

# *Cryptostegia madagascariensis*

## RUBBER VINE

### Apocynaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** 2

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No

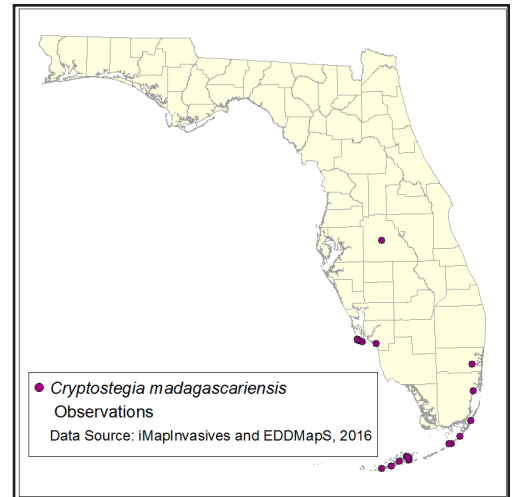
**IFAS Assessment**

North	OK
Central	OK
South	OK

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 10a-11

**Growth Habit:** Vine

**Origin:** Madagascar



Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org

**Description:** Woody vine or vining shrub with milky sap, stem dotted with lenticels. Leaves opposite, ovate, dark glossy green to 9 cm long and 5 cm wide with entire margins and round bases. Showy flowers to 4 cm long and 6 cm wide in terminal clusters of 1-4, pale purple to reddish purple, funnel shaped. Fruit a woody angled brown pod to 8 cm long, which splits at maturity to expose seeds with white silky hairs.

**Habitat:** mangrove swamp, hammock, shell mound, rockland hammock

**Comments:** Seeds are wind and water dispersed.

**Florida Introduction Date:** pre-1904

#### **Control Methods:**

Mechanical: Hand pull small plants and bag and remove fruits

Chemical: Foliar (most effective for small individuals, chemical not provided, Starr et al.), cut-stem (Garlon (concentration not found), most effective treatment, immediately spray stem after cut (Starr et al.)

Note: The milky sap is toxic and therefore hand-pulling should be done carefully (Starr et al.)

#### **Useful Resources:**

Dave's Garden. 2014. PlantFiles: Madagascar Rubbervine, *Cryptostegia madagascariensis*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/55532/>. Accessed on June 20, 2014.

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, Florida.

Starr, F., K. Starr and L. Loope. 2003. *Cryptostegia* spp. Rubber vine, Ascepiadaceae. United States Geological Survey - Biological Resources Division, Haleakala Field Station, Maui, Hawaii.

Wunderlin, R. P., and B. F. Hansen. 2008. Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants (<http://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/>). [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research.] Institute for Systematic Botany, University of South Florida, Tampa.