

# *Chamaecrista fasciculata*



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## Sleeping Plant, Partridge-p *Fabaceae (Leguminosae)*

Also known as *Cassia fasciculata*

### Plant Specifics

Size: To 3 ft tall by To 3 ft wide

Life Span: Annual

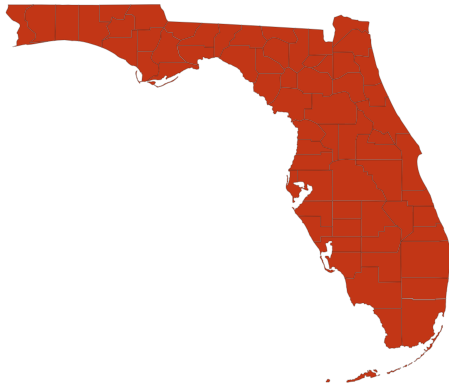
Flower Color: Yellow

Fruit Color: Brown

Phenology: Sprouts in early spring, blooms late spring, finish with reproduction by early fall and reseeds.

Habitats: Scrub, high pine (sandhill, clayhill), dry flatwood dunes, open disturbed areas where seed is available.

### Natural Range in Florida



### USDA Zones

Suitable to grow in:

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

### Landscaping

Recommended Uses: Sometimes used for erosion control. Good in casual garden settings, especially useful for butterfly gardens, because it's a larval food for so many species of butterflies. It's a legume and tolerates poor soil.

Light: ☀ Full Sun

Moisture Tolerance: Not wet but not extremely dry ----- to ----- Very long very dry periods

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

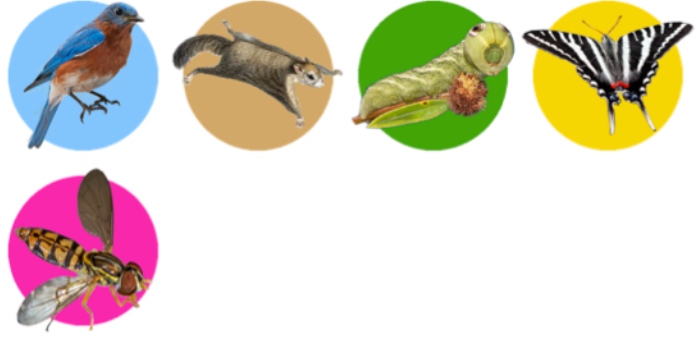
Salt Spray Tolerance: Some tolerance to salty wind but not direct spray.



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Soil/Substrate: Sand

## Wildlife



Birds and other wildlife consume seed which is reported to be particularly important for the bobwhite.

Larval host for cloudless sulfur (*Phoebis senna*), gray hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*), orange sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*), sleepy orange (*Abaeis nicippe*), little yellow (*Eurema lisa*) and ceraunus blue (*Hemiargus ceraunus*) butterflies.

Long-tongued bees are responsible for pollination of the flowers, which includes such visitors as honeybees, bumblebees, long-horned bees (*Melissodes* spp.), and leaf cutting bees (*Megachile* spp.). They are attracted to the pollen of the purple anthers, and are then dusted by the reproductive pollen of the yellow anthers. Two species of *Anthophora walshii* and *Svastra atripes atripes*, are oligole of Partridge Pea. Sometimes leaf-cutting bees cut off portions of the petals for their brood chambers. The flowers are usually cross-pollinated by insects, but sometimes they are self-pollinating. ([Illinois Wildflowers](#)).

Petiole nectaries attract Halictid bees, wasps, flies, and ants. Unusual visitors to the nectaries are velvet ants (*Mutillidae*) which are hairy wingless female wasps. ([Illinois Wildflowers](#))

Bee species documented in Florida include *Azcochlora pu*, *Augochloropsis inatallica*, *A. sumnptuosa*, *Dialictus coreo*, *D. miniatulus*, *Megachile brevis pseudobrevis*, *M. mendica*, *Bombus impatiens*, and *Xylocopa micarzs* (Deyrup et al. 2002).