

# Rare Plants of Louisiana



## *Scaevola plumieri* – ink-berry Goodenia Family (Goodeniaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** SH/G5 (Historical for LA)

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure



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**Range:** FL, LA, TX; widespread in tropical America, Africa, and southern India

### Recognition:

- A succulent, evergreen shrub with many branches, up to 1.2 m tall (but usually smaller)
- Stems spreading under the sand, forming colonies
- Leaves large (up to 7 cm), fleshy, glossy green, clustered near the tips of stems, widest above the middle
- Flowers white or pinkish, fan-shaped, few and occurring in the leaf axils
- Fruit is a black, juicy drupe, 1 to 2.5 cm long

### Flowering Time:

Potentially year-round – this is tropical plant and its persistence in LA is not known – it may be an occasional member of our flora

**Light Requirement:** Full sun to part shade

### Wetland Indicator Status:

FAC – similar likelihood of occurring in both wetlands and non-wetlands

### Habitat:

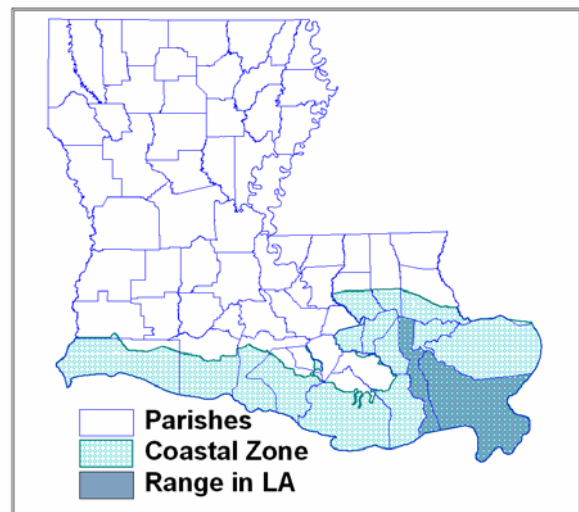
High energy dry sand beaches. *Scaevola plumieri* has not been recorded in LA since the 1930s where it was collected on Grande Isle (or Timbalier? – label ambiguous) and along Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River.

### Threats:

- Shoreline erosion
- Contamination by chemicals or industrial discharge
- Trampling by humans and livestock, to include vehicular traffic

### Beneficial Management Practices:

- Shoreline or island stabilization
- Protect beaches from degradation by humans and livestock



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*LA River Basins:* Pontchartrain, Mississippi, Barataria



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## References:

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For more information, please visit our Web pages at

<http://www.wlf.la.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program> or 225-765-2811

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