

Calycanthus floridus



© Rick Cantrell

Photo by Rick Cantrell. Photograph belongs to the photographer who allows use for FNPS purposes only. Please contact the photographer for all other uses.

Carolina Allspice, Sweetshrub

Calycanthaceae

Also known as *Calycanthus floridus* var. *glaucus*

Plant Specifics

Size: 6-9 ft tall by 6-12 ft wide

Life Span: Long-lived perennial

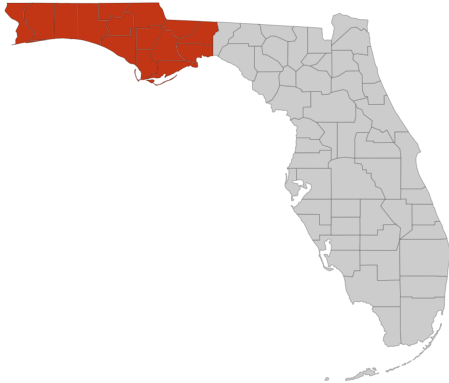
Flower Color: Dark red

Fruit Color: Brown

Phenology: Deciduous. Flowers in spring. Has yellow fall color.

Habitats: Mesic-wet mesic sites. Slope forests, bluffs, river floodplain, upland hardwood forest, slope forest bottomland forest. Found on stream banks.

Natural Range in Florida



USDA Zones

Suitable to grow in:



Landscaping

Recommended Uses: Informal settings where it can be a low hedge plant or specimen. Plant forms small clusters suckering, so give it room.

Light: ☀️ Part Shade, ☁️ Shade

Moisture Tolerance: Stays Wet ----- to ----- Not wet but not extremely dry

Salt Water Flooding Tolerance: Not salt tolerant of inundation by salty or brackish water.

Salt Spray Tolerance: Low/no tolerance of salty wind or direct salt spray



Soil/Substrate: Loam, Sand

Wildlife



Mostly pollinated by sap beetles. The beetles are drawn by the scent of fermentation, and they work their way into the shade of the overlapping tepals to find food. The flowers are easy to enter but difficult to depart. Once trapped inside, the beetle picks up pollen. After the flower is pollinated, the inner parts of the flower fold back to release the beetle. By that point, the stigmas will have withered, and the beetle will move on to another flower in search of more food, ensuring cross-pollination ([Arnold Arboretum](#))