

Dioscorea alata

winged yam



Appearance: Vigorously twining herbaceous vine, from massive underground tuber.

Leaves: Long petioled, opposite (often with only 1 leaf persistent); blades to 20 cm (8 in) or more in length, narrowly heart shaped, with basal lobes often angular.

Flowers: Small, occasional, male and female arising from leaf axils on separate plants (i.e., a dioecious species); male flowers in panicles to 30 cm (1 ft) long, female flowers in smaller spikes.

Fruit: A 3-parted capsule; seeds winged.

Ecological threat:

Some stands forming blankets of shingled leaves over native vegetation and able to cover even mature trees. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: NW, NE, C, SW, SE

Field Notations

DIOSALAT/DIAL2

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