Asclepias tuberosa
Butterflyweed; Butterfly Milkweed
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 2 - 3 feet
Grows in sunny sandhills, pastures and pine flatwoods.

Erigeron quercifolius
Oakleaf Fleabane
*Life cycle:* Annual
*Flowering:* Summer, winter, spring
*Height in flower:* 1 - 2 feet
Grows in disturbed sites and open moist woods.
NOTE: Flower color can be white to light pink to light purple.

Mimosa strigillosa
Powderpuff
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 3 - 6 inches
Grows in open disturbed sites, pinelands, and moist areas.
NOTE: Closely resembles *Mimosa quadrivalvis* (Sensitive Briar), which has prickly stems.

Balduina angustifolia
Coastalplain Honeycombhead
*Life cycle:* Annual to short-lived perennial
*Flowering:* All year
*Height in flower:* Up to 3 feet
Grows in sandhills, scrub, dunes and pine flatwoods.

Gaillardia pulchella
Blanketflower, Firewheel, Indian Blanket
*Life cycle:* Annual to short-lived perennial
*Flowering:* All year
*Height in flower:* 1 - 2 feet
Grows in open disturbed sites and beaches.
NOTE: Flowers may also be all red, all yellow, or red with white tips.

Pontederia cordata
Pickerelweed
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 1 - 3 feet
Grows in shallow wet areas like ditches, lake margins, ponds and streams.

Rhexia cubensis
West Indian Meadowbeauty
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 1 - 2 feet
Grows in open disturbed sites and pine flatwoods.
NOTE: Plants with lemon yellow flowers occasionally occur.

Chamaecrista fasciculata
Partridge Pea
*Life cycle:* Annual
*Flowering:* All year
*Height in flower:* 3 - 4 feet
Grows in open disturbed sites, sandhills and pine flatwoods.

Lythrum alatum var. lanceolatum
Winged Loosestrife
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 2 - 3 feet
Grows in wet areas like ditches, marshes, swamps, pond, lake margins and flatwoods.

Rudbeckia hirta
Black-eyed Susan
*Life cycle:* Annual to short-lived perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 1 - 2 feet
Grows in open disturbed sites and pine flatwoods.

Sabatia grandiflora
Largeflower Rosegentian, Marsh Pink
*Life cycle:* Annual
*Flowering:* All year
*Height in flower:* 1 - 3 feet
Grows in marshes and wet pinelands.

Sagittaria lancifolia
Bulltongue Arrowhead
*Life cycle:* Perennial
*Flowering:* Spring, summer, fall
*Height in flower:* 3 - 4 feet
Grows in ditches, marshes, swamps, stream and river banks, and lake margins.

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Native Wildflowers on Roadsides of Central and South Florida

Many beautiful native wildflowers grace Florida's roadsides, among them several species of Coreopsis (tickseed)*, Florida's state wildflower. Hundreds of these species grow from Central to South Florida, some of which frequent roadside habitats. The species included in this publication are those that commonly can be seen in ditches and other wet areas, the backslopes of ditches, and along margins of wooded areas. You are likely to notice more naturally occurring native wildflowers in rural areas than in urban settings. The best time to view wildflowers is from late winter through fall, but in South Florida, native wildflowers can be in bloom at any time of the year.

Two species mentioned in this publication—Gaillardia pulchella (Blanketflower) and Rudbeckia hirta (Black-eyed Susan)—are sown along roadsides by the Florida Department of Transportation. Through 2002, FDOT has purchased seed of these species from out-of-state sources. However, FDOT has begun purchasing and planting some seed produced by Florida growers from plants adapted to our climate.

General information is provided about flowering, life cycle, and the habitats in which these species grow in Florida. This information only refers to naturally occurring populations.

Common name: While there may be many common names for a species, the most frequently used names are listed.

Life cycle: annual—plant completes its life cycle in one growing season; dies after fruit and seeds mature; perennial—plant grows year after year; does not die after fruit (set) but the top growth may die back in the cool weather; new shoots will emerge the next growing season.

Flowering: This refers to the main flowering season; however, keep in mind that plants found in southern Florida may flower earlier than those in central Florida. Given Florida's warm climate, it is not unusual for plants to occasionally flower in seasons other than noted.

Height in flower: This is the typical height of a species when it's flowering. However, a plant could be taller or shorter than its characteristic height under extremes of soil moisture, fertility, or shade. In addition, plants growing along roadsides may be much shorter than usual if they are in the mowing zone.

Habitat: Information is provided as to where a species may be found other than roadsides. The phrase “disturbed site” means roadsides, lawns, abandoned fields, vacant lots, grazed fields, etc.

Range maps: The map of Florida next to the flower of each species shows the documented occurrence of that species in Florida counties. The maps are courtesy of “Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants” (see References), and are used with permission of Dr. Richard Wunderlin.

*All 13 tickseed species that occur in Florida are shown in Fla. Coop. Ext. Serv. Publ. ENH867 “Coreopsis: A Guide to Identifying and Enjoying Florida’s State Wildflower.”