



# Brazilian Pepper

(*Schinus terebinthifolius*)



Brazilian Pepper

## Instant ID

- A shrub or tree up to 30 feet tall with dense, twisting branches
- Leaves arranged as 3 to 13 leaflets around a midrib (stem)
- Clusters of small white flowers emerge in late summer
- Small, bright red berries grow on female plants and ripen by December

## Hijacked Habitats

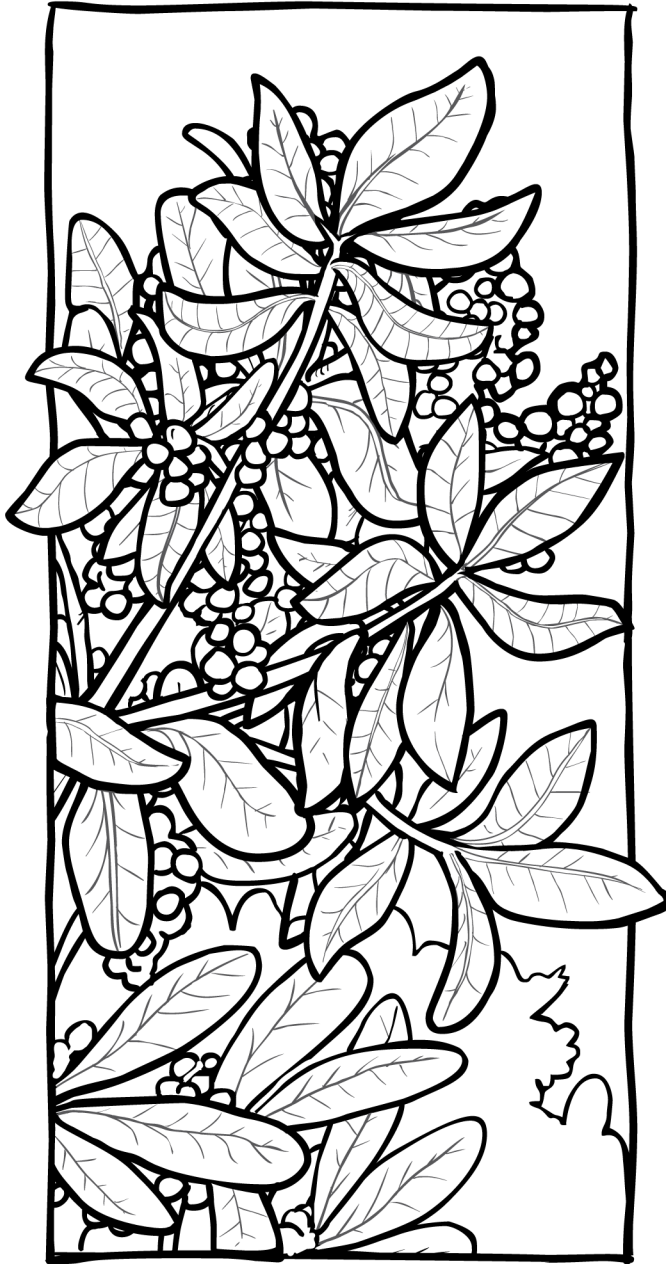
- Native to Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay
- Introduced to Florida as an ornamental (landscaping) plant in the 1840s
- More abundant in southern Florida, because of sensitivity to cold weather
- Successfully colonizes (takes over) native plant communities
- Thrives in disturbed (changed by humans) areas and is expanding its range





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## Plant Particulars

- One of Florida's most aggressive invasive plants
- Related to poison ivy, it can cause adverse reactions in some people
- Seeds are spread by animals which eat the berries
- Survives most fire and flooding
- Reproduces as quickly as 3 years after germination (sprouting)
- Distinguished from the native winged sumac by usually having less than 9 leaflets and brighter and smoother berries

## Population Prevention

- Florida State Parks' AmeriCorps program has assisted in the removal of invasive plant species
- For removal information visit, [www.plants.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.plants.ifas.ufl.edu)

