

Ricinus communis

CASTOR BEAN

Euphorbiaceae

Common Synonyms: *Croton spinosus*, *Ricinus africanus*

FLEPPC Category: 2

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

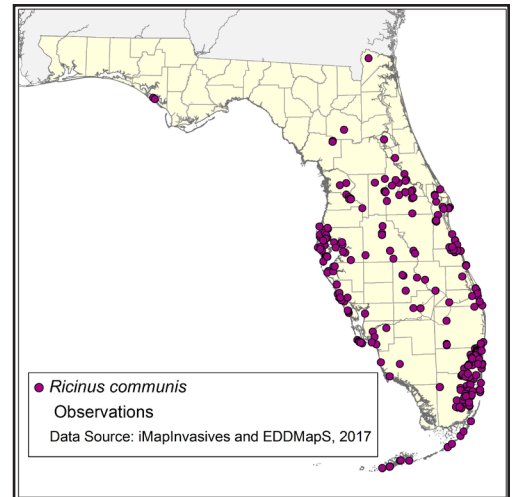
IFAS Assessment

North	INVASIVE
Central	INVASIVE
South	INVASIVE

USDA Hardiness Zone: 6a-11

Growth Habit: Shrub

Origin: Africa



Dan Clark, USDI National Park Service, Bugwood.org

Description: Shrub 1-4 m tall. Connate leaves leave scar marks around the stem. Long petiole 10-55 cm, leaf blade circular 15-50 cm across, with 7-12 lobes that increase in size. Separate male and female flowers. Flowers 6-30 cm. Female flowers with ovate sepals with numerous bristle tipped outgrowths and orange to red styles. Fruits are capsules, dark red and 1.5-2 cm across. Flowers and fruits in summer to late fall.

Habitat: Disturbed sites.

Florida Introduction Date: Earliest Florida voucher 1918

Control Methods: Mechanical: Hand pull seedlings..

Chemical: Basal bark or cut stump: 10% Garlon 4. Revisit site several times to pull up seedlings or treat seedlings with 5% Round-up..

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 summer-late fall.