

***Melia azedarach***

Chinaberry



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**Appearance:** Deciduous tree to 15 m (50 ft) tall. Twigs stout with purplish bark, dotted with buff-colored lenticels (pores or spongy areas).

**Leaves:** Alternate, large, long-petioled, 2 or 3 times compound (odd-pinnate), up to 0.5 m (1.5 ft) long; leaflets pungent when crushed, dark green above, often with sparse pubescence along veins; lighter green below, generally glabrous; margins serrate; blade bases often oblique.

**Flowers:** Small, fragrant, with 5 lilac petals; stalks of stamens united into dark purple tube.

**Fruit:** A stalked, thinly fleshy, subglobose, single-seeded drupe; yellow or yellowish green at maturity.

**Ecological threat:**

Occurs primarily in disturbed areas such as road right-of-ways and fencerows, but has also invaded floodplain hammocks, marshes and upland woods, particularly in north Florida. FLEPPC Category II



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

**Field Notations**

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