

# Rare Plants of South Florida:

Their History, Conservation, and Restoration



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The Institute for Regional Conservation



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Cover photos by George D. Gann: Top: mahogany mistletoe (*Phoradendron rubrum*), a tropical species that grows only on Key Largo, and one of South Florida's rarest species. Mahogany poachers and habitat loss in the 1970s brought this species to near extinction in South Florida. Bottom: fuzzywuzzy airplant (*Tillandsia pruinosa*), a tropical epiphyte that grows in several conservation areas in and around the Big Cypress Swamp. This and other rare epiphytes are threatened by poaching, hydrological change, and exotic pest plant invasions.

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While we have received tremendous support for the Floristic Inventory of South Florida and this manual, the content and recommendations are entirely our responsibility. We realize there may be errors and omissions, and we can only hope that the readers will bring these to our attention so that we can amend the manual in future editions.