

Site Visit to Ag Ventures McIntosh Property.
March 24, 2006

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This site is in northern Brevard County (Scottsmoor/Aurantia) and is southwest of the Ag Ventures Saddle Brook property. It is bounded by I-95 on the east, the old FEC railroad right-of-way on the west, Rose Marie Street on the south, and a FPL power-line right-of-way on the north. It includes about 540 acres.

This site was considered early in the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, and a site visit was conducted in 1991 (June 16). It was then known as the McIntosh DRI site. The site was recommended for acquisition at that time, but negotiations were ultimately unsuccessful.

This is a diverse site reflecting ridge-swale topography and alternating upland and wetland communities. Soils also reflect this pattern (Huckle et al. 1974).

On the eastern side of the site there is a relatively wide scrub ridge with Astatula and Pomello soils (Huckle et al., 1974). Vegetation along the ridge is oak scrub and scrubby flatwoods with scattered longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*). In 1991 there was some sand pine (*Pinus clausa*) scrub along this ridge. Evidently this ridge burned in the 1998 wildfires. There is now some sand pine regeneration but no sand pine canopy. The shrub layer contains typical scrub species including sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*), myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*), Chapman oak (*Quercus chapmanii*), saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), and other shrubs. The vegetation is relatively open with sandy patches in the shrub matrix.

West of the scrub ridge is a large forested wetland, which is a complex of mesic and hydric hammock and swamps. Canopy species include laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*), live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), elm (*Ulmus americana*), cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*), and scattered slash pine (*Pinus elliottii* var. *densa*). Epiphytes including resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*), golden polypody (*Phlebodium aureum*), and bromeliads (*Tillandsia utriculata*, *Tillandsia fasciculata*) occur.

West of the forested wetland and extending to the old FEC right-of-way is another lower ridge with pine flatwoods of varying composition. Longleaf pine, slash pine, and pond pine (*Pinus serotina*) all occur. There are patches of scrub oaks (sand live, myrtle, Chapman) on better-drained soils. Much of the area is mesic flatwoods with fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), gallberry holly (*Ilex glabra*), and saw palmetto as the primary shrubs. Wiregrass (*Aristida stricta* var. *beyrichiana*) occurs. There are small wetlands in the flatwoods matrix. Larger wetlands occur at the northern end of the site but were not examined on this date.

The flora of the site is predominately native (Table 1) with few exotic plants. Some wedelia (*Sphagnetocola trilobata*) occurs along the side of Rose Marie

Street. There has been off-road vehicle use particularly on the eastern scrub ridge and some dumping along the sand road along this ridge. Overall, however, the site is in good condition with intact and diverse natural communities. It adjoins land west of the FEC right-of-way managed by the Membry Hunt Club. Lands owned by the Miami Corporation occur to the northwest. This is potentially part of a larger conservation area in northern Brevard County.

References

Huckle, H.F., H.D. Dollar, and R.F. Pendleton. 1974. Soil survey of Brevard County, Florida. USDA Soil Conservation Service, Washington, DC. 123p. and maps.

Table 1. Plants observed on the Ag Ventures McIntosh Property. March 24, 2006. Additional species observed on June 16, 1991 site visit (M. Hames & P. Schmalzer) are also included.

Taxa	Native (N) or Exotic (E)
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	N
<i>Ampelopsis arborea</i> (1991)	N
<i>Andropogon</i> spp.	N
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> (1991)	N
<i>Aristida stricta</i> var. <i>beyrichiana</i>	N
<i>Asclepias pedicellata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Asclepias tomentosa</i> (1991)	N
<i>Asimina obovata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	N
<i>Befaria racemosa</i>	N
<i>Berchemia scandens</i> (1991)	N
<i>Blechnum serrulatum</i> (1991)	N
<i>Boehmeria cylindrical</i> (1991)	N
<i>Callicarpa americana</i> (1991)	N
<i>Callisia ornata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Carex verrucosa</i>	N
<i>Carphephorus corymbosus</i>	N
<i>Carphephorus odoratissimus</i>	N
<i>Carya floridana</i>	N
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> (1991)	N
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i> (1991)	N
<i>Cornus foemina</i>	N
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> (1991)	N
<i>Drosera</i> sp.	N
<i>Elephantopus eleatus</i> (1991)	N
<i>Eupatorium mohrii</i> (1991)	N
<i>Galactia elliotii</i>	N
<i>Gaylussacia dumosa</i>	N
<i>Gratiola hispida</i> (1991)	N
<i>Helianthemum nashii</i> (1991)	N
<i>Hieracium megacephalon</i>	N
<i>Hymenocallis</i> sp. (?)	N
<i>Hypericum brachyphyllum</i>	N
<i>Hypericum cistifolium</i>	N
<i>Hypericum hypericoides</i> (1991)	N
<i>Hypericum reductum</i>	N
<i>Hypericum tetrapetalum</i>	N

Table 1. (cont.)

Taxa	Native (N) or Exotic (E)
<i>Hypoxis juncea</i>	N
<i>Ilex cassine</i>	N
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	N
<i>Iris sp.</i>	N
<i>Itea virginica</i>	N
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	N
<i>Lachnanthes caroliniana</i>	N
<i>Lechea torreyi</i>	N
<i>Liatris sp.</i>	N
<i>Licania michauxii</i>	N
<i>Linaria canadensis</i>	N
<i>Lupinus diffusus</i>	N
<i>Lygodesmia aphylla</i>	N
<i>Lyonia ferruginea</i>	N
<i>Lyonia lucida</i>	N
<i>Magnolia virginica</i> (1991)	N
<i>Mikania sp.</i> (1991)	N
<i>Mimosa quadrivalis</i>	N
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	N
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Oclemena reticulata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	N
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> (1991)	N
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	N
<i>Palafoxia feayi</i> (1991)	N
<i>Palafoxia integrifolia</i> (1991)	N
<i>Panicum hemitomom</i>	N
<i>Paronychia americana</i> (1991)	N
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	N
<i>Persea borbonia</i>	N
<i>Persea palustris</i>	N
<i>Phlebodium aureum</i>	N
<i>Pinus clausa</i>	N
<i>Pinus elliottii</i> var. <i>densa</i>	N
<i>Pinus palustris</i>	N
<i>Pinus serotina</i>	N
<i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>	N
<i>Pleopeltis polypodioides</i>	N
<i>Pluchea sp.</i> (1991)	N
<i>Polygala cymosa</i> (1991)	N
<i>Polygala rugelii</i>	N
<i>Polygala setacea</i> (1991)	N

Table 1. (cont.)

Taxa	Native (N) or Exotic (E)
<i>Pontaderia cordata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	N
<i>Pterocaulon pycnostachyum</i> (1991)	N
<i>Quercus chapmanii</i>	N
<i>Quercus geminata</i>	N
<i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	N
<i>Quercus minima</i>	N
<i>Quercus myrtifolia</i>	N
<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	N
<i>Rhexia</i> sp.	N
<i>Rhus copallinum</i>	N
<i>Rhynchospora megalocarpa</i>	N
<i>Rubus</i> sp.	N
<i>Sabal palmetto</i>	N
<i>Sabatia grandiflora</i> (1991)	N
<i>Salix caroliniana</i>	N
<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>	N
<i>Sagittaria lancifolia</i> (1991)	N
<i>Scoparia dulcis</i>	N
<i>Serenoa repens</i>	N
<i>Seymeria pectinata</i> (1991)	N
<i>Smilax auriculata</i>	N
<i>Smilax laurifolia</i>	N
<i>Solidago</i> sp.	N
<i>Spartina bakeri</i> (1991)	N
<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>	E
<i>Stipulicida setacea</i> (1991)	N
<i>Symphyotrichum carolinianum</i> (1991)	N
<i>Syngonanthus flavidulus</i>	N
<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	N
<i>Thelypteris</i> sp.	N
<i>Tillandsia fasciculata</i>	N Florida Endangered
<i>Tillandsia utriculata</i>	N Florida Endangered
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	N
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	N
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	N
<i>Utricularia subulata</i>	N
<i>Vaccinium myrsinites</i>	N
<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	N
<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	N
<i>Woodwardia virginica</i>	N
<i>Ximenia americana</i>	N
<i>Xyris</i> spp.	N

