

## *Elaeagnus pungens*

silverthorn

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**Appearance:** Thorny, evergreen shrub with long shoots to about 6 m (18 ft) tall; branches sometimes appearing vine-like.

**Leaves:** Alternate, simple, elliptic to oval, 3-10 cm (1.2-4 in) long, 2-5 cm (1-2 in) wide; lower surface covered with silvery to ashy-white scales.

**Flowers:** Tiny, brown, about 1 cm long, borne in clusters in the leaf axils, appearing in fall and early winter.

**Fruit:** Oblong, drupelike, to about 1.5 cm (0.6 in) long, borne on a short stalk, 5-8 mm (0.2-0.3 in) long, changing from green to pinkish brown and covered with fine dots.

### **Ecological threat:**

FLEPPC Category II—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.

**Distribution:** NW, NE, C, SW



### **Field Notations**

ELAEPUNG/ELPU2

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