

Pineland croton

Be sure to buy native!



Florida croton



West Indian croton



In Florida, you can purchase pineland crotons that originate from Florida or from the West Indies. All material is technically *Croton linearis*. Yet there are obvious differences between Florida and West Indian plants. Florida material has leaves that are longer, narrower, gray-green (as opposed to yellow-green), and less glossy. Branches on Florida plants also tend to be somewhat floppy compared to those of the West Indian variety. Do these differences matter to our pollinators? We don't know. But it is better to be safe than sorry, especially when two critically endangered butterflies (Bartram's scrub-hairstreak and the Florida leafwing) depend on pineland crotons to feed their young.