

Rhodomyrtus tomentosa

DOWNY ROSE-MYRTLE

Myrtaceae

Common Synonyms: *Myrtus tomentosa*

FLEPPC Category: 1

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: Yes

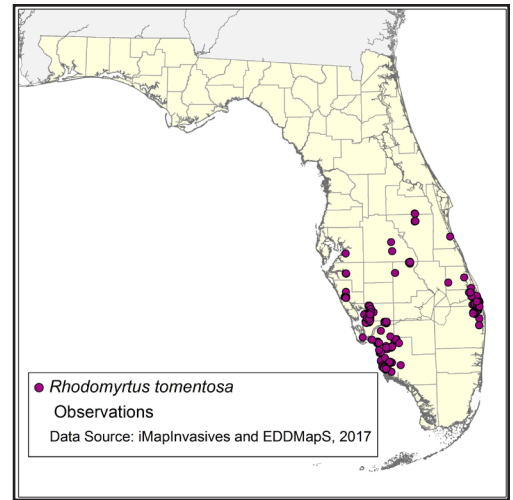
IFAS Assessment

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

USDA Hardiness Zone: 8b - 11

Growth Habit: Shrub

Origin: Asia



Michelle Smith

Description: Evergreen shrub to 2 m in height. Young stems have short dense hairs. Leaves are opposite, entire, elliptic-oval, glossy above and densely tomentose below, with three dominant veins originating from the leaf base. Attractive rose-pink flowers, 2.5 cm across with five petals and a tuft of numerous stamens. Fruits are dark purple, globose, edible berries, 1.3 cm across.

Habitat: South Florida pine flatwoods

Comments: Introduced for ornamental value and edible fruit. Blooms profusely in spring. Fruits are sweet, likened to huckleberries.

Florida Introduction Date: Prior to 1924

Control Methods:

Basal bark or cut stump: 10% - 20% Garlon 4. Foliar: 1% Aresenal + 2% Roundup

Useful Resources:

- Dave's Garen 2017. Downy Rosemyrtle, *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/32109/#b>
- 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.
- 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.