. Learn more at: <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu>.

The Eco-Living Center at Rutenberg Park is open each Wednesday from 9AM – 3:00PM. Florida-Friendly and sustainable landscaping & botanical tours are offered every Wednesday at 10:30AM guided by the Lee County Master Gardener program. Guided tours are arranged for other days of the week by calling the FYN program assistant at 239-533-7514. New native trees, shrubs and wildflower seedlings emerge in the garden display annually producing additional flower nectar, fruit and edible seeds for wildlife. This garden is intentionally left informal giving the extension staff and volunteers time to identify seedlings dropped by wildlife.

Other 'In Bloom' Display Gardens in Lee County: The Butterfly Garden at Terry Park, The Herb Garden at Terry Park, The Palm Garden at Terry Park, the Fragrance Garden at Lakes Park, the Rose Garden at Lakes Park and the Butterfly Garden at Manatee Park.