

Causonis trifolia

THREE-LEAVED CAYRATIA

Vitaceae

Common Synonyms: *Cayratia trifolia*

FLEPPC Category: -

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

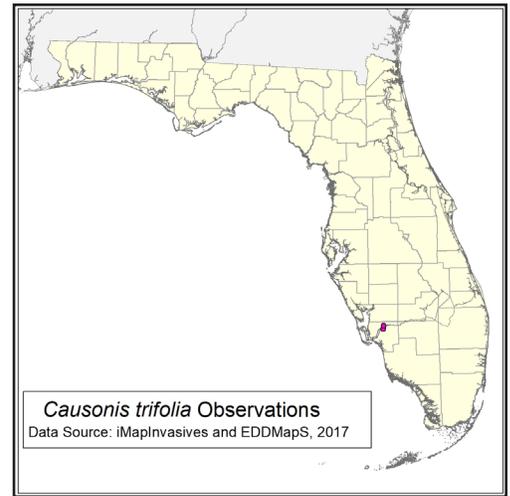
IFAS Assessment

North	Not Assessed
Central	Not Assessed
South	Not Assessed

USDA Hardiness Zone: N/A

Growth Habit: Vine

Origin: NE Australia, south Pacific, India, SE Asia, possibly Africa



Singapore National Parks Flora and Fauna Webpage (<https://florafaunaweb.nparks.gov.sg/special-pages/plant-detail.aspx?id=5148>)

Description: Scrambling evergreen woody vine, can grow over 20m long in native range. Runs along ground and climbs trees and shrubs, smothering with time. Uses tendrils ending in suction pads to attach to vegetation and structures.. Leaves trifoliate, terminal leaflet usually longer. Leaflets 2.5-6 x 2-3.5 cm, ovate or elliptic, base cuneate or rounded, margin blunt serrate appearing crenate, apex acute or obtuse, thin-coriaceous; petiole to 6 cm long. Flowers ca. 4mm diameter, 4-lobed cup-shaped calyx, ca. 0.5cm long. Petals ca. 2.5mm long, outer surface with hairs. Flowers born in leaf axils, umbellate or corymbose cymes. Peduncle to 8 cm long. Petals 4, greenish-white, 1.5-2 mm long. Disk white. Stamens 4; filaments ca. 1 mm long. Fruits similar to muscadine grape, but depressed globose, purplish-black when mature, ca. 8-10mm high by 10-1.9mm wide. Seeds 1-4 per fruit.

Note: similar to Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), which has 5 leaflets palmately arranged. Similar to sorrelvine (*Cissus trifoliata*), leaflets with large sharply serrate teeth, lateral leaflets are born directly off the petiole. Similar to the closely related invasive bushkiller (*Causonis japonica*).

Habitat: Non-pyric communities.

Florida Introduction Date: December 2017 in two Lee County parks.

Control Methods: .

Chemical: No specific recommendations available; woody plants can typically be treated with applications of glyphosate or triclopyr 3A..

Useful Resources:

Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants profile for *Cayratia trifolia* (http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Cayratia_trifolia.htm)

Singapore National Parks Flora and Fauna Web webpage for *Cayratia trifolia* (<https://florafaunaweb.nparks.gov.sg/special-pages/plant-detail.aspx?id=5148>)

Comments: Closely related to another invasive vine *Cayratia japonica* (bushkiller), which has invaded AL, CA, LA, MS, NC and TX in the continental US. Native to a large range in the old world, moved across globe for use as a medicinal plant. Vine introduced to Hawaii. Prefers full sun, moderate drainage. Fast grower. Flowers are visited by bees and butterflies, and fruits eaten by birds dispersing seeds in droppings.