

Thespesia populnea

SEASIDE MAHOE

Malvaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

FLEPPC Category: 1

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

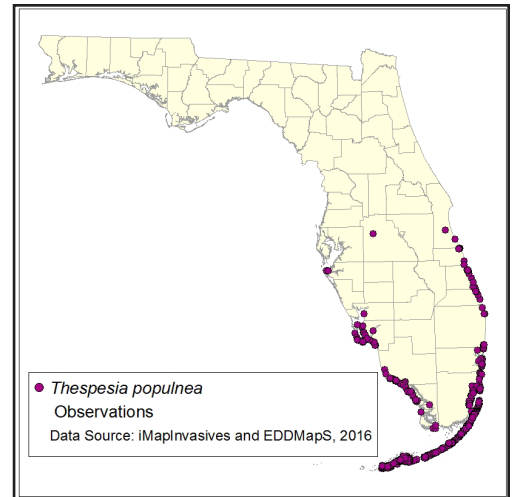
IFAS Assessment

North	OK
Central	INVASIVE
South	INVASIVE

USDA Hardiness Zone: 10b-11

Growth Habit: Tree

Origin: Old World tropics



FNAI

Description: Evergreen shrub or tree, commonly to 13~m tall, with young branches minutely brown-scaly. Leaves alternate, simple, petioles 5?10~cm long, blades entire, heart shaped, shiny dark green above, 5?20~cm long, usually with 5 main veins from base. Flowers showy, hibiscus-like, single in upper leaf axils, to 8~cm across. Corolla yellow with a red center, turning maroon by nightfall. Stamens united into a column shorter than petals. Fruit a leathery, flattened globose, 5-parted capsule, 4~cm wide, yellow turning black, persisting unopened for a time. Seeds several, hairy, brown.

Habitat: coastal habitats of South Florida and the Keys

Florida Introduction Date: pre 1928

Control Methods: Manual: Seedlings can be hand pulled..

Chemical: Basal bark - 10%-25% Garlon 4. Cut stump - 50% Garlon 3A..

Useful Resources:

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.

Comments: Flowers and fruits nearly year-round. Fruits and seeds buoyant, adapted to long-distance dispersal by tides and ocean currents. Found only where minimum temperatures are above 35°F