



Sea Grape

Sea Grape *(Coccoloba uvifera)*

Instant ID

- Shrub or tree with a twisted trunk
- Grows up to 50 feet tall
- Red and purple fruit resemble grapes
- Leaves are round, wide and dark green
- Leaves turn a reddish-color as they age
- Flowers are small and cream-colored

Native Niches

- Prefers full sun and sandy soils
- Found throughout coastal central and southern Florida
- Also found in coastal Central America, northwest portion of South America and the Caribbean





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Plant Particulars

- Helps control dune erosion
- Fruit only grows on the female plant
- Can block artificial light harming sea turtle nests
- Fruit eaten by birds and squirrels

Population Protection

- Although the fruit is edible, it is illegal to harvest it along shorelines
- It can be planted in landscaping
- Roots stabilize beaches and provide protection from erosion and storm surge