

Imperata cylindrica (Cogon grass)



Grass

Where it's found: drylands or briefly flooded areas.

How to identify: Grass, no stems, leaves grow straight out of ground typically to 4 ft, midvein off-center, fluffy white seed heads, blade edges sharp.

Neyraudia reynaudiana (Burma reed)



Grass

Where it's found: open, light areas, marshlands, dry pinelands and disturbed areas.

How to identify: large grass strands that clump. Similar to the native common reed, but without the hairs around the stems. 10 ft. tall.

Invasive Exotic Plants

Invasive exotic plants are one of the most serious threats to maintaining ecosystem integrity in South Florida and Caribbean parks. Tracking the distribution, and rate of spread of invasive exotic species is vital in assessing the health of an ecosystem and assisting in species management.

The National Park Service's South Florida/Caribbean Inventory and Monitoring Network (SFCN) and Exotic Plant Management Team (EPMT) need your help to support invasive exotic plant management. Please help by reporting invasive exotic plant presence as well as absence in Everglades National Park.



Leucaena leucocephala
(Lead Tree)



Melaleuca quinquenervia
(Melaleuca)

For additional information on invasive exotic plants in the South Florida/Caribbean Network of National Parks, please visit:
<http://nature.nps.gov/im/units/sfcn/exoticplantreporting.cfm>

Help Find Invasive Exotic Plant Species in Big Cypress National Preserve



Schinus terebinthifolius
(Brazilian pepper)

Win a prize for participating! Annually, invasive exotic plant reporters will be randomly chosen to win a personal GPS system.



Casuarina equisetifolia (Australian Pine)

Where it's found: dunes, beaches, mangroves, uplands

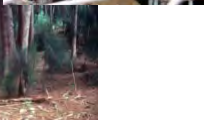
Needle-like leaves



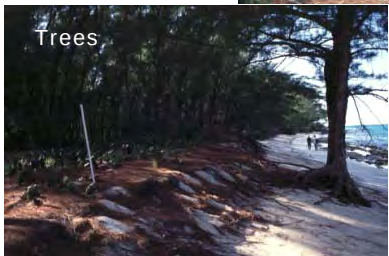
Saplings



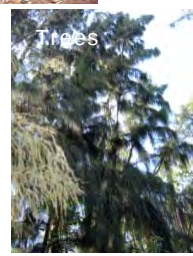
Seed capsules



Trees



Trees

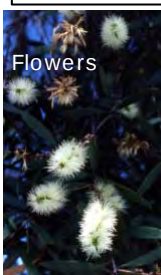


How to identify: 100+ ft, evergreen, soft droopy jointed needle-like leaves, 1/2 in. fruit has winged seeds. Gray-brown scaly bark.

Melaleuca quinquenervia (Melaleuca)

How to identify: up to 100 ft., whitish many-layered peeling bark, lance-like leaves 4 (in.), camphor smell when crushed, creamy "bottle brush" flowers.

Flowers



Tree



Trees



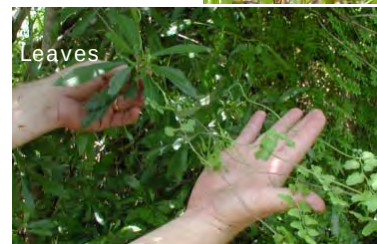
Where it's found: various terrestrial & wet habitats.

Lygodium microphyllum (Lygodium)

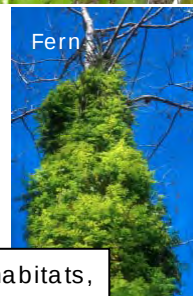
How to identify: fern with climbing fronds. Leafy branches 2-5 in. long from stem.



Leaves



Leaves

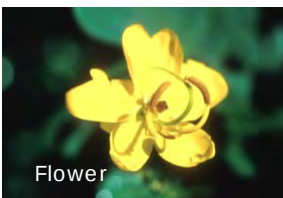


Fern

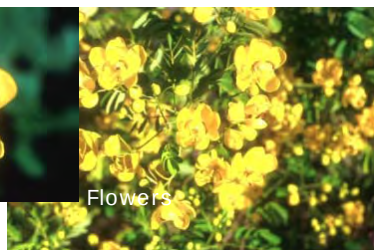
Where it's found: In various habitats, climbing on trees and on the ground.

Senna Pendula (Climbing Cassia)

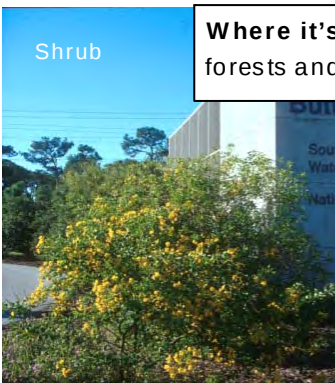
Flower



Flowers



Shrub



Where it's found: coastal forests and woodlands.

How to identify: Sprawling shrub, 4m tall. Sparsely hairy stems. Alternate leaves with 3-6 pairs of leaflets. 1.5 in. yellow flowers. Beanlike seed pods.

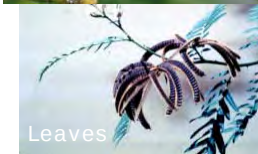
Leucaena leucocephala (Lead Tree)

Flower



Where it's found: dry limestone soils and disturbed areas.

Leaves



How to identify: shrub or small tree up to 5m tall. White, globelike flowers, dull green leaves.

Trees



Schinus terebinthifolius (Brazilian Pepper)

Berries



Berries



Where it's found: various disturbed terrestrial habitats.

How to identify: small tree-30 ft. tall. Short trunk is often hidden by branches. Crushed leaf smells of turpentine. Females have red holly-like berries.

Shrub

