

A cast net or a sieve?

GULF SOUTH INVASIVES

NURSERIES AND ARBORETA

First line of defense or last trench of denial?

- ✘ We are the first to notice invasive potential of “new” plants as we are the first to trial under ideal conditions for reproduction.
- ✘ Our nursery is 82 years old and perimeter portions are a textbook for the cultural invasive vs. the rogue invasive.

Colocasia esculenta

- ✘ Colocasia esculenta var. aquatilis
- ✘ Availability survey. Minimum of seven nurseries in FL sell various C. esculenta cultivars.
- ✘ The genus is a mess. Some are clumpers, similar to caladiums, others move within watersheds via shallow root sections washing downstream.

Cortaderia selloana

- ✘ Minimum of eleven nurseries in FL
- ✘ Germination level in culture very high and most are produced by seed.
- ✘ Possibly needs full sun and little competition to germinate? Perhaps disruption mimicking fire?
- ✘ California escape mimics FL and Northern Gulf Coast.

CALLICARPA SPECIES

- ✘ Callicarpa mexicana
- ✘ Callicarpa japonica and other Asian species.
 - + More ornamental attributes than the native.
 - + Have seen spontaneous seedlings in nursery setting but few in the garden.
 - + Does it really matter?

Callicarpa dichotoma 'Issai'



Callicarpa japonica 'Heavy Berry'



Mahonia (Berberis) species

- ✘ Fruitful cultivars zone 6-7
- ✘ Surprisingly few spontaneous seedlings in zone 8-9.
- ✘ Nearly a Berberis so may behave the same.

Mahonia (Berberis) eurybracteata 'Soft Caress'



Mahonia (Berberis) gracilipes



Nandina domestica

- ✘ 12- sources in the Southeast for the straight species, including one source selling 20# bags of seed!
- ✘ Some cultivars have a paucity of seed but still too many.
- ✘ Breeding for sterility which would reduce them to foliage interest. These are now grown via tissue culture.

Nandina domestica 'Lemon Lime'



Cinnamomum camphorum

- ✘ Favorable food source of many birds.
- ✘ Densely evergreen canopy.
- ✘ Not hardy north of coastal plain.
- ✘ No instance found of commercial production
- ✘ Other ornamental species being trialed in NC.

Cinnamomum camphora



Ligustrum species

- ✘ All tainted by just 2-3 species.
- ✘ *Ligustrum japonicum*. No more invasive than *Camellia sasanqua* or *Lagerstroemia* hybrids.
- ✘ Still two sources in South for *L. sinense* (both in FL.)
- ✘ No indication of *L. lucidum* under culture.

Ligustrum lucidum



Ligustrum japonicum



Vitex rotundifolia

- ✘ One online source.
- ✘ A menace in Coastal areas but no known natural germination inland?
- ✘ Has been used occasionally as a trained “vine.”

Vitex agnus-castus var. latifolia

- ✘ Often listed as invasive, it is not.
- ✘ Cultivars, 'Colonial Blue' and 'Shoal Creek' are effectively sterile.

Vitex agnus-castus var. latifolia



SOME SCARY POSSIBILITIES

- ✘ Magnolia-evergreen Asian species.
 - + Dozens being introduced to Southeast.
- ✘ *Globba schomburgkii*
- ✘ *Aleurites fordii*
- ✘ *Phoebe* species (Lauraceae along with *Litsea*)

Globba winitii “Dancing Ladies” Ginger



Globba schomburgkii

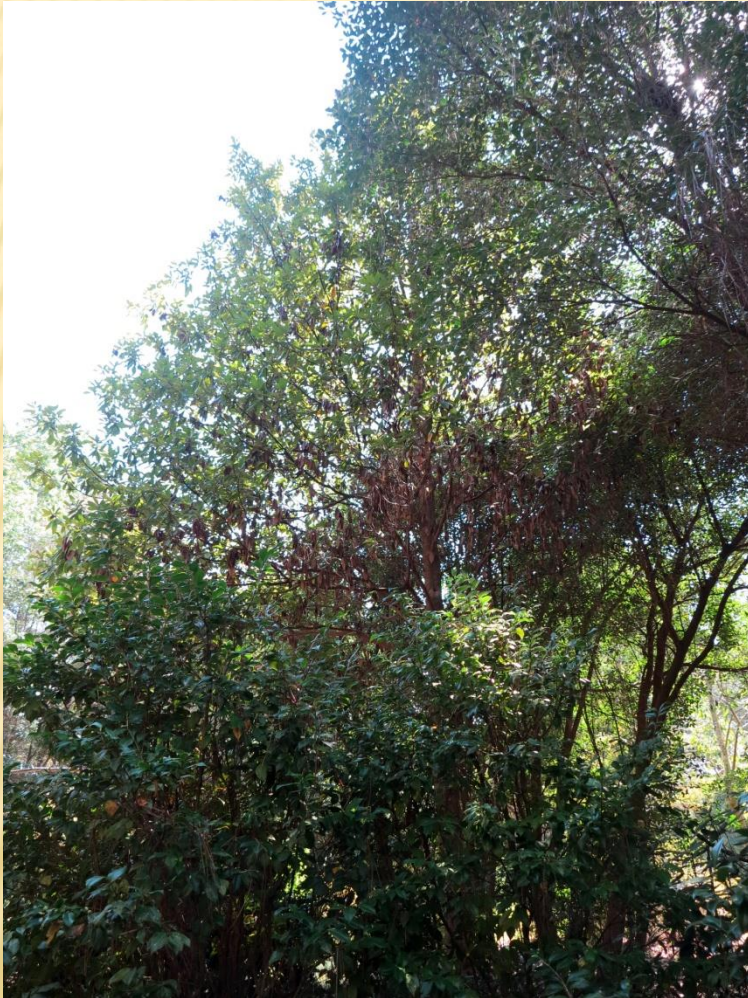


Aleurites fordii “Tung oil tree”



Phoebe formosana

FAR TOO HAPPY



Seedlings - up to 22 per square meter.



THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

