Balduina angustifolia

Coastalplain honeycombhead

Asteraceae

Seed Propagation: Plants can be easily propagated from seed. Collect fruits when the heads are brown to grey to black and have dried out; avoid collecting when the heads are yellow to green and fleshy to ensure seed maturity. When heads are viewed from above, chambers in the head that appear white indicate the presence of a seed. Populations of this species have been documented to be non-dormant while other populations have been documented to have non-deep physiological dormancy and is reported by Campbell-Martínez and others (2021). Seeds collected from 4 populations in northwest Florida displayed different germination characteristics with 2 populations requiring Gibberellic acid and others germinating readily without it. Plants germinate to similar percentages in light (12-hour photoperiod) or dark. Seeds from south Florida germinated across all temperatures except warm (summer) temperatures while seeds collected from Northwest Florida germinated across seasonal temperatures except cold (winter) temperatures. Viability of seeds collected from the wild has ranged from ~50-100%.

Cutting Propagation: Plants are easily propagated from stem cuttings. High rooting percentages (~80%) can be achieved without the application of auxins. However, application of auxins (5,000 ppm IBA) improved rooting performance of cuttings taken 7/31/2008 and placed within a peat-based potting and placed under intermittent mist withing a climate-controlled greenhouse (Wilson, 2009).

Production: Plants can be produced using standard greenhouse and nursery procedures. Plugs were readily produced in a wholesale commercial growing operation using a semi-automatic seeder. Plants can also be quickly grown (128-cell plug to marketable plant in a few months during the spring). Plugs have ben grown in 4-inch and 1-gallon containers with a 3:1 mix of aged pine bark with fines to peat-based bagged mix (MetroMix 830) and fertilized with a ¼ and 1 tsp, respectively, of slow-release fertilizer (Osmocote 18-6-12 Plus). Plants must be grown in a well-draining potting mix and kept relatively dry or it will succumb to root borne pathogens.

Comments: In the coastal Florida panhandle region this plant is the sole floral host for the threatened endemic ground nesting bee coastalplain Hesperapis (*Hesperapis oraria*). Plant salvage is possible when this plant is at its rosette stage. This plant has been documented as a perennial and an annual by different Authors. In the Florida panhandle it performs as an annual. Useful plant in dune restoration and for pollinator gardens. Look-alikes include *Helenium amarum.*

Top. Fruits (achenes) with a 1mm bar on left picture. Mid Top Left. Seedling. Mid. Top Right. Plant in 1-gallon container. Mid. Bot. Salvaged seedlings. Bot. Plant in 4-inch container.

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Campbell-Martínez, Wilson, Pérez, Thetford, Miller. Anticipated in 2021. Germination of Balduina angustifolia (coastalplain honeycomb head) in response to temperature, Gibberellic acid, and photoperiod. Seed Science and Technology. Wilson, Perez, Thetford, 2009. Propagation, production, and landscape evaluation of native wildflowers in west, central, and south FL, Year-End Progress Report R-001-08-09.