

Ficus microcarpa

laurel fig



Appearance: Evergreen tree to 15 m (50 ft) or more in height, with a rounded dense crown, smooth gray bark, milky sap, and long, thin, dangling aerial roots.

Leaves: Alternate, simple, leathery, deep glossy green, oval-elliptic to diamond-shaped, to 13 cm (5 in) long, with short pointed, ridged tips.

Flowers: Tiny, unisexual, numerous, hidden within the “fig,” a fleshy, specialized receptacle that develops into a multiple fruit (syconium).

Fruit: Green turning to yellow or dark red when ripe; sessile, in pairs at leaf axils; small, to 1 cm (0.5 in) in diameter.

Ecological threat:

Began spreading by seed in the 1970s, following apparently accidental introduction of species-specific pollinating wasps. Found in various tropical hammocks. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: C, SW, SE

Field Notations

FICUMICR/FIMI2

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