

## *Scaevola sericea*

half-flower



**Appearance:** Large, bushy shrub to 5 m (16 ft) tall, often forming dense hemispherical mounds.

**Leaves:** Simple, closely alternate, crowded at stem tips; blades thick, shiny green, wider near tips, to 21 cm (8.3 in) long, glabrous to hairy on both sides, margins revolute, light green becoming yellow with age; leaf axils with tufts of pale hairs.

**Flowers:** White to pale lilac, several in short clusters at leaf axils; 5 petals, partially fused, split to base on upper side so that petal lobes spread fanlike into a lower lip.

**Fruit:** A fleshy, subspherical drupe, green then white, 8-12 mm (0.3-0.5 in) long, with sepal lobes persistent at tip.

### **Ecological threat:**

Appears to be supplanting native coastal vegetation and has begun to displace rare native beach plants, such as the inkberry, and the Florida endangered sea lavender. FLEPPC Category I

**Distribution:** C, SW, SE



### **Field Notations**

SCAESERI/SCSE6

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