

Solanum torvum

SUSUMBER, TURKEY BERRY

Solanaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

FLEPPC Category: 2

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: Yes

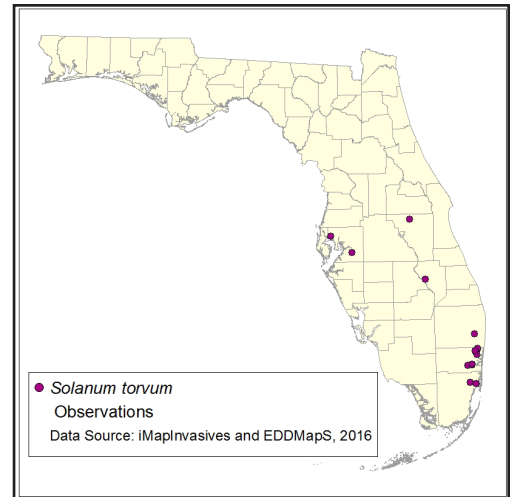
IFAS Assessment

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

USDA Hardiness Zone: 8a-11

Growth Habit: Shrub or tree

Origin: Tropical America



Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org

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:

PIER. 2011. Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk (PIER): *Solanum torvum*. http://www.hear.org/pier/species/solanum_torvum.htm. Accessed on June 26, 2014.

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