

# *Solanum torvum*

## SUSUMBER, TURKEY BERRY

### *Solanaceae*

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** 2

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes

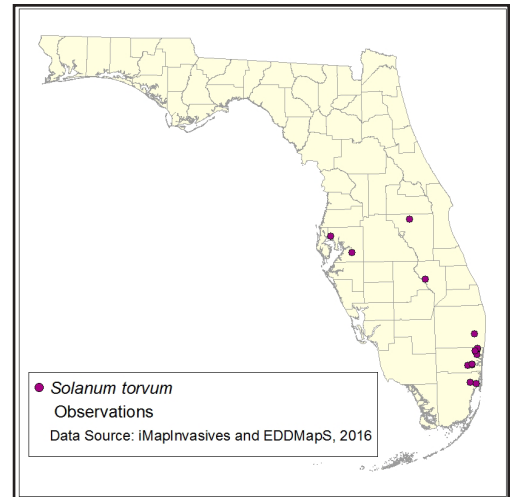
**IFAS Assessment**

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8a-11

**Growth Habit:** Shrub or tree

**Origin:** Tropical America



Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org

**Description:** Evergreen, widely branched, prickly shrub or small tree, to 5 m tall. Stems armed with stout, flattened prickles, usually straight or slightly curved. Twigs stellate tomentose. Leaves alternate, simple, petioled; blades oval to elliptic, unlobed to strongly lobed, to 25 cm long, bases unequal, tips pointed, surfaces densely stellate hairy below, less dense above, with usually a few long prickles on midveins (especially above). Flowers many, in large branched clusters, with simple, mostly glandular hairs on stalks. Corolla bright white, to 2.5 cm across, lobed about 1/3 of its length, lobes not recurved. Stamens with prominent anthers. Fruit an erect, subglobose berry, to 1.5 cm wide, yellow when ripe.

**Habitat:** disturbed uplands and swamps

**Comments:** Sprouts from roots, forming thickets. Flowers and fruits all year. Seeds probably dispersed by birds and other animals.

**Florida Introduction Date:** Before 1900

**Control Methods:**

Mechanical: Entire plant must be removed

Chemical: Glyphosate, 2,4-D, picloram, or triclopyr applied at standard rates (PIER)

**Useful Resources:**

Langeland, K.A., H.M. Cherry, C.M. McCormick, K.C. Burks. 2008. Identification and Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas-Second Edition. IFAS Publication SP 257. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

PIER. 2011. Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk (PIER): *Solanum torvum*. [http://www.hear.org/pier/species/solanum\\_torvum.htm](http://www.hear.org/pier/species/solanum_torvum.htm). Accessed on June 26, 2014.