

## **Dwarf Palmetto**

## Sabal minor

## The Palm Family (Arecaceae)

Basic Description: Common, fan-shaped palm, a small shrub, with star shaped, simple, evergreen leaves arranged alternately on long, thornless leaf stalks with the leaves arising from an underground stem. Trunk usually present only when grown in standing water.

Interesting Facts: Leaves used to make thatched roofs, fans and baskets. The Houma tribe used root for medicines and baked it whole as a bread substitute.

Flower: Male: Flower stalk to 8' with numerous, three part, small, fragrant, white flowers.

Fruit: Dark, fleshy fruit with a single seed about .5" in size.

**Wildlife Value:** Fruit is eaten by small mammals such as raccoons and by many birds. The flowers are a source of nectar.

**Habitat:** Found primarily in bottomland hardwood forest; a visible indicator of that habitat.

SIMPLE



POLLINATOR INSECT



WILDLIFE VALUE
MEDIUM

