Fire risk report for *Sophora tomentosa*

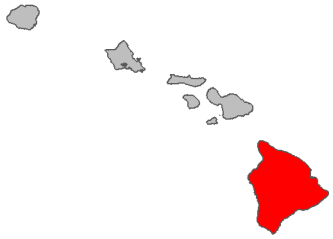
Full Species Name
Sophora tomentosa L.

Family: Fabaceae

Common names:
yellow necklacepod
silverbush

Synonyms:

Known occurrences (as of 2020)



Year first documented as naturalized in Hawai'i: 2011

This species has been ranked by the Hawai'i Weed Risk Assessment program as Low Risk with a score of -3.

View photos on Starr Environmental

View on Wikipedia

View occurrences on iNaturalist

View at Plants of Hawaii

View photos on Flickr

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Lowest risk ⇔ Highest risk

This species is likely a **low** fire risk in Hawai'i with a fire risk score of **0.16**.

This species was ranked by our machine learning algorithm using the data presented on the next page. A predicted score of > .34 suggests the plant is a high fire risk.

Summary of Fire ecology	
Native habitat fire proneness	Fire-prone
Fire promoting plant in its native range	No
Fire promoting plant in its introduced range*	No
Regenerates after fire	Yes
Promoted by fire	no data
Reported flammable*	No Data
Relative is flammable*	No

*These values were used by the model to predict fire risk

Detailed summary of Fire Ecology

Native habitat fire proneness (In any part of the plant's native range is its habitat described as fire prone due to natural or human caused fires?)	Fire-prone	"[described as being from a fire prone habitat]" https://bsapubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.3732/ajb.0800083 Fisher, J. B. (2008). Anatomy of axis contraction in seedlings from a fire prone habitat. American Journal of Botany, 95(11), 1337-1348. --- "[found in pine woodlands habitat (table 4) previously described as fire prone]" https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Philip-Kramer-3/publication/324868116_West_Andros_REA_Report-2007/links/5ae89d97a6fdcc03cd8f7322/West-Andros-REA-Report-2007.pdf#page=74 Freid, E. H. (2006). Vascular Plant Diversity and Vegetation. RAPID ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT WEST COAST OF ANDROS, THE BAHAMAS JUNE 19th-29th, 2006, 59. --- "(18) Sophora tomentosa var. truncata is generally listed for hammocks. Many records exist of the species in pine rocklands, and I have personally observed it along the edges and in more disturbed pine rockland sites and the species should be included with pine rockland species. [this habitat frequently burns] " https://core.ac.uk/reader/159312489 Pena, A. L. (2017). A Historical Floristic Inventory of Pine Rockland Fabaceae (Leguminosae).
Fire promoting plant in its native range (Does the species act as a major fuel source, increase fire severity, frequency, or modify fuel bed characteristics within its native range?)	No	
Fire promoting plant in its introduced range (Same as Fire Promoting Native but	No	

within the species introduced range)		
Regenerates after fire (Does the plant regrow after fire by any means? This includes resprouters, reseeders, and recruiters which dispersed into the area within approximately one year post fire)	Yes	"[occured after 3 months- 1 year post fire; table 2]" https://www.scielo.br/pdf/abb/v18n4/23211.pdf Menezes, L. F. T. D., & Araujo, D. S. D. D. (2004). The structure and diversity of three areas of shrubby restinga vegetation were analyzed 3, 12 and 84 months after fire in the Marambaia Restinga, Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil. Acta Botanica Brasilica, 18(4), 771-780.
Promoted by fire (Does the plant increase in abundance after a fire?)	no data	
Reported flammable (Is the species described as being flammable, being a major wildfire fuel, or high fire risk?)	No Data	
Relative is flammable (Does a plant in the same genus meet the Reported Flammable criteria?)	No	"[S. japonica listed as modereratly flammable, 8 on a scale from 7 to 9]" #this is however a lab test and doesn't really represent ecological fuel conditions https://search.proquest.com/docview/214560108?fromopenview=true&pq-origsite=gscholar Wang, X., Niu, S., & Kan, Z. (2009). Properties and flammability of major tree species in the Beijing area. Frontiers of Forestry in China, 4(3), 304-308. --- "[Sophora microphillay listed as low/mod flammability]" #this is the only lab burn test that I actually trust https://www.publish.csiro.au/wf/pdf/WF15047 Wyse, S. V., Perry, G. L., O'Connell, D. M., Holland, P. S., Wright, M. J., Hosted, C. L., ... & Curran, T. J. (2016). A quantitative assessment of shoot flammability for 60 tree and shrub species supports rankings based on expert opinion. International Journal of Wildland Fire, 25(4), 466-477.

Text in quotes are direct quotes from the source
Text in square brackets was added by the assessor to clarify something or to summarize from a figure.
Text preceded by a "#" is comment from the assessor

The data presented were assembled from literature and database searches for each species using as much data as could be collected regarding the plant's fire ecology under natural conditions. Searches aimed to be exhaustive and consist of as much data as could be located in 2020. Our machine learning algorithm was trained on 49 species of plants which had their fire risk ranked by 49 managers in Hawai'i in November 2020. The model used a conditional random forest regression algorithm to predict scores for each species using the manager score as the response variable and the fire ecology traits of each plant as the predictor variables to generate a fire risk score. This trained model was then used to predict the fire risk for all species which were not ranked by managers. The model was calibrated such that it is 90% accurate at predicting high fire risk plants and 79% accurate at predicting low fire risk plants. This research and the resulting fire risk model has been published in the journal Biological Invasions by Kevin Faccenda and Curt Daehler (both at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa).

Note that the analysis doesn't account for a plant species' spatial distribution, population density, or distinct climate and ecosystem conditions (which can also influence fire risk). The fire risk of these species are mostly under "worst case" environmental conditions where the climate is dry enough to maintain fire, but wet enough to allow for plant growth and fuel accumulation. The fire risk ranking should not be taken as a stand-alone risk metric in prioritizing weed control efforts. Rather, this information may also be useful for determining if a newly discovered species poses a potential fire threat in wildland areas.

More general information on the weed risks and ecology of non-native plants in Hawai'i is available from the Hawai'i Invasive Species Committee's Weed Risk Assessment database.

View more fact sheets at https://www.pacificfireexchange.org/weed-fire-risk-assessments

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Fact sheet prepared by Kevin Faccenda (faccenda@hawaii.edu) in November 2021. Data were prepared by Kevin Faccenda in 2020.

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