

*Elaeagnus pungens*

silverthorn



*Elaeagnus pungens*

silverthorn

**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 ash-white scales.

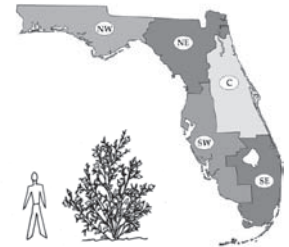
**Flowers:** Tiny, brown, about 1 cm long; borne in clusters in the leaf axils, appearing in fall and early winter.

**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>