

**PEST:** Tropical Soda Apple (*Solanum viarum*)

**BASIC PROFILE:** TSA is a federal noxious weed. It has been found at isolated sites in Louisiana associated with cattle and pastureland. New infestations occur mainly through seed movement by animals. TSA forms a prickly, bushy plant 3' – 6' tall that animals will not eat, but the orange, ~1"-diameter fruit is edible and contains hundreds of seeds. Fruit is more prevalent in late summer and early fall.

**LDAF ACTIVITY:** TSA will take over pastures making them unusable for cattle. It also can displace native plants in natural areas. LDAF surveys for TSA each year from August through mid-December, checking pastures, cattle operations, auction barns and rodeo arenas. When found, plants are uprooted and destroyed. Follow-up treatments may be required. Cattle are removed from known infested sites to prevent spread.

