

# *Hylocereus undatus*

## NIGHTBLOOMING CACTUS

### Cactaceae

Common Synonyms: *Hylocereus guatemalensis*

**FLEPPC Category:** -

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No

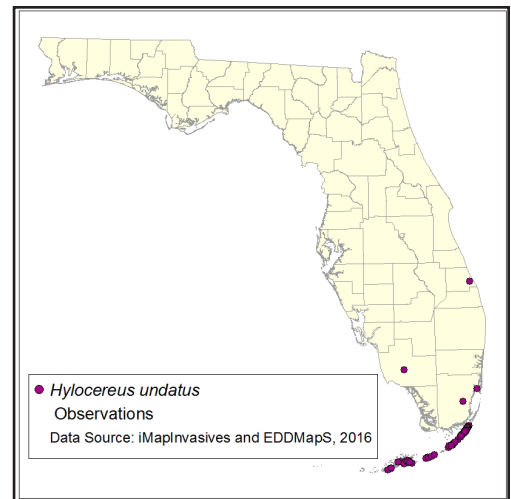
**IFAS Assessment**

North	OK
Central	INVASIVE
South	INVASIVE

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 10a-11

**Growth Habit:** Terrestrial or epiphytic cactus

**Origin:** Tropical America



Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org

**Description:** A large sprawling or vining, terrestrial or epiphytic cactus with aerial roots. Stems are green, 3-winged, and grow up to 5 m long (in mature plants), 4 to 7.5 cm, margins undulate. Spines in clusters of 1 to 3(- 5) and up to 1 cm long, typically 2-3 mm long. Flowers are ornate, 25-35 cm long by 30 cm across, white with green outer tepals and bracts. Flowers bloom only at night and last just one night.

**Habitat:** disturbed areas

**Florida Introduction Date:** Earliest Florida specimen vouchered in 1962.

**Control Methods:**

No specific recommendations available

**Useful Resources:**

Dave's Garden. 2014. PlantFiles: Red Pitaya, *Hylocereus undatus*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/54131/>. Accessed on June 20, 2014.

Queensland Government. 2014. Weeds of Australia, Night-blooming cactus, *Hylocereus undatus*. [http://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/03030800-0b07-490a-8d04-0605030c0f01/media/Html/Hylocereus\\_undatus.htm](http://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/03030800-0b07-490a-8d04-0605030c0f01/media/Html/Hylocereus_undatus.htm). Accessed June 28, 2014.

Wunderlin, R. P., and B. F. Hansen. 2008. Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants (<http://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/>). [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research.] Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa.