**Rhodomyrtus tomentosa**

**DOWNY ROSE-MYRTLE**

*Myrtaceae*

Common Synonyms: *Myrtus tomentosa*

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<th>FLEPPC Category</th>
<th>USDA Hardiness Zone</th>
<th>Growth Habit</th>
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FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: Yes

**IFAS Assessment**

- North: PROHIBITED
- Central: PROHIBITED
- South: PROHIBITED

**Description:** Evergreen shrub to 2 m in height. Young stems have short dense hairs. Leaves are opposite, entire, elliptic-oval, glossy above and densely tomentose below, with three dominant veins originating from the leaf base. Attractive rose-pink flowers, 2.5 cm across with five petals and a tuft of numerous stamens. Fruits are dark purple, globose, edible berries, 1.3 cm across.

**Habitat:** South Florida pine flatwoods

**Florida Introduction Date:** Prior to 1924

**Control Methods:**

- Basal bark or cut stump: 10% - 20% Garlon 4.
- Foliar: 1% Aresenal + 2% Roundup.

**Useful Resources:**


**Comments:** Introduced for ornamental value and edible fruit. Blooms profusely in spring. Fruits are sweet, likened to huckleberries.