

Cephalanthus occidentalis



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

Buttonbush

Rubiaceae

Plant Specifics

Size: 5 to 20 ft tall by 4 to 8 ft wide

Life Span: Long-lived perennial

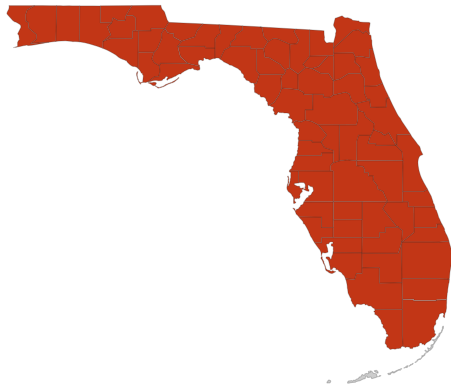
Flower Color: White

Fruit Color: Brown

Phenology: Deciduous. Blooms in late spring. Fruits ripen in summer. Lifespan likely >50 yrs (Nelson).

Habitats: Marshes, swamps, river floodplains

Natural Range in Florida



USDA Zones

Suitable to grow in:

10A 10B 11 8A 8B 9A 9B

Landscaping

Recommended Uses: Wetlands and wetland edges as a specimen plant with a pleasing multi-stemmed vase-shape.

Light: ☀ Full Sun, ☁ Part Shade

Moisture Tolerance: Stays Wet ----- to ----- Usually moist, occasional inundation

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

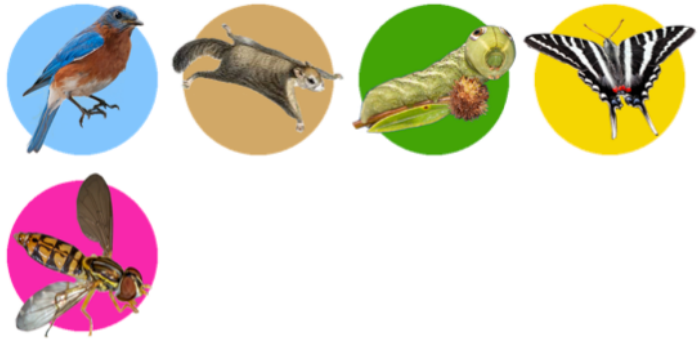
Salt Spray Tolerance: Low/no tolerance of salty wind or direct salt spray

Soil/Substrate: Clay, Loam, Organic material (muck), Sand

Wildlife



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Deer browse the foliage. Ducks and other birds including jays, cardinals, nuthatches, titmice, warblers, and mockingbirds consume the seed.

Host plant to several moths including titan sphinx (*Aellops titan*) and hydrangea sphinx (*Darapsa versicolor*) moths (<https://xerces.org/blog/planting-for-pollinators-but-bush>).

Flowers are very attractive to a variety of insects including butterflies and bees.