

# *Abrus precatorius*

## ROSARY PEA

### *Fabaceae*

Common Synonyms: *Abrus abrus*

**FLEPPC Category:** 1

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No

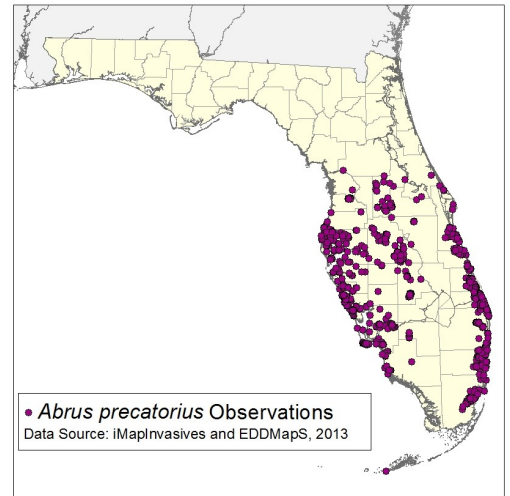
**IFAS Assessment**

North	CAUTION
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 11

**Growth Habit:** Vine

**Origin:** India



FNAI

**Description:** High-climbing, perennial, woody vine with slender herbaceous branches. Alternate, stalked leaves, 5-13 cm long, even-pinnately compound with 5-15 pairs of oblong leaflets, to 1.8 cm long with entire margins. Small pea-shaped flowers, white, pink or reddish, in clusters at leaf axils. Flowers in summer. Fruit a short, oblong pod, with 3-8 shiny hard seeds, 6-7 mm long, red with black bases. Seeds extremely poisonous to livestock and humans.

**Habitat:** Able to colonize a wide variety of habitats - xeric hammock, coastal uplands, flatwoods, hydric hammock, disturbed sites

**Comments:** Established in central and south Florida. Difficult to eradicate and increases following fire. Seeds dispersed by birds.

**Florida Introduction Date:** pre-1932

#### **Control Methods:**

Mechanical: Hand removal effective on small scale

Chemical: Basal bark (10% triclopyr ester, IFAS) for larger stems or foliar (1-3% glyphosate or 3-5% triclopyr amine, IFAS).

Note: Remove seed pods if possible. Site must be revisited several times to pull seedlings. Fall applications most effective.

#### **Useful Resources:**

IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. 2013. Rosary Pea. <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/23#more>. Accessed on December 2, 2013.

Langeland, K.A., J.A. Ferrell, B. Sellers, G.E. MacDonald, and R.K. Stocker. 2011. Integrated management of non-native plants in natural areas of Florida. EDIS publication SP 242. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Langeland, K.A., H.M. Cherry, C.M. McCormick, K.C. Burks. 2008. Identification and Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas-Second Edition. IFAS Publication SP 257. University of Florida, Gainesville.