

# False Rosemary

## *Conradina canescens*

Coastal homeowners interested in diminished water and fertilizer application may consider the use of false rosemary, also known as beach rosemary, in their landscapes. Leaves grow up to ½ inch long and smell like mint when crushed. Although false rosemary is very common in its native range, it is endemic to only a small area of west Florida and adjacent Alabama. It contributes to beach mouse habitat and attracts many pollinators. Demand for a diversity of coastal species has increased following hurricane activity and false rosemary is an excellent candidate for dune restoration or for including additional native flowering plants to a coastal landscape. False rosemary has been transplanted from 4-in pots to protected back dune and scrub areas with high success. However, tender plants from nursery production areas are very sensitive to high winds and salt spray suggesting transplants from nursery stock may need to be restricted to areas with less wind and salt spray.

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INFORMATION**

**Type:** evergreen sprawling shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 8 through 9

**Uses:** border; beach restoration; mass planting; container or above-ground planter; naturalizing; accent

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 3 feet                      **Spread:** 3 feet

**Plant spacing:** 3 feet

**Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** extremely dry sandy soils

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Soil salt tolerances:** high

**Aerosol salt tolerances:** high

**Invasive potential:** unknown

**Pest resistance:** undetermined



Photos: Mack Thetford, UF/IFAS, WFREC