

Lantana camara

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Appearance: Grows profusely. Multi-stemmed, deciduous shrub, to 2 m (6 ft) or more, with stems square, covered with bristly hairs when green; often armed as well with scattered small prickles.

Leaves: Opposite, simple, with petioles to 2 cm (0.8 in) long; blades oval, rough, hairy, to 15 cm (6 in) long and 6 cm (2.4 in) wide; margins blunt-toothed and blade bases broad, squared off (truncate); leaves strongly aromatic.

Flowers: Small, multicolored; in stalked, dense, flat-topped clusters to 4 cm (1.5 in) across; corolla a narrow tube with 4 short spreading lobes; flowers in a single cluster may be white to pink or lavender, yellow to orange or red, changing color over time.

Fruit: A round, fleshy, 2-seeded drupe, about 5 mm (0.2 in) wide; green turning purple then blue-black.

Ecological threat:

Commonly invades disturbed sites such as roadsides, spoil islands, pastures, citrus groves, and cultivated woodlands. Also frequent in well-drained undisturbed habitats such as native pinelands, hammocks, and beach dunes. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: NW, NE, C, SW, SE

Field Notations

LANTCAMA/LACA2

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