



Drift Seeds of *Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Introduction

Drift seeds (also known as Sea-Beans) come from trees and vines that grow along the tropical shores and rain forests all over the world. The seeds fall from their parent plant into waterways, such as the Amazon River, then drift through inlets to reach the ocean. They travel with ocean currents until they wash up on a beach somewhere, perhaps thousands of miles from their origin. Sea-Beans are hard and buoyant, which helps them survive their long-distance voyage. The following are Drift seeds (Sea-Beans) found principally on the Matagorda Island portion of the Refuge.

Common Name

Scientific Name

Hernandia
Hernandia sonora
Sea Purse
Dioclea reflexa
Box Fruit
Barringtonia asiatica
Gourd
Cucurbitaceae
Candlenut
Aleurites moluccana
Starnut
Astrocaryum spp.
Country Almond
Terminalia catappa
Coconut
Cocos nucifera

True Sea-Bean
Mucuna sloanei
Cohune
Attalea cohune
Bubblenut
Sacoglottis amazonica
Mango
Mangifera indica
Donovan's Brain
Andira galeottiana
Prickly Palm
Acrocomia spp.
Bay-Bean
Canavalia rosea
Calatola
Calatola costaricensis
Chocolate
Theobroma cacao
Sea Heart
Entada gigas
Spurge
Euphorbiaceae
Acorns
Quercus spp.
Coralbean
Erythrina spp.
Black Pearl
Sapindus saponaria
Sea-Coconut
Manicaria saccifera
Silk Cotton
Ceiba pentandra
Pine Cone
Pinus spp.
Bull's Horn
Acacia cornigera
Hog-Plum
Spondias mombin
Persoon
Caryocar glabrum
Mary's Bean
Merremia discoidesperma

Antidote Vine
Fevillea cordifolia
Manchineel
Hippomane mancinella
Red Mangrove
Rhizophora mangle
Coinplant
Dalbergia ecastaphyllum
Gray Nickernut
Caesalpinia bonduc
Brown Nickernut
Caesalpinia major

Reference

John V. and Perry E. Dennis
*Sea-Beans from the Tropics: A
Collector's Guide to Sea-Beans
and other Tropical Drift on
Atlantic Shores.*
Krieger Publishing Company.
2003.

May 2006