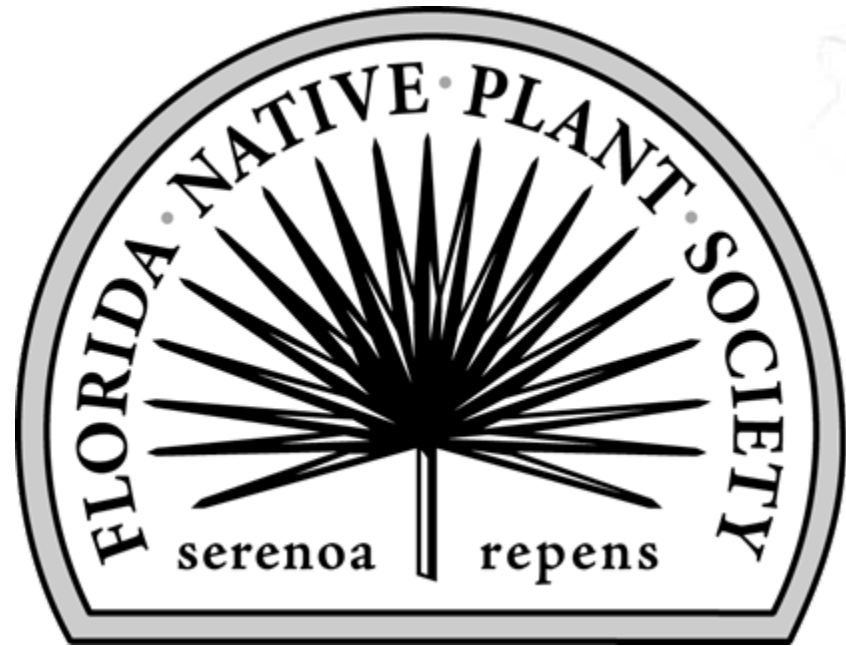


# Florida Native Plant Society



Native Plant Owners Manual

*Coreopsis lanceolata* – Lanceleaf Tickseed

Mark Hutchinson

# Putting things in perspective

All seasonal references are applicable to the eastern panhandle of Hernando County where the plants portrayed in this presentation grow. This area happens to be a cold spot in central Florida due to the Brooksville Ridge and approximates a Hardiness Zone of 8a or 8b, average annual low temperatures ranging between 10 and 20 °F.

Any reference to medicinal or culinary use of plants or plant parts should in no way be considered an endorsement by the Florida Native Plant Society of any sort of experimentation or consumptive use.

Please do not attempt to rescue any native plants without first reviewing the [FNPS Policy on Transplanting Native Plants](#)

Special thanks to Lucille Lane, Shirley Denton, Kari Ruder and Brooke Martin

# Lanceleaf Tickseed

Aster family







*Coreopsis  
lanceolata*





# Navigation Links

(for use in open discussion)

[What's in a Name?](#)

[Biological Classification – Tree of Life](#)

Where does this plant grow?

- [In North America](#)
- [In Florida](#)

What this plant needs to -

- [Thrive](#)
- [Propagate](#)
- [Pollinate](#)
- [Live a long life](#)

[Life Cycle](#)

[References](#)

‘View/Full Screen Mode’  
recommended

Throughout this  
presentation, clicking  
this symbol will return  
you to this page.



**Lanceleaf tickseed, lanceleaf coreopsis,**  
lanceleaf tickseed, sand coreopsis, lance-leaved  
coreopsis

*Coreopsis* (kor - ee - OP - sis)

From the Greek '*koris*,' a  
bug or gnat and '*-opsis*,'  
indicating a resemblance,  
meaning bug-like, referring to the  
achenes which look like ticks.

*lanceolata* (lan - see - oh - LAY  
-tuh)

Latin, meaning lance-like



# Biological and Genetic Relationships

*Coreopsis lanceolata* L. – lanceleaf tickseed

└─ *Coreopsis* L. - tickseed

└─ Coreopsidinae ── Coreopsideae

Chrysanthelinae ──┐

Pinillosiinae ───┐

*Staurochlamys* ──┐

Bahieae ──┐

Chaenactideae ──┐

Tageteae ───┐

Neurolaeneae ──┐

Polymnieae ───┐

Heliantheae ───┐

Millerieae ───┐

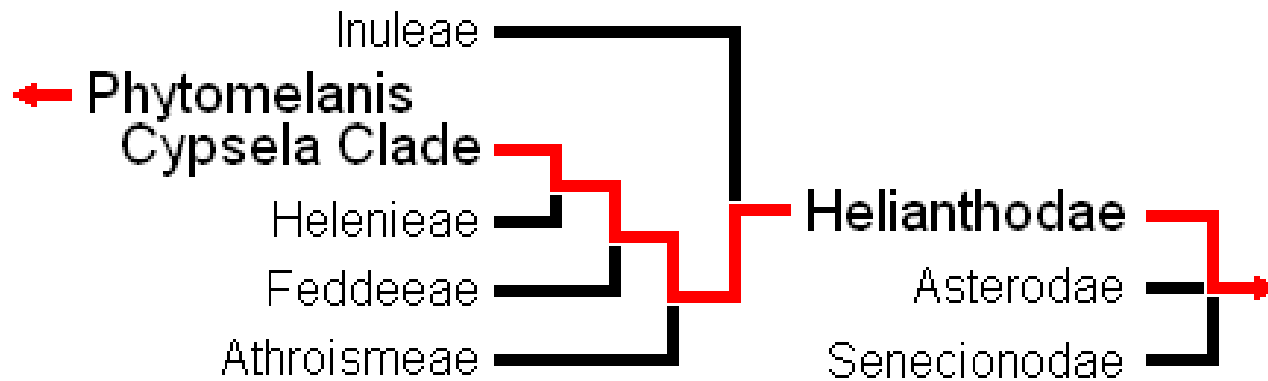
Madieae ───┐

Pertyleae ───┐

Eupatorieae ──┐

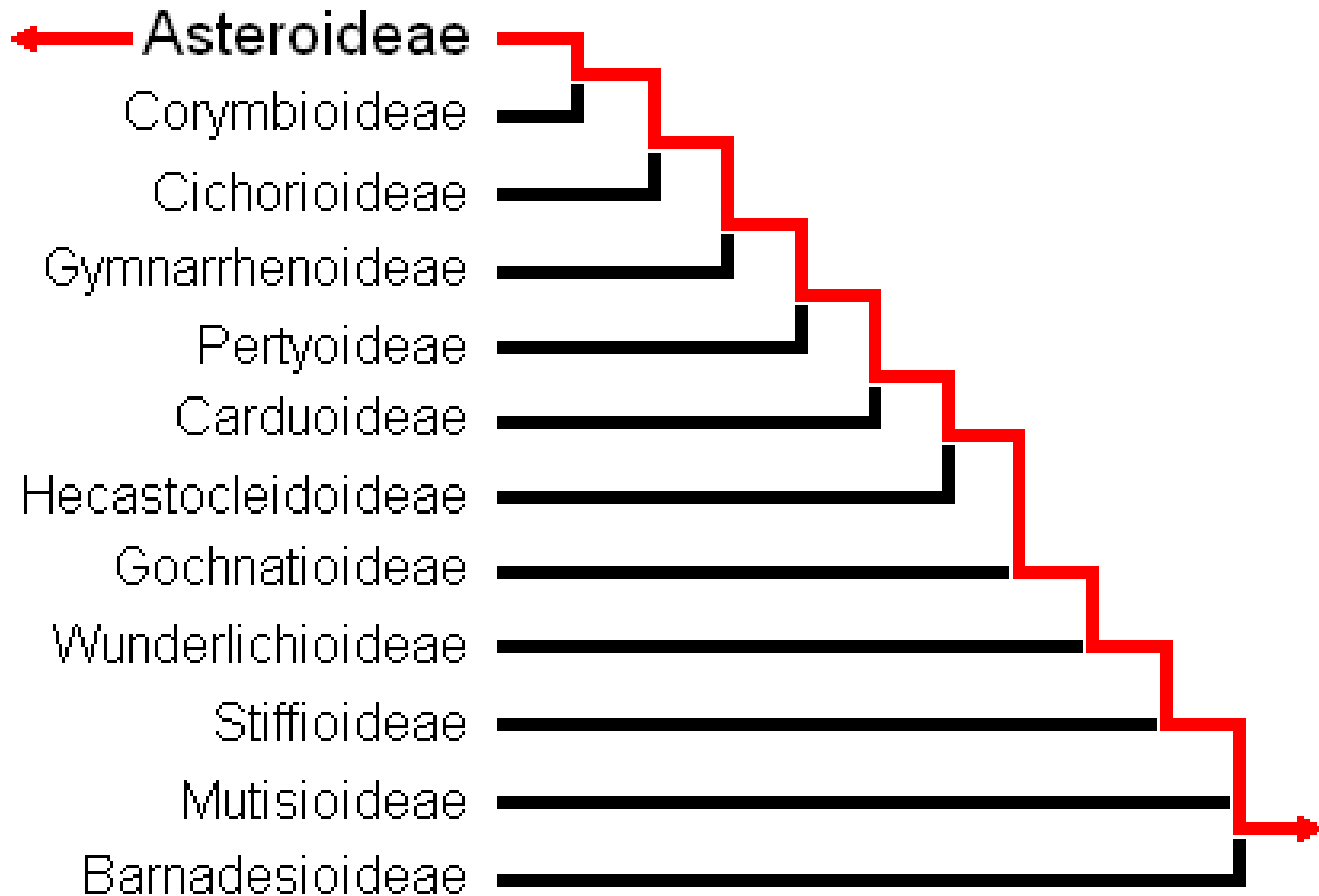
Each Species is a leaf on the Tree of Life. Its genetic connections can be explored by following the branches (red line), towards the roots of life.

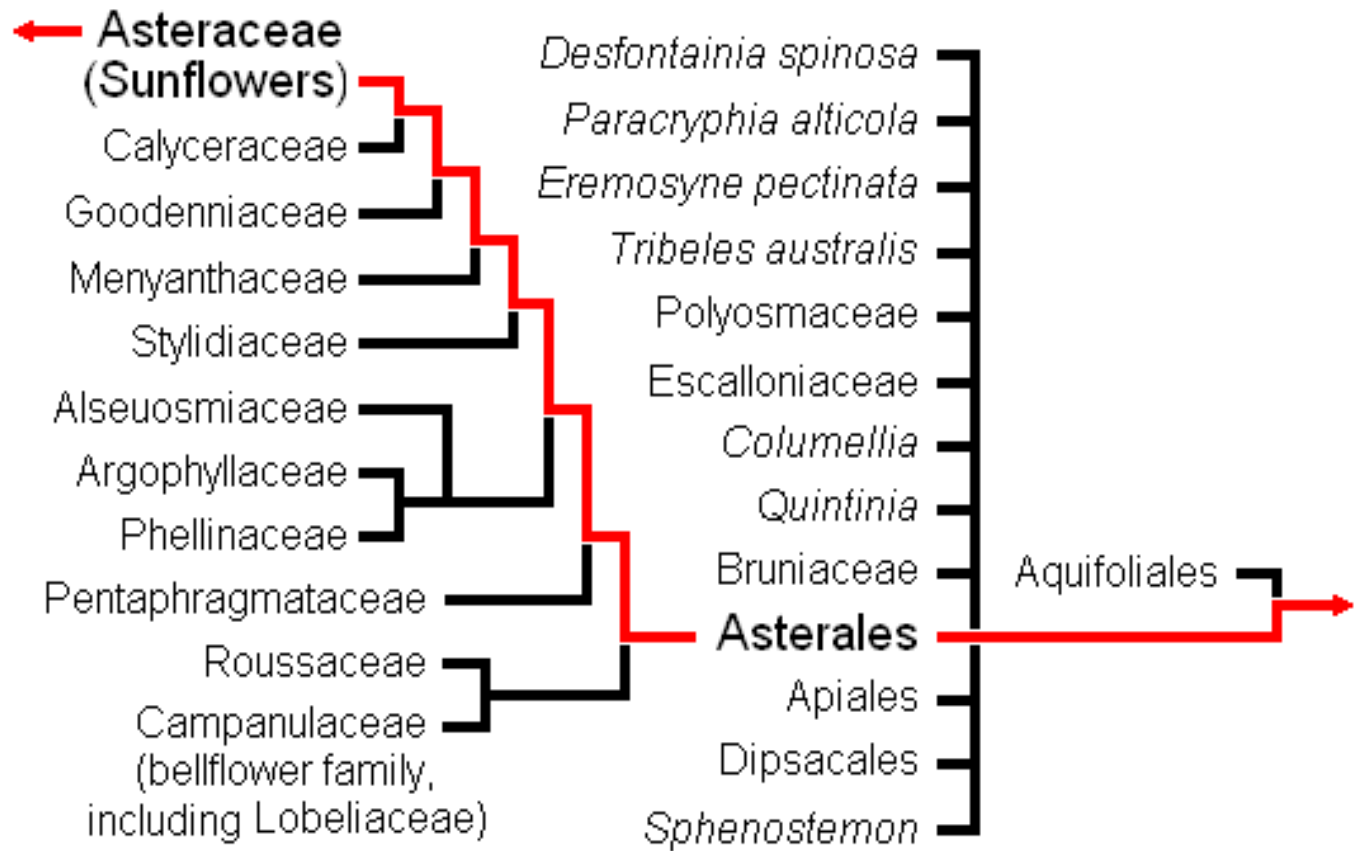




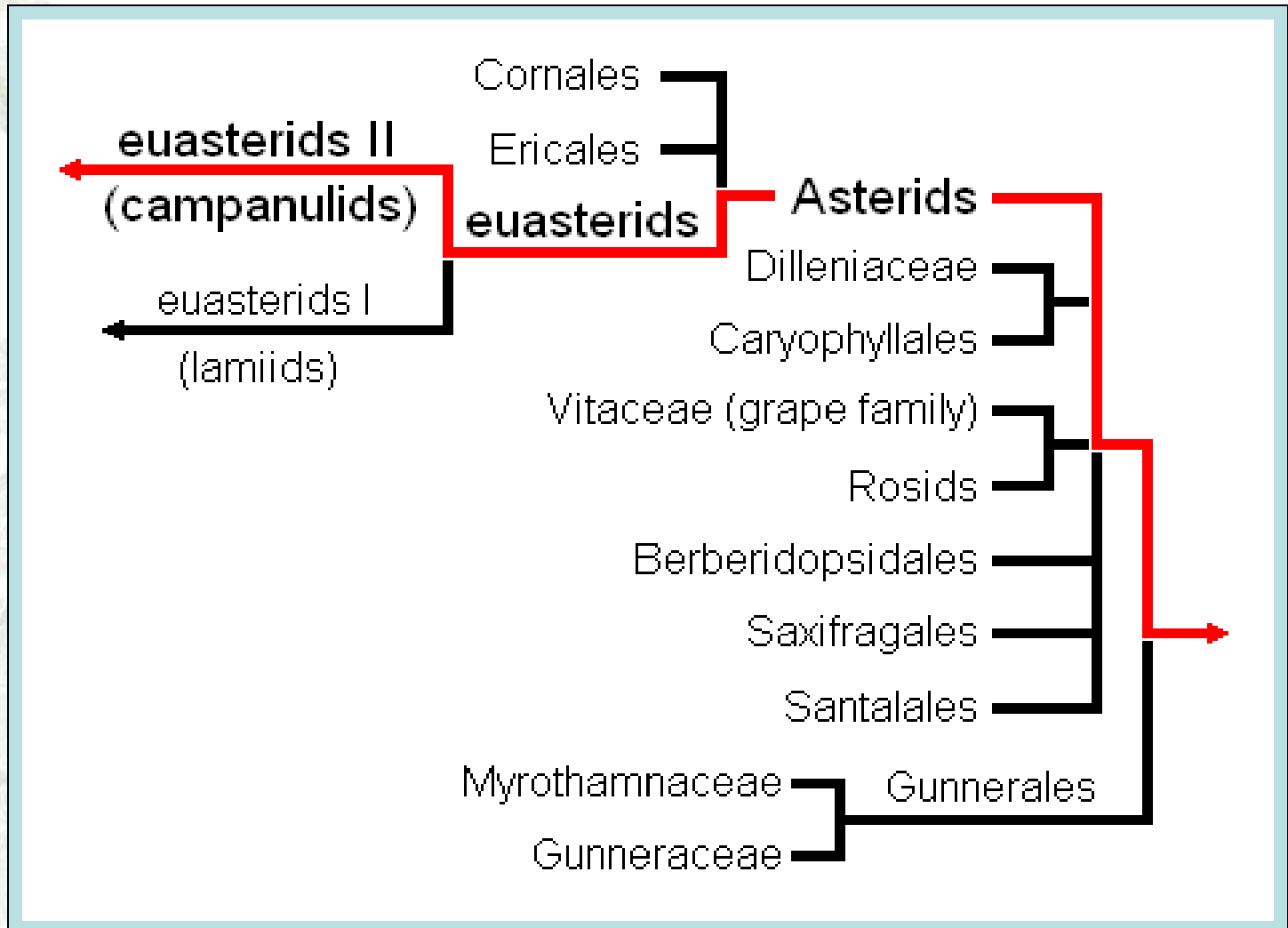
The Tree of Life Web Project (ToL) is a collaborative effort of biologists and nature enthusiasts from around the world. On more than 10,000 World Wide Web pages, the project provides information about biodiversity, the characteristics of different groups of organisms, and their evolutionary history



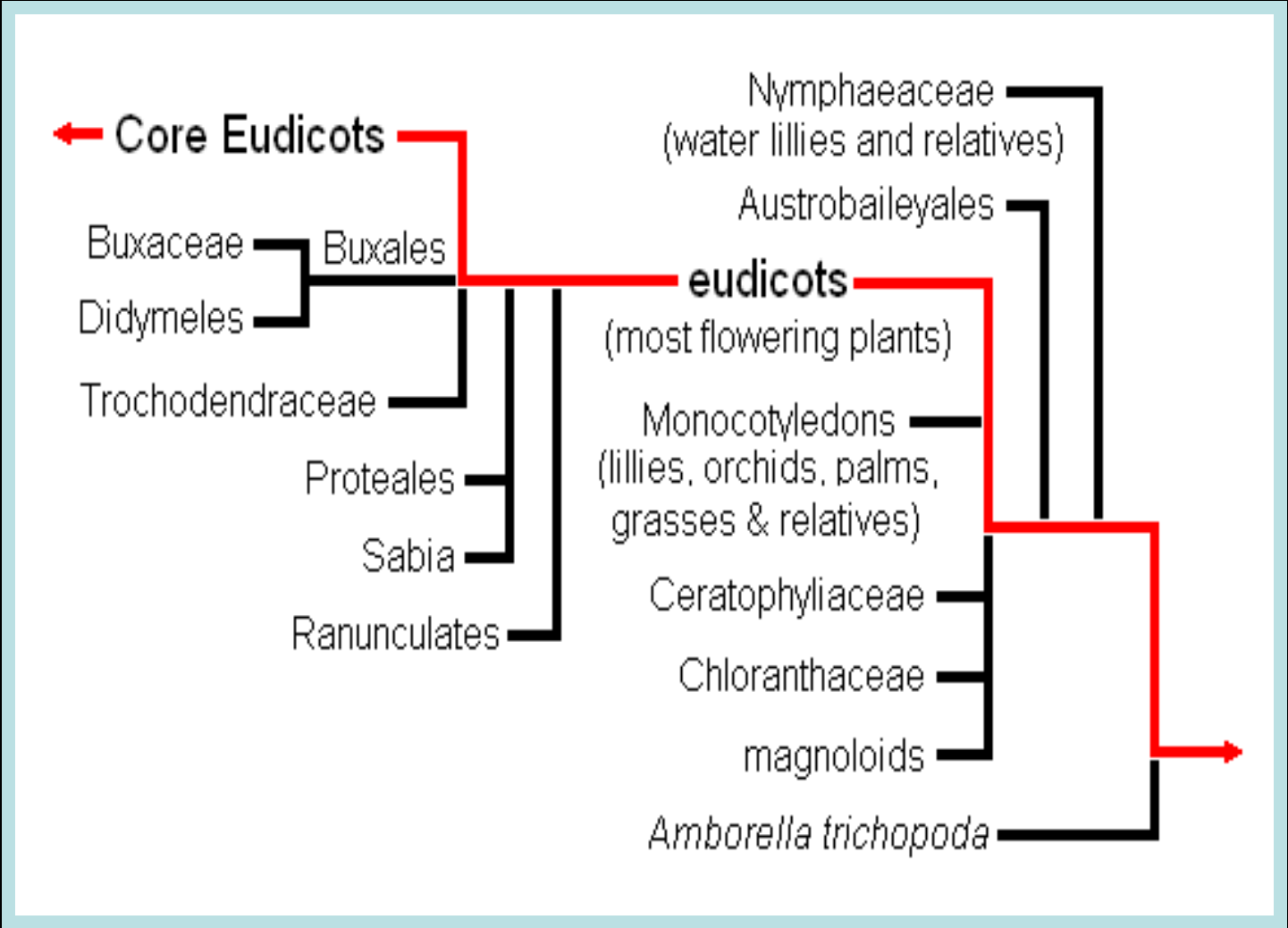


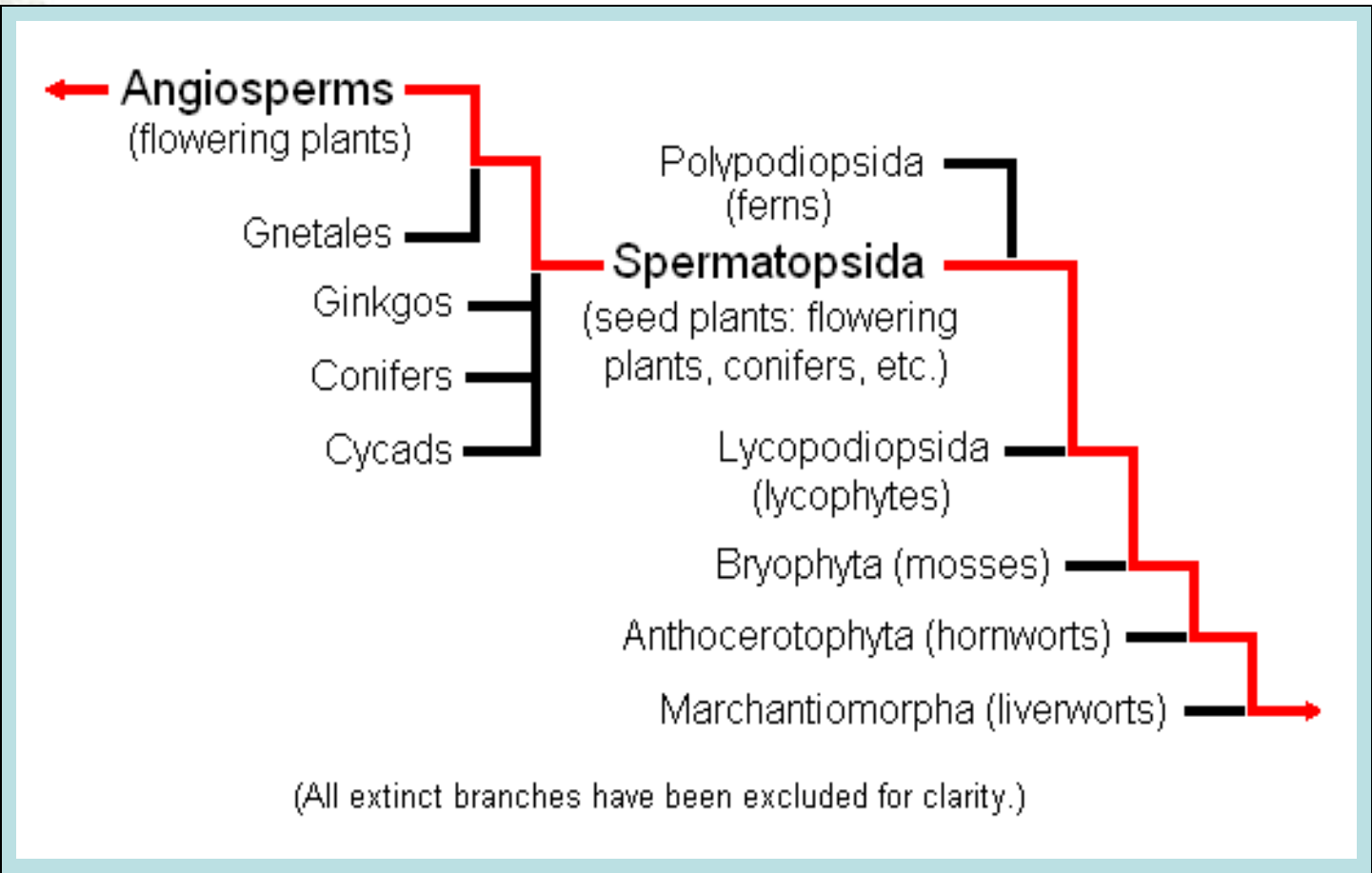


(Individual species and genus denoted by italics)







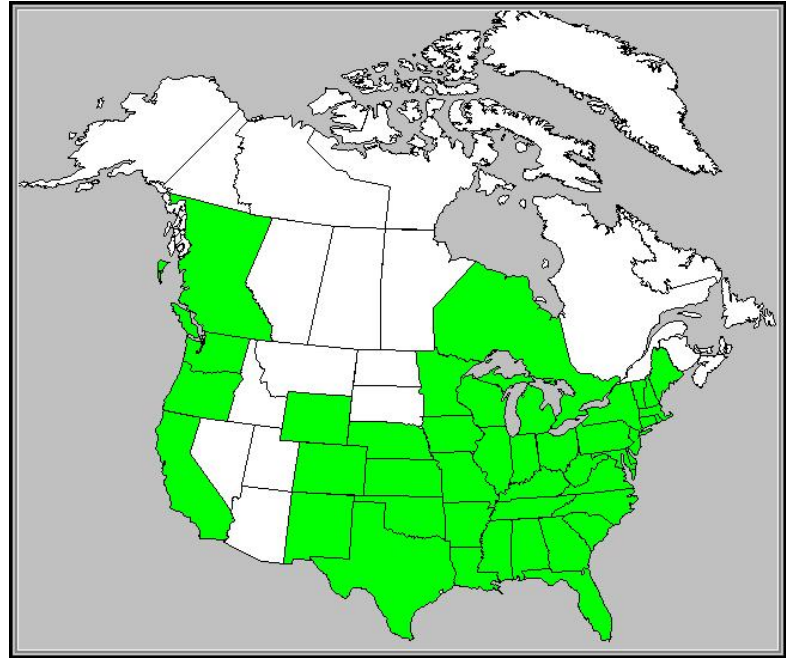


Link to the University of Arizona's [Tree of Life](#).



# Species Distribution in the North America

Lanceleaf Tickseed is endemic to the North America continent. It can be found from the Pacific coastline south of Alaska, throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico with the exception of the high-altitude areas of the Rocky Mountains.



(For specific distribution within any of the shaded areas go to the USDA link provided on the reference page, and click the shaded area of interest.)







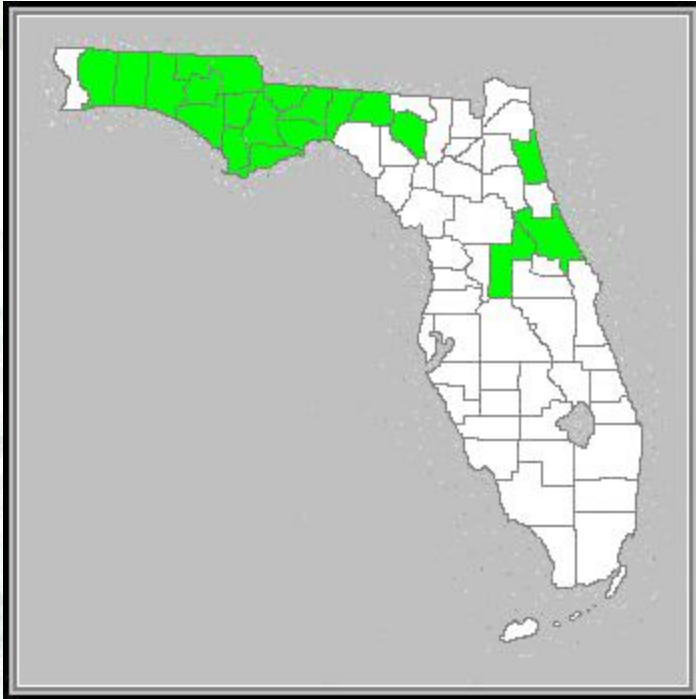
- The United States Department of Agriculture, NRCS, lists a total of thirty-three species of the genus *Coreopsis* L. throughout the United States.

- The Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants lists 14 species of this genus occurring in Florida, 11 of which are native.

**Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium  
FSU #199999 Jackson Co.,  
3/25/2006**



# Species Distribution within Florida



( \*vouchered – indicates that a fully documented dried specimen has been deposited in an approved herbarium)

- Lanceleaf Tickseed, an unreliable perennial wildflower, is \*vouchered in approximately twenty counties in Florida, occurring primarily in the western panhandle.
- *Coreopsis lanceolata* prefers open woodlands, prairies, savannahs and disturbed areas.



# Plant Structure and Yearly Cycle

In the Spring, *Coreopsis lanceolata* makes a subtle appearance, you have to look twice to catch the three to four inch, sometimes opposite, sometimes alternate lance-like leaves. Usually forming in small clumps, sometimes in colonies, these basil rosettes are usually six to eight inches tall, and tight to the ground. Lanceleaf tickseed is an unreliable perennial, but readily self-seeds.





It doesn't take long before dark green cylindrical flower buds start to form on long naked peduncles.



The bud splits open and peels back, as the immature flower inside begins to emerge.



The bright yellow daisy-like flower heads are about one to one and a half inches across. The four lobed ray flowers seem to come out from beneath the disk. In this picture the disk flowers have begun to open in hopes of a pollinator.





Following fertilization Lanceleaf Tickseed drops its petals and assumes an appearance not very much different than it had prior to flower, albeit quite a bit larger.



The State Flower of Florida is Coreopsis, *Coreopsis lanceolata* is just one of the fourteen species to be found in the state attracting various pollinators including bees and butterfly.



# Growing Conditions



to



- *Coreopsis lanceolata* prefers direct sun to partial shade
- Lanceleaf Tickseed does well in both calcareous, sandy soils, and clay loam, preferring poor soil
- Slightly acidic to neutral soil – 6.0 to 7.0 pH
- Moderate drought tolerance
- Hardiness: USDA Zone 8b: to  $-9.4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $15\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ )  
to USDA Zone 11: above  $4.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
- Flowering and seed production occur from spring into late summer
- Height: 12 - 30 inches (30 - 75 cm.)





# Seed Collection and Propagation

Nutlets are mature and ready to be collected about four weeks after the flower withers. These seedheads are easily shatter to facilitate collection. The seeds should be spread to dry on newspaper for a couple of days then stored in a paper sack in the refrigerator until ready to sow in the fall or spring.

Lanceleaf tickseed can also be propagated by dividing the basil rosettes – the clumpy leaf growth that hugs the ground. Propagation by division should be used on plants that are a couple years old. This division is best executed in the late winter or early spring.

The plant can also be propagated using the softwood cuttings from the basal rosette.



# Pollinators and Wildlife



*Coreopsis lanceolata* is a must for any butterfly garden. Not only does it attract butterflies, but it also is a source of nectar and pollen for honey bees, native bees, and wasp. It is also attractive to many critters that are generally considered pest; lygus bugs, thrips and leafhoppers, aphids and weevils.



# Maintenance and Care

As mentioned on the 'Propagation' slide, plants that are two to three years old should be divided. Selectively thinning by removing clumps from the interior of plantings is both healthy for the individual plant as well as a means to propagate.

Fertilizing is usually not necessary, but if you do, use a low rate of control-release fertilizer only.

Although it may interfere with timely seed collection, deadheading wilted flowers will extend the bloom period, usually well into the summer time.



# Presentation References

- Biological and genetic relationships

University of Arizona [Tree of Life](#)

- North American distribution

[USDA](#) - Natural Resource Conservation Service

- Florida distribution

[Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)

- Herbarium specimen

[FSU Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium](#)





# Presentation References (cont.)

- Growing conditions and general information

[University of Florida IFAS](#)

[Wildflower Center UTA](#)

[Floridata](#)

- Nectar Food Plants

[Biospherenursery.com](#)

- FNPS – Natives for Landscaping

[FNPS.org](#) This Link will take you to the profile for this plant on the FNPS website



- For more in-depth study:

*Native Florida Plants: Low Maintenance Landscaping and Gardening.* Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell. 2004 (revised edition). Taylor Trade Publishing. ISBN 1589790510.

*Florida Plants for Wildlife: A Selection Guide to Native Trees and Shrubs.* Craig N. Huegel. 1995. Orlando: Florida Native Plant Society. ISBN 1885258046.

*The Right Plants for Dry Places: Native Plant Landscaping in Central Florida.* Suncoast Native Plant Society. 2005 (2nd edition). St. Petersburg: Great Outdoors Publ. Co. ISBN 0820004235.

