

Aleurites fordii

tongue oil tree



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Appearance: Deciduous, smooth bark. Horizontal to semi-erect branches, often in whorl-like clusters.

Leaves: Glossy, dark green, alternate, long petioled. Blades are broadly ovate, 7–33 cm (3–13 in) wide, entire with a cordate base and sharp point or usually with 3 lobes. Two reddish-brown glands occur on the upper side where the petiole and blade.

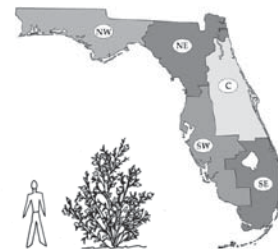
Flowers: Petals are white tinged with red and yellow, darker at the base with dark red-branched lines running lengthwise. Flowers range from 2.5 to almost 8 cm (1–3 in) in diameter. Petals range in number from 4–9.

Fruit: Most fruits oblong to ovoid, some are nearly spherical; 2.5–8 cm (1–3 in) in diameter, dark green, turning brown upon maturity. Fruit contains 3–7 large seeds, ranging in size from 1.5–3 cm (5/8 to 1-1/4 in) long. Toxic if ingested.

Ecological threat:

Invasive exotics that have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida plant communities to the extent shown by Category I species. FLEPPC Category II

Distribution: NW, NE, C, SW



Field Notations

ALEUFORD/ALFO

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