Colubrina asiatica
LATHERLEAF
Rhamnaceae

Common Synonyms: Ceanothus asiaticus, Rhamnus asiatica

FLEPPC Category: 1
FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: Yes
IFAS Assessment
North PROHIBITED
Central PROHIBITED
South PROHIBITED

USDA Hardiness Zone: 9B - 11
Growth Habit: Shrub
Origin: Old World

Description: Sprawling shrub often forming a tangled mat of glabrous stems. Slender branches to 5 m. Oval, stalked, leaves are alternate, shiny dark green, 4-9 cm long with toothed margins. Flowers small, greenish white, in small clusters at the leaf axils, petals 5. Fruit a green to brown round capsule with 3 grayish-brown seeds inside.

Note: Similar to native Colubrina species and distinguished by the glabrous stems, sprawling nature, and leaf blades with serrate margins.

Habitat: Coastal areas including hammocks, mangrove swamps, and buttonwood forests

Florida Introduction Date: naturalized by 1933
Control Methods: Mechanical: seedlings can be hand-pulled.
Chemical: Basal bark (10-20% triclopyr ester or undiluted Pathfinder II), cut stump (50% triclopyr amine), foliar (3% triclopyr amine or triclopyr ester). Follow up for 3-4 weeks. Repeat applications certainly necessary. [IFAS].

Useful Resources:

Comments: Established in south, EDRR candidate in central zone if not well established. Capsules dispersed by tides, currents, and birds.