

# 2009 Florida 4-H State Marine Ecology Event

## Marine Organisms Identification List

### INTERMEDIATES (11-13) AND SENIORS (14-18)

NOTE: Youth will NOT need to know any scientific names. Scientific names are given only to make sure youth study the right organism since many may have multiple common names. For the contest, youth will need to properly identify these organisms. Refer to the Companion Guide for ways each can be identified. Whenever possible try to study real specimens and not just the Species Identification Guide CD, since photos may not always show important distinguishing features.

There are 215 specimens listed. Good Luck!

### Section 1: Marine and Coastal Plant Identification (43)

#### Algae (8)

Sea lettuce  
Dead man's fingers  
Sand moss  
Disc algae  
Shaving brush algae  
Petticoat algae  
Sargassum weed  
Red algae

#### Scientific name

*Ulva lactuca*  
*Codium* sp.  
*Caulerpa* sp.  
*Halimeda* sp.  
*Penicillus capitatus*  
*Padina* sp.  
*Sargassum* sp.  
*Gracilaria* sp.

#### Notes on natural history, habitat, features

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#### Seagrasses (4)

Shoal grass  
Manatee grass  
Turtle grass  
Widgeon grass

*Halodule wrightii*  
*Syringodium filiforme*  
*Thalassia testudinum*  
*Ruppia maritima*

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**Marsh plants (14)**

Sawgrass  
Smooth cord grass  
Salt meadow cord grass  
Needle rush  
Southern glasswort  
Saltwort  
Spike grass  
Salt joint grass  
Sea oxeye or Sea daisy  
Sea lavender  
Red mangrove  
Black mangrove  
White mangrove  
Buttonwood

*Cladium jamaicense*  
*Spartina alterniflora*  
*Spartina patens*  
*Juncus roemerianus*  
*Salicornia virginica*  
*Batis maritime*  
*Distichlis spicata*  
*Paspalum vaginatum*  
*Borrichia frutescens*  
*Limonium carolinianum*  
*Rhizophora mangle*  
*Avicennia germinans*  
*Laguncularia racemosa*  
*Conocarpus erectus*

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**Beach plants (14)**

Sea oats  
Dune panic grass  
Railroad vine  
Beach morning glory  
Sea Grape  
Sea purslane  
Firewheel or Indian blanket  
Dune Sunflower  
Bay bean or Beach pea  
Marsh elder  
Prickly pear cactus  
Beach pennywort  
Cabbage palm  
Sand Bur or sandspur

*Uniola paniculata*  
*Panicum amarulum*  
*Ipomoea pes-caprae*  
*Ipomoea imperati*  
*Coccoloba uvifera*  
*Sesuvium portulacastrum*  
*Gaillardia pulchella*  
*Helianthus debilis*  
*Canavalia maritime*  
*Iva frutescens*  
*Opuntia compressa*  
*Hydrocotyle bonariensis*  
*Sabal palmetto*  
*Cenchrus tribuloides*

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Boat-tailed grackle  
Wood stork  
Limpkin

*Cassidix mexicanus*  
*Mycteria Americana*  
*Aramus guarauna*

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**Mammals (3)**

Manatee  
Bottlenose dolphin  
Humpback whale

*Trichechus manatus*  
*Tursiops truncatus*  
*Megaptera novaeangliae*

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