

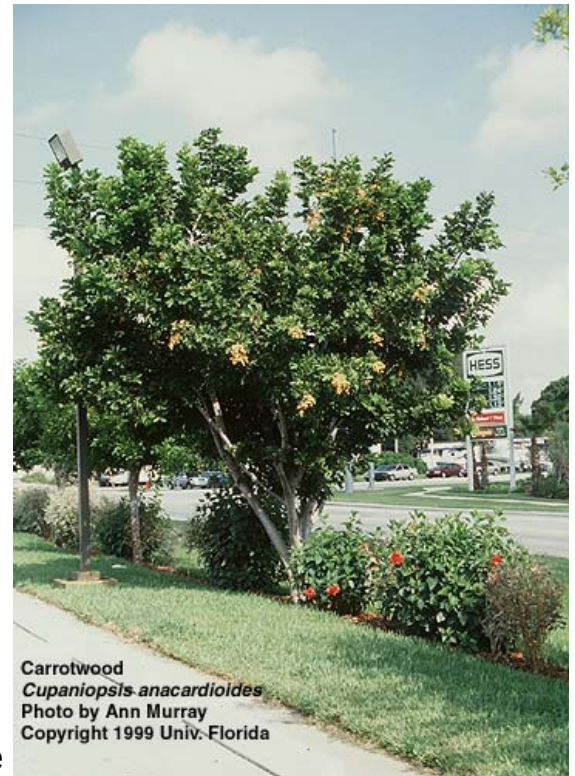
## Invasive Species Profile: Carrotwood tree (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*)

### Identifying Characteristics

Usually a single-trunked tree, rapidly growing 30 to 35 feet tall. Outer bark is dark gray; inner bark often orange (carrot-colored). Leaves are evergreen, alternate and compound, shiny and leathery, and up to 8 inches long with 4 to 12 oblong leaflets. Produces white to yellow-green flowers in clusters in late winter or early spring. Fruits are segmented capsules, about 1 inch long and yellow-orange with ripe. Fruits split to reveal 3 seeds coated with a striking orange crust.

### Habitat

Introduced as a landscape plant in the 1960s. Invades coastal sites including spoil islands, beach dunes, marshes, mangroves, cypress swamps, and coastal strands. Found established in various habitats on both coasts of Florida. Also invades upland sites including pinelands and scrub. Especially problematic to mangrove ecosystems.



### Growth Habits

Grows in wet and dry areas, in any soil type, in full sun or full shade, and is salt- and freeze-tolerant. Seeds dispersed by birds; also seeds freely from plantings. Shades out native vegetation.

### Control Methods --- Cut-Stump or Basal Bark

Cut larger trees, and treat the stump immediately with triclopyr ester. Basal bark applications are also effective. Dispose of seeds in plastic bags. May require follow-up treatments.

### Florida-Friendly Replacements:

- Dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*)
- Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*)
- Wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*)
- Florida privet (*Forestiera segregata*)
- Gumbo-limbo (*Bursera simaruba*)

