Cryptostegia madagascariensis
RUBBER VINE
Apocynaceae

Common Synonyms: none

FLEPPC Category: 2
FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No
IFAS Assessment
North  OK
Central  OK
South  OK

USDA Hardiness Zone: 10a-11
Growth Habit: Vine
Origin: Madagascar

Description: Woody vine or vining shrub with milky sap, stem dotted with lenticels. Leaves opposite, ovate, dark glossy green to 9 cm long and 5 cm wide with entire margins and round bases. Showy flowers to 4 cm long and 6 cm wide in terminal clusters of 1-4, pale purple to reddish purple, funnel shaped. Fruit a woody angled brown pod to 8 cm long, which splits at maturity to expose seeds with white silky hairs.

Habitat: mangrove swamp, hammock, shell mound, rockland hammock

Florida Introduction Date: pre-1904
Control Methods: Mechanical: Hand pull small plants and bag and remove fruits.
Chemical: Foliar (most effective for small individuals, chemical not provided, Starr et al.), cut-stem (triclopyr ester (concentration not found), most effective treatment, immediately spray stem after cut (Starr et al. 2003).)

Useful Resources:

Comments: Seeds are wind and water dispersed.