



Air potato - *Dioscorea bulbifera*



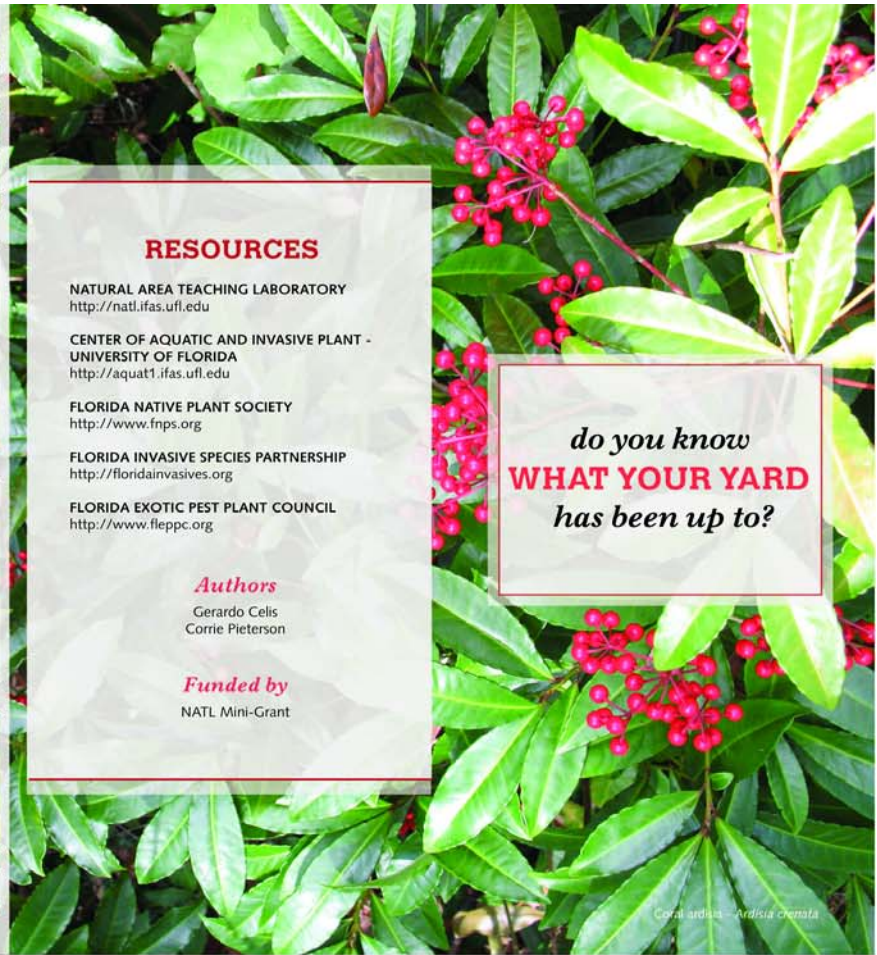
Skunk vine - *Paederia foetida*



Japanese climbing fern - *Lygodium japonicum*



Mimosa - *Albizia julibrissin*



Coral ardisia - *Ardisia crenata*

## RESOURCES

NATURAL AREA TEACHING LABORATORY  
<http://natl.ifas.ufl.edu>

CENTER OF AQUATIC AND INVASIVE PLANT -  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
<http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu>

FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
<http://www.fnps.org>

FLORIDA INVASIVE SPECIES PARTNERSHIP  
<http://floridainvasives.org>

FLORIDA EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL  
<http://www.fleppc.org>

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### Funded by

NATL Mini-Grant

do you know  
**WHAT YOUR YARD**  
has been up to?

## who IS IN YOUR YARD?

### DID YOU KNOW...

... that almost one-third of the plants growing wild in Florida are **non-native**? Some of these plants have become serious problems and they could be in your yard.

### NATIVE SPECIES

Any species that historically has occurred and currently occurs in an ecosystem.

### NON-NATIVE

Any species that has been introduced into an ecosystem.

### NON-NATIVE INVASIVE

Invasive species are organisms that are introduced into an ecosystem and which cause, or are likely to cause, harm to the economy, environment and/or human health.

## what CAN I DO?

First, **identify** the plants in your yard. Then **remove** the invasive exotics and plant appropriate native species and/or non - invasive plants that are commercially available at nurseries or garden centers.

**Contact** your neighbors and **inform** them of the potential problem and unite efforts to control non-native invasive species.

## OF THE 496 VASCULAR PLANTS KNOWN FROM NATL...

...126 are not native to Florida, but only 19 of these are of special concern because of their potential to significantly alter NATL ecosystems and surrounding areas.

## how DID THESE PLANTS GET HERE?

Many non-native invasive plants are unknowingly planted and maintained by homeowners as landscaping material. They can then spread to other areas and become a serious problem. Depending on the species the seeds can be transported large distances by wind, water, wildlife and humans.

## did YOU KNOW...?

...THAT ONE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS HAS BEEN WORKING TO CONTROL NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES?

The University of Florida Natural Area Teaching Laboratory (**NATL**) has actively been treating non-native species. NATL is dedicated to teaching students and the public about ecology and biotic diversity. It consists of 60 acres in two contiguous tracts in the southwest corner of campus and is surrounded by 27 private properties within a 100m buffer.

## THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN SOME OF THE MAJOR THREATS:

Cogongrass - *Imperata cylindrica*  
Skunkvine - *Paederia foetida*  
Coral ardisia - *Ardisia crenata*

### Lesser threats:

Air potato - *Dioscorea bulbifera*  
Arrowhead vine - *Synгонium podophyllum*  
Johnsongrass - *Sorghum halepense*  
Guineagrass - *Panicum maximum*  
Japanese climbing fern - *Lygodium japonicum*  
Mimosa - *Albizia julibrissin*  
White leadtree - *Leucaena leucocephala*  
Chinese tallow-tree - *Sapium sebiferum*