**Solanum torvum**
*SUSUMBER, TURKEY BERRY*
*Solanaceae*

Common Synonyms: none

**FLEPPC Category:** 2  
**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes  
**IFAS Assessment**  
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**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8a-11  
**Growth Habit:** Shrub or tree  
**Origin:** Tropical America  

**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

**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). The leaf-eating chrysomelid beetle *Leptinotarsa undecimlineata*, is reported to be host-specific and might be a useful control agent

**Useful Resources:**  

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

*Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org*