

Common Name: FLOODPLAIN TICKSEED

Scientific Name: Coreopsis integrifolia Poiret

Other Commonly Used Names: Chipola dye-flower, fringe-leaf tickseed, ciliate-leaf tickseed

Previously Used Scientific Names: none

Family: Asteraceae/Compositae (aster)

Rarity Ranks: G1G2/S1S2

State Legal Status: Threatened

Federal Legal Status: none

Federal Wetland Status: FACW

Description: Perennial **herb**, sometimes forming large colonies. **Stems** 16 - 28 inches (40 - 70 cm) tall, hairy or smooth, with few branches, each branch topped by a flower head. **Leaves** 1 - 2¾ inches (3 - 7 cm) long and ½ - 1 inches (1.5 - 3 cm) wide, opposite, oval with pointed tips and tapering bases, slightly hairy, with hairy margins and leaf stalks; **leaf stalks** ¾ - 1 inch (1 - 3 cm) long. **Flower heads** with two series of bracts underneath: outer bracts short, narrow, oblong; inner bracts longer and broadly triangular. **Ray flowers** up to ¾ inch (1 - 2 cm) long, yellow, with 3 teeth at the tip; **disk flowers** tiny and purple. **Fruit** almost ¼ inch (0.5 cm) long, flattened and seed-like, with scalloped wings and 2 bristles on the tip.

Similar Species: Coastal Plain tickseed (*Coreopsis gladiata*) has similar flower heads, but its leaves are mostly basal and the few stem leaves are all alternate. Beggarticks (*Bidens* spp.) have two types of bracts beneath the heads, 8 ray flowers, and opposite leaves, but the ray flowers are not toothed at the tip, its disk flowers are usually yellow, and the leaves are usually lobed.

Related Rare Species: See broad-leaved tickseed (Coreopsis latifolia) on this website.

Habitat: Streambanks and floodplains of blackwater streams.

Life History: Floodplain tickseed is a perennial herb that reproduces vegetatively by sprouting from underground stems (rhizomes). It also reproduces sexually, attracting bees and other pollinators to its brightly colored flower heads. Floodplain tickseed fruits are adapted to dispersal by mammals – the scalloped wings and bristled tips stick to animals' fur, hence the common name of tickseed.

Survey Recommendations: Surveys are best conducted during flowering (August–November).

Range: Coastal Plain of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina.

Threats: Impoundment, siltation, and pollution of streams. Logging in floodplains. Trampling by cattle along streambanks and in floodplains.

Georgia Conservation Status: Only 4 populations have been seen in the last 20 years, one of which occurs on state land.

Conservation and Management Recommendations: Avoid damming or polluting streams; avoid clearcutting in floodplains. Avoid use of herbicides near streams. Exclude cattle from bottomlands and streambanks.

Selected References:

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Date Compiled or Updated:

L. Chafin, Nov. 2007: original account

K. Owers, Jan. 2010: updated status and ranks, added pictures



