

Homeowner questions for plant selection

- -Where do you think you *need* to plant a tree?
- Will it be a full sun or partial sun location?
- -Will you be planting the tree within 15 feet from power lines (that go across the front of the property)?
- -Will you plant the tree near water lines?
- -Will you plant it near the canal or waterfront?
- -Will the tree be planted near house, AC, concrete drive? (big trees at least 15 ft, preferably more, away from house; if in fire-prone areas of BPK, best to have all vegetation even farther from house (30 ft is recommended by forest service)
- -Will the tree be planted between the houses?
- -How near other vegetation?
- -Will it be in nibbling range of hungry key deer or iguanas? Are you willing and able to 'fence' in until out of reach?
- -Remind people that the most common reason for mortality is that new plants (even natives) do not get supplemental watering long enough to stabilize them.
- Deer feeding:
 - Bahama Senna-- no damage
- -Gumbo Limbo, Spanish Stopper, they nibble new growth, screen until the deer get used to the new plants being there, or they grow out of reach
 - Fiddlewood? Firebush?



Mature tree



Buttonwood cones

Green Buttonwood, *Conocarpus erectus*

Native to South Florida, Florida Keys and Caribbean

Grows to 35 feet tall and 25 feet wide

Likes full sun

Insignificant blooms and ½ inch round, woody brown cones

Salt tolerance wind: high, naturally grows behind the mangroves

Salt water tolerance: high

Wind tolerance: moderate

Drought tolerance: high

Pests: Leaf notcher weevil leaf damage and a shot hole disease.

Plant as a large shade tree. Do not plant under utility lines or near homes due to tree size and the potential for trunks splitting from base.



Little leaf notcher weevil



Shot hole disease



Jamaican Caper, *Capparis cynophallophora*

Native to south Florida and the Florida Keys

Shrub or small tree, grows to 20"
Slow to moderate growth
Likes sun to partial shade

White, fragrant flowers in April & May, turn purple as they age. Slender seed pods in July.

Salt wind & water tolerance: High.

Drought tolerance: High

Wildlife: Larval food for Florida White caterpillars & Bristle White tip Moths

Landscape uses: Accent or specimen tree, buffer plantings, hedges



Florida white caterpillar



Locustberry *Byrsonima lucida*

Native to South Florida, Caribbean and Bahamas. State threatened.

Open edges of hammocks

Grows to 15 feet and taller, older specimens can be found on Cudjoe Key that have grown into small tree about 20 -25 feet tall

Likes full sun (6-8 hours) to light shade. Remember the more shade it may not bloom as fully or become bare.

Clusters of white and pink flowers change to yellow and deep pink as they age. bloom in spring and early summer.

Salt wind tolerance: Low

Salt water tolerance: Low

Drought tolerance: High

Pests: No known pests

Wildlife: Birds are attracted to its fruit





Silver Buttonwood, *Conocarpus erecta* var. *sericeus*

Native to South Florida, Florida Keys and Caribbean

Grows to 30' or more

Likes full sun or partial shade

Blooms cone-like in terminal panicles appearing throughout the year, 1/3" long, not showy.

Salt wind tolerance: High

Salt water tolerance: High

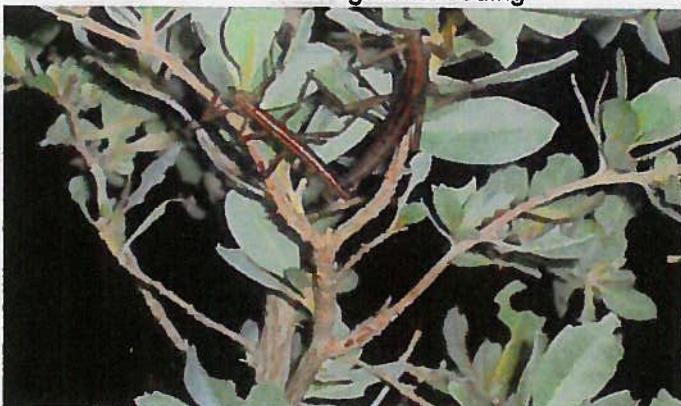
Wind tolerance: High

Drought Tolerance: High

Pests: Walkingsticks feed on the foliage. Honeydew secretions from sap sucking insects allows for sooty mold development. Sensitive to herbicides and pesticide (Malathion) spraying. Read the label before applying pesticides.

Wildlife: nesting for wildlife

Walkingsticks feeding



Sooty mold





Spanish Stopper *Eugenia foetida*

Native to South Florida, Mexico, Central America and West Indies

Common as an understory plant in tropical hammocks

Grows to 8-15, but can grow up to 25' tall and not very wide in width

Likes sun to shade

Tiny white flowers bloom all year round

Small round berries turning black as they ripen

Salt wind tolerance: High

Salt water tolerance: Low

Drought tolerance: Medium

Pests: No known pests

Wildlife: Fruit provides food for birds and other wildlife





Spicewood *Calypttranthes pallens*

Native to South Florida, Caribbean, Mexico and Guatemala. State Threatened.

Grows at the edges of hammocks, open understory

Grows to 15-20 feet

Likes sun to light shade

Fuzzy fragrant, pale green to white flowers bloom late spring

Salt wind tolerance: Low

Salt water tolerance: Low

Drought tolerance: Medium

Pests: No known pests

Wildlife: Berries provide food for birds

