

Schinus terebinthifolius

Brazilian pepper



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Appearance: Evergreen shrub or tree to 13 m (43 ft) tall, often with multi-stemmed trunks and branches arching and crossing, forming tangled masses.

Leaves: Alternate, odd-pinnately compound with 3–11 leaflets (usually 7–9); elliptic-oblong, 2.5–5 cm (1–2 in) long, with upper surfaces dark green, lower surfaces paler, and leaflet margins often somewhat toothed. Leaves aromatic when crushed, smelling peppery or like turpentine.

Flowers: Unisexual (dioecious), small, in short-branched clusters at leaf axils of current-season stems; 5 petals, white to 2 mm (0.07 in) long.

Fruit: A small, bright-red spherical drupe.

Ecological threat:

Forms dense thickets of tangled woody stems that completely shade out and displace native vegetation. Has displaced some populations of rare listed species. Produces certain agents, which appear to suppress other plants' growth. FLEPPC Category I



Distribution: NW, NE, C, SW, SE

Field Notations

SCHITERE/SCTE

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