



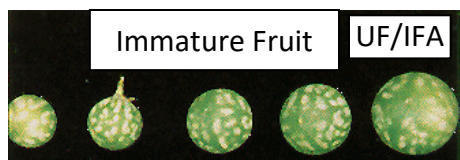
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN, DVM
Commissioner

PEST: Tropical Soda Apple (*Solanum viarum*)

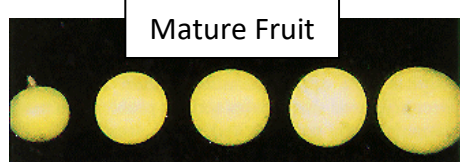
BASIC PROFILE: TSA is a federal noxious weed. It has been found at isolated sites in Louisiana associated with cattle and pastureland. New infestations occur mainly through seed movement by animals. TSA forms a prickly, bushy plant 3 – 6 feet tall that animals will not eat, but the orange, ~1 inch-diameter 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.



Immature Fruit

UF/IFA



Mature Fruit



Charles Bryson