



Gopher Apple

Gopher Apple *(Geobalanus oblongifolius)*

Instant ID

- Upright, evergreen (has green leaves all year) plant
- Produces small pink, purple and red fruits
- Grows up to one foot tall
- Mature plants spread and cover the ground
- Has glossy green leaves with rounded tips

Native Niches

- Found along coastal dunes, scrub and other dry, sandy habitats
- Grows throughout Florida
- Tolerates harsh conditions, such as drought and fire



Gopher Apple

Gopher Apple *(Geobalanus oblongifolius)*

Plant Particulars

- Spreads through underground stems surfacing
- Can grow in nutrient-poor, sandy soils
- White flowers bloom in the summer
- Other names include the ground oak
- An important sand binder for beach dunes
- Gopher tortoises and mammals feed on its fruit

Population Protection

- A significant part of coastal strands (a community of plants along the shore which serve as a buffer for hurricanes and other storms)
- Provides food for native species and supports the biodiversity of Floridian ecosystems

