**Solanum viarum**  
**TROPICAL SODA APPLE**  
**Solanaeae**

**Common Synonyms:** none

**Florida Introduction Date:** Earliest Florida specimen available vouchered in 1988

**Control Methods:** Mechanical: pull and destroy individual plants when practical..  
Chemical: Foliar (1% triclopyr ester, 3% Glyphosate 41.0% L, or aminopyralid (7 ounces/acre, provides residual control of seedlings), IFAS)..

**Useful Resources:**  

**Comments:** Spreads extremely fast. Livestock and wild animals eat fruits and readily disperse seed. Established widely in central and south Florida.

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

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8b-11  
**Growth Habit:** Perennial Herb  
**Origin:** Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay

**Description:** Herbaceous perennial, bushy, prickly, usually 1~m (up to 2~m) tall. Sharp prickles on stems, petioles, and leaf veins. Stems and leaves with stellate and simple hairs (glandular or nonglandular). Stems armed with broad-based, straight or downward pointing prickles. Leaves simple, alternate, petioled, oval-triangular, to 20~cm long and 15~cm wide, angular lobed, surfaces with dense soft pubescence giving a velvety sheen. Inflorescence in small terminal clusters, flowers white, petals 5, recurved, anthers prominent, cream-colored. Fruit a globose berry, 2-3~cm diameter, green with darker veins, ripening yellow, seeds about 400 per berry.

**Habitat:** Disturbed flatwoods and pastures