

# Halberd-leaved Rose Mallow

## *Hibiscus laevis*

Halberd-leaved rose mallow, previously known as *Hibiscus militaris* is a rapidly growing perennial in the Malvaceae (mallow) family and is native to Florida, southeastern Canada, central and eastern United States. The genus name *Hibiscus* means mallow in Latin and Greek, and the species name *laevis* means smooth referring to the leaves which are hairless. This heat-tolerant plant attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators.

**Type:** herbaceous perennial

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4 through 9b

**Uses:** Use in pollinator, butterfly, or rain gardens, along streams or ponds, or in wet areas of the cottage or native plant garden.

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**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 4 to 6 feet

**Spread:** 3 to 4 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun

**Soil tolerances:** moist soil

**Drought tolerance:** average

**Soil salt tolerances:** low tolerance

**Invasive potential:** not considered invasive

**Pest resistance:** grasshoppers chew the foliage and flower buds



Photo: Frances Andrew, Santa Rosa County MG