

Solanum tampicense wetland night shade



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Appearance: Straggly and sprawling prickly shrub, woody below; herbaceous above, with prickly green stems to 5 m (16 ft) long and 1.5 cm (0.5 in) in diameter.

Leaves: Alternate, simple, with petioles to 3 cm (1.5 in) long; blades longer than wide, to 25 cm (10 in) long and 7 cm (3 in) wide, with deeply round-indent (sinuate) margins, recurved or straight prickles on veins, and stellate hairs.

Flowers: Small; 3 to 11 individual flowers in stalked, branched clusters at leaf axils; petals white, mostly free (fused only at base), spreading or often recurved; stamens with yellow anthers held closely and erect in center of flower.

Fruit: A small, spherical, tomato-like berry to 1 cm (0.4 in) wide, shiny solid green turning orange then bright red at maturity, with 10 to 60 yellowish, flat-round seeds.

Ecological threat:

Capable of forming large, tangled, monocultural stands. Can dominate the understory of cypress heads, growing over and covering even large plants such as fire flag and pickerelweed. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: C, SW, SE

Field Notations

SOLATAMP/SOTA3

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>