

Velvetleaf Milkweed

Asclepias tomentosa Elliott

Tuba Milkweed

A softly furred, low-growing milkweed of southeastern coastal sandhills and scrub, with greenish-cream flowers and leaves felted enough to feel like suede.



Florida Native Plant Society. Public domain. Wikimedia Commons.

Key facts

Field	Value	Field	Value
Status	Native	Height	1ft-2.5ft
Flowers	green, cream	Bloom	April to July
Light	Full sun	Soil	Dry
USDA zones	7-10	Leaves	opposite, ovate
Sap	Milky latex	Roots	Deep taproot, resents transplanting
Stratification	30 days cold-moist	States	4

How to identify it

- Whole plant densely velvety to the touch.
- Sprawling to weakly upright stems in deep coastal sand.
- Small greenish-white flowers with cream hoods.

Ecology

A scarce component of Florida scrub and coastal sandhill communities.

Growing

Rarely cultivated; requires pure sand.

Cautions

Standard milkweed cautions.

Where it grows

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina

More photographs



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References

- Plants of the World Online: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:94697-1>
- GBIF: <https://www.gbif.org/species/3170331>
- iNaturalist: <https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/145567>
- BONAP county map: <https://bonap.net/MapGallery/County/Asclepias%20tomentosa.png>

<https://milkweedusa.com/species/velvetleaf-milkweed/>