



Reindeer Moss

Reindeer Moss *(Cladonia spp.)*

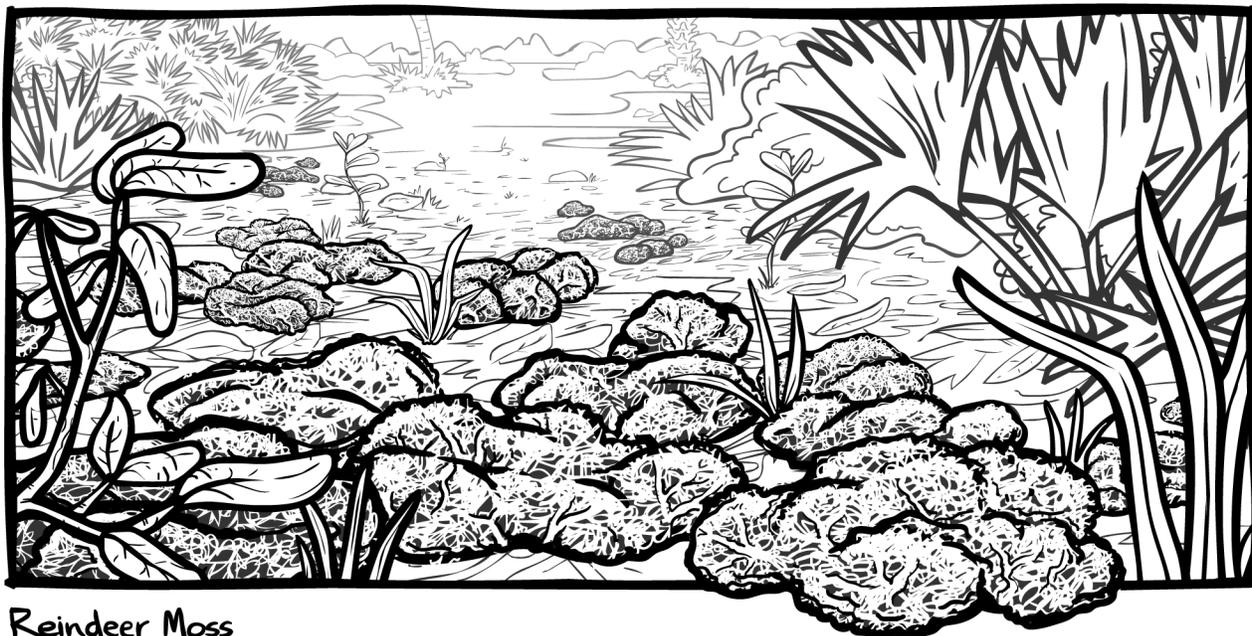
Instant ID

- Sponge-like masses growing on the ground without roots
- Gray, green and yellow in color
- Grows up to four inches in height
- Found clumped together

Native Niches

- Nine species are found in Florida
- Found throughout undisturbed flatwoods and scrub habitats
- Grows on sandy soils in dry habitats
- Three species are endemic (only found in) to Florida





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Plant Particulars

- A symbiotic (two organisms living together) of blue-green algae and a fungus
- Can be hundreds of years old
- Common in areas that have not been exposed to fire for many years
- Frequently eaten by deer
- Other names include deer moss and caribou moss

Population Protection

- Protecting its habitat is essential to its survival
- Stay on trails to avoid trampling and crushing