

# *Cirsium horridulum*



© John Bradford

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

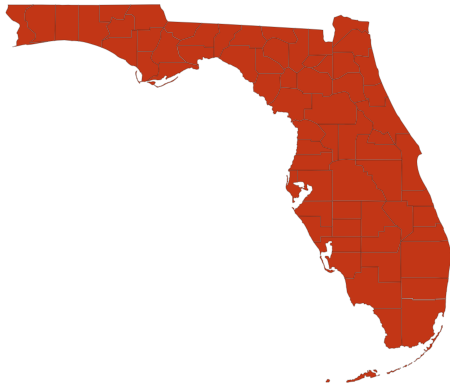
## Purple Thistle, Yellow Thistle

### *Asteraceae (Compositae)*

#### Plant Specifics

Size:	1-4 ft tall by 1-2 ft wide
Life Span:	Biennial
Flower Color:	Regionally variable: white, pink, purple, yellow
Fruit Color:	White
Phenology:	Overwinters as a basal rosette. Blooms in spring
Habitats:	Coastal plain, edges of salt marshes, pinwoods, prairies and disturbed areas.

#### Natural Range in Florida



#### USDA Zones

Suitable to grow in:

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

#### Landscaping

Recommended Uses:	Natural landscapes including meadows and butterfly gardens.
Light:	☀ Full Sun, ☁ Part Shade
Moisture Tolerance:	Somewhat moist, no flooding ----- to ----- Somewhat 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.
Soil/Substrate:	Sand

#### Wildlife



2002-2022, Copyright Florida Native Plant Society



The seeds are rich in oil, an important food source for seed-eating birds.

- Larval host to little metalmark (*Calephelis virginiensis*) painted lady (*Vanessa cardui*) butterflies.
- Nectar source for native butterflies and bumblebees. Bees documented in Florida include *Erylaeus pecto*, *Halictus ligatus*, *Lithurgzcs gibbosus*, *Megachile bre pseudobrevis*, and the non-native *Apis mellifera* (honeybee) (Deyrup et al. 2002).
- Beetles eat the flowers.
- Provides nesting material for some native bees (base information provided by the [Xerces Society](#) to the [La Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#))