**Triadica sebifera**  
**CHINESE TALLOW**  
*Euphorbiaceae*

Common Synonyms: *Sapium sebiferum*

**FLEPPC Category:** 1  
**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8a-11  
**Growth Habit:** Tree  
**Origin:** Southeastern Asia

**FNAI**

**Description:** Deciduous tree 6-18”m tall. Sap milky. Leaves alternate, entire, rhombic to ovate, acuminate, 3-6”cm wide, petioles long and slender with 2 glands at the apex. Flowers small, yellow, apetalous, in spikes 10-20”cm long. Fruit a three-lobed capsule 1.3”cm wide, seeds 3, covered with a white waxy coating, ripening from August to November.

**Habitat:** swamps, floodplain forests, and mesic to scrubby flatwoods

**Florida Introduction Date:** 1900s  
**Control Methods:** Mechanical: Cut down as close to the ground as possible. Burning effective for both small and larger trees.. Chemical: On smaller trees, foliar applications in fall before seed shed is optimum timing coinciding with downward translocation of carbohydrates. Otherwise, cut-stump or basal bark treatments are commonly utilized and can be performed most times of the year. Basal bark applications - for stems < 6” inches basal diameter, use a solution of 5% triclopyr with oil; for stems > 6” inches basal diameter, use a 15-20% triclopyr and oil solution. To control resprouting of freshly cut stumps, use a 20% solution of triclopyr. The root collar area, sides of the stump, and the outer portion of the cut surface should be sprayed until thoroughly wet, but not to the point of runoff. Apply herbicide within 1/2 hour of cutting. Do not attempt a cut stump or basal bark treatment during seed production (August to early September). This can increase the chance of spreading viable seed (IFAS).

**Useful Resources:**  

**Comments:** Chinese tallow trees develop a strong, deep taproot. This enables young trees to withstand periods of drought. Seeds