

## *Rayjacksonia phyllocephala* Camphor Daisy

**Family: Asteraceae**



Flower is 1 inch across

### Camphor Daisy

**Synonym:** *Eriocarpum megacephalum*, *Halopappus megacephalus*, *H. phyllocephala*

**Origin:** Native to Florida, Louisiana, Colorado, Texas, Northern Mexico

**U.S.D.A. Zone:** 7a—11b

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Flowering Months:** All year

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Messiness:** Low

**Salt Tolerance:** High

**Drought Tolerance:** High

**Soil:** Moist to dry, well-drained

**Nutritional Requirements:** Low

**Potential Pests:** Aphids, fungal diseases

**Typical Florida Dimensions:** 6'x4'

**Uses:** Natural, non-wetland landscapes;  
self-sows freely



Achene fruits



Leaves



Two achene fruits crowned by pappi (pappus, singular) that assist in their dispersal

Camphor daisy, one of the golden asters, is an herbaceous wildflower found in pinelands, open coastal areas, old fields and other dry areas in much of southeastern U.S. Considered a weed by many, it is however admired by native plant enthusiasts. It is not grazed by livestock and therefore may not be attractive to deer. When the leaves of the plant are crushed, an odor similar to camphor is released, giving the plant its common name. The species seeds freely and seedlings will grow through loose pine mulch. It quickly grows into a medium-sized shrub. Flowering occurs when the plant is between three and six feet tall. It flowers all year and has an achene fruit, dry, with a single seed that does not split. Camphor daisy is an attractant for bees and butterflies and a food source for terrestrial birds. To date, no disease or insect problem has occurred with this plant when grown in the Extension Butterfly Garden in Fort Myers, Florida.



Inflorescence and floating fruits



The leaf margins have numerous small teeth.



Inflorescence



Dried disk

## From Flower Bud to “Dead Head”



The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M.