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### Ethnobotany Bio

Educated as an environmental sciences teacher at Miami University Oxford, Ohio; Dick Workman's career path led him through the Mojave Desert in Southern California during military service and field studies in desert natural systems as a volunteer educator at both elementary and junior college schools. During a brief two year return to the temperate hardwoods of Ohio he directed the Warren County Park District educating the public about the vital importance of maintaining native plant communities. Returning to the desert latitudes in 1973 to direct the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation of Southwest Florida his first task was to assemble a booklet written and illustrated by SCCF members on native plants. While at the SCCF an interest in ethnobotany continued with exhibits and projects initiated in the archeology of Southwest Florida, Florida's first native plant propagation-research nursery, guided nature trails interpreting native plants and weekly programs about ethnobotany and other natural history subjects by specialists in those fields. Growing Native; Native plants for landscape use in Coastal South Florida, published in 1980 by the SCCF, was his first book. He has contributed to books on coastal vegetation, Robin Brown's Florida's First People on aboriginal uses of plants, natural systems of Sanibel Island and Barbara Oehlbeck's book The Sabal Palm; A Native Monarch. Dick Workman completed a five year appointment by Governor Jeb Bush in 2005 to the Visit Florida, Nature Based Tourism Advisory Board and currently serves on the advisory board of the University of Florida Natural History Museum's Randell Research Center at Pineland in Lee County where he sometimes can be found demonstrating palm frond weaving, twining plant fibers, fire-carving gumbo limbo wood or playing the conch shell horn. He is also a founding member of the Florida Native Plant Society and serves on the state board of Directors.

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