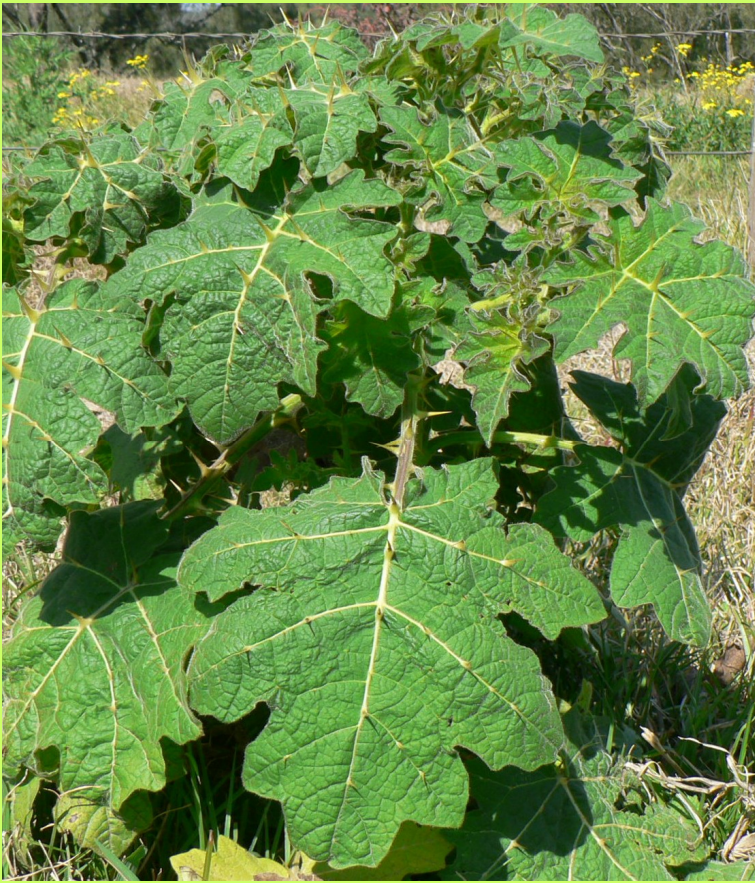


Tropical soda apple and similar *Solanum* species

Tropical soda apple (TSA) (*Solanum viarum*)

Tropical soda apple (TSA) (*Solanum viarum*) is an erect shrub to 2m high covered in cream coloured prickles to 12mm long on stem and leaves. It has densely hairy lobed ovate leaves (10-20 cm long and 6-15 cm wide). Its flowers are white. The immature fruit are pale green with dark green veins, making it look like a watermelon. The mature fruit are yellow and golf ball size (20-30mm).



Similar plant with white flowers but red fruit



Devils apple (*Solanum capsicoides*)

Is an erect sparsely prickly **introduced** plant to 1 m high. The prickles are yellowish, and the leaves are sparsely hairy and broad ovate (15cm long and wide). It's flowers are white but the fruit are orange-scarlet.

Similar plants but with purple flowers

There are more native *Solanum* species with prickles and purple flowers but with smaller leaves.



Apple of Sodom (*Solanum linnaeanum*)

Is an **introduced** prickly shrub to 1m high. It is similar in having yellow spines but has smaller leaves (4-8cm long, 3-6cm wide). It has purple flowers. The fruit is the same size as the TSA but does not have the distinct markings when immature and they turn brown or black as they mature.

Forest nightshade (*Solanum prinophyllum*)

Is a **native** prickly sprawling plant to 0.5m high. It differs in having smaller less hairy leaves (5-8cm long, 3-5cm wide), blue-purple flowers, fruit that is green or purple 15-20mm in diameter and the spines tend to be darker in colour.



Violet nightshade (*Solanum brownii*)

Is an erect **native** prickly shrub to 1.8m high. It has prickles on the stem and leaves. Its leaves can be entire to deeply lobed (6-13 cm long, 1.4-3 cm wide). It has purple flowers (rarely white) with fruit that is green to yellow-green 18 to 29 mm.

Narrawa burr (*Solanum cinereum*)

Is an erect **native** prickly shrub to 1 m high. It has ovate to elliptical lobed leaves (5.3-12.4 cm long, 3.5-6 cm wide), with purple flowers. The fruit are 15-24 mm diam., pale green to greenish-white.



Solanum campanulatum

Is an erect very prickly **native** shrub to 1 m high. Its hairy leaves are lobed ovate to elliptic, (13 cm long, 5-9 cm wide) and has purple flowers. Its fruit are 25-29mm, going from green to yellow to black with maturity.



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