

What's Blooming?

November, 2010

Christmas Senna

Senna pendula

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Senna pendula is listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) as a Category I invasive exotic. Plants shown growing in Lee County along I-75.

Category I Invasive exotics are plants that are altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with native plants.

Senna pendula, also known as Christmas Senna or Christmas Cassia, is native to Brazil, Peru and into Paraguay. It is a highly invasive exotic weed and can now be seen along roadways and in disturbed areas.

It tolerates temperatures as low as 28°F and will comeback after a freeze.

Phenology:

- Heaviest flowering is from late October into December. There is an occasional spring bloom.
- Approximately 31 Intense Blooming Days (IBD) in the fall



It is still sold as an ornamental plant that goes by the name Christmas Cassia. Photo taken November, 2010.



This rambler is vine-like by nature





Leaves: Even-pinnate, alternate, up to 4 inches long

Flowers: Bright yellow on raceme near stem tip

Fruits: Pods, cylindrical or string-bean like, slender, glabrous, with 2 longitudinal indentations, to 9 inches long

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[Christmas Senna Fact Sheet](#)

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