

Invasive Vegetation -

Chinese Tallowtree

(Sapium sebiferum)



**INVASIVE & NUISANCE
SPECIES
IN
BREVARD COUNTY
FLORIDA**



IDENTIFICATION, REMOVAL, AND REPLACEMENT

Species was added to the Florida Noxious Weed List (5b-57.007 FAC) by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Plants on the Florida Noxious Weed List may not be introduced, possessed, moved, or released without a permit.

IDENTIFICATION*



Chinese Tallowtree, or Popcorn Tree, is a deciduous tree with a milky sap that commonly grows to 25-30 feet tall. Leaves are simple, alternate, 1-2.5 inches wide, with broadly rounded bases and tapering to a slender point. New growth begins in February and flowering lasts from March through May. Fruit ripens from August to November. Young trees establish a taproot system and are able to withstand extended periods of drought. Leaf stalks are 1-2 inches long. Small yellow flowers that are borne on spikes to 8 inches long occur in spring. The fruit is a 0.5 inch wide, 3-lobed capsule that turns brown at maturity to reveal 3 popcorn-colored seeds. The seeds remain attached to the tree through the winter, are buoyant, and are viable after spending weeks or even months in water. Leaves produce chemicals that make the soil uninhabitable to native vegetation.

REMOVAL

*Use herbicides with *cut stump treatment* such as Brush-B-Gon®, Brush Killer®, Garlon™ 3A or 4, Pathfinder® II, or Renovate†3 (*aquatic use*).

*Use *basal bark* treatment with large diameter trees. Garlon™ 4, and Pathfinder® II should be used.

*Stumps that are **NOT** treated with a herbicide will sprout to form multiple-trunked trees.

BASAL BARK METHOD: Herbicide is applied directly to the bark around the circumference of each stem/tree up to 15 inches above the ground.

CUT STUMP METHOD: Herbicide is applied directly to the cut stump as soon as the tree is cut down.

Note: Follow directions on the herbicide product label and use appropriate safety protection. The label is the law!

REPLACE WITH

***Dahoon Holly**
(*Ilex cassine*)

***East Palatka Holly**
(*Ilex x attenuata*)

East Palatka Holly



Dahoon Holly



MORE INFORMATION



Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building A, Suite 219
Viera, FL 32940
321-633-2016

Brevard County Natural Resources
<http://www.brevardcounty.us/natres/publications.cfm>
FL Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services
<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/botany/noxweed.html>
FL Dept. of Environmental Protection
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/invaspec/>
FL Exotic Pest Plant Council
www.fleppc.org
Invasive and Exotic Species
<http://www.invasives.org>
National Wildlife Federation
http://enature.com/native_invasive/
University of FL IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants
<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>