

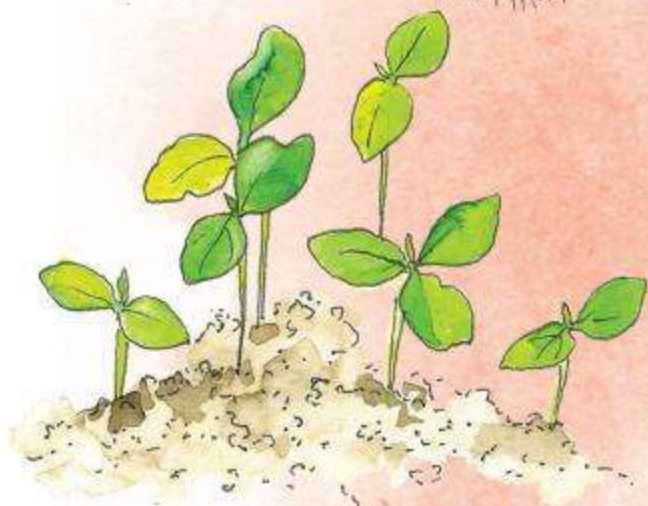
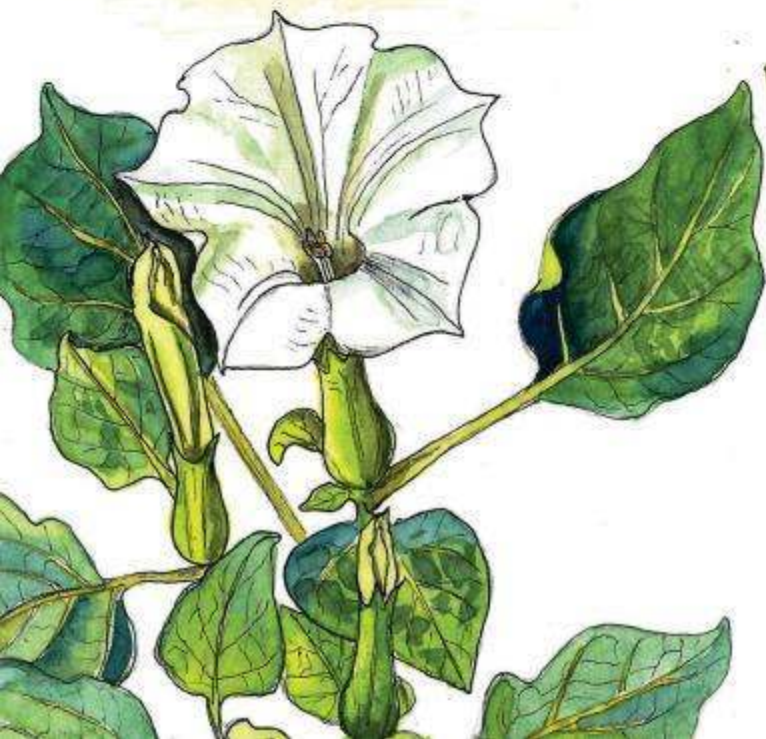
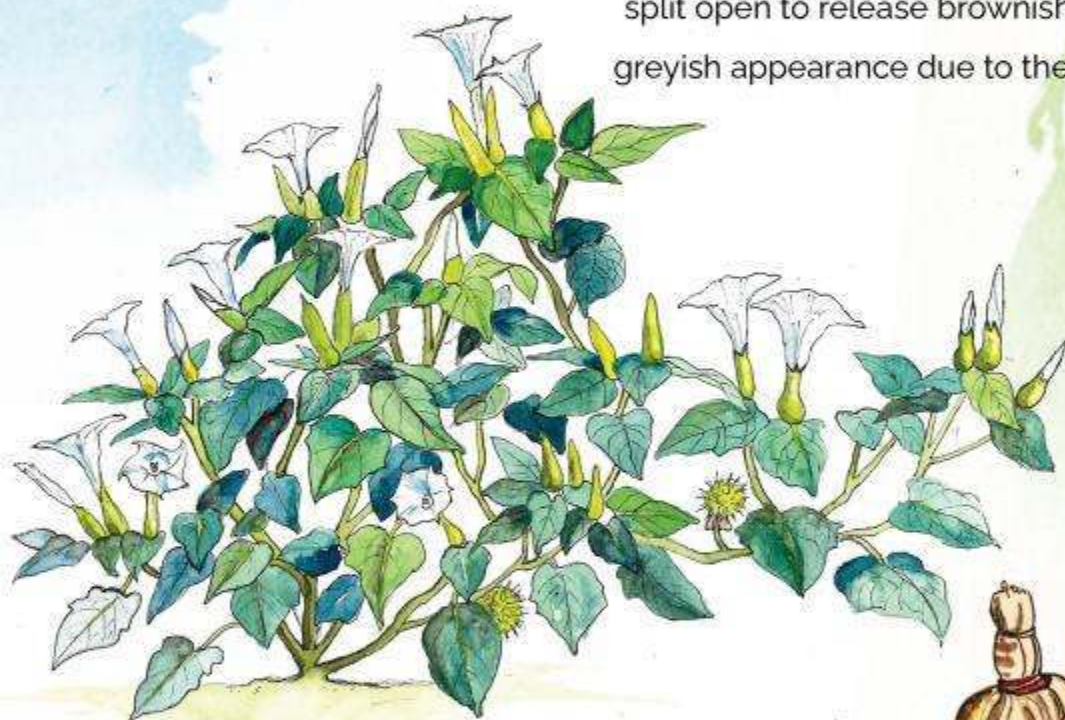
SPECIES: *DATURA INNOXIA*

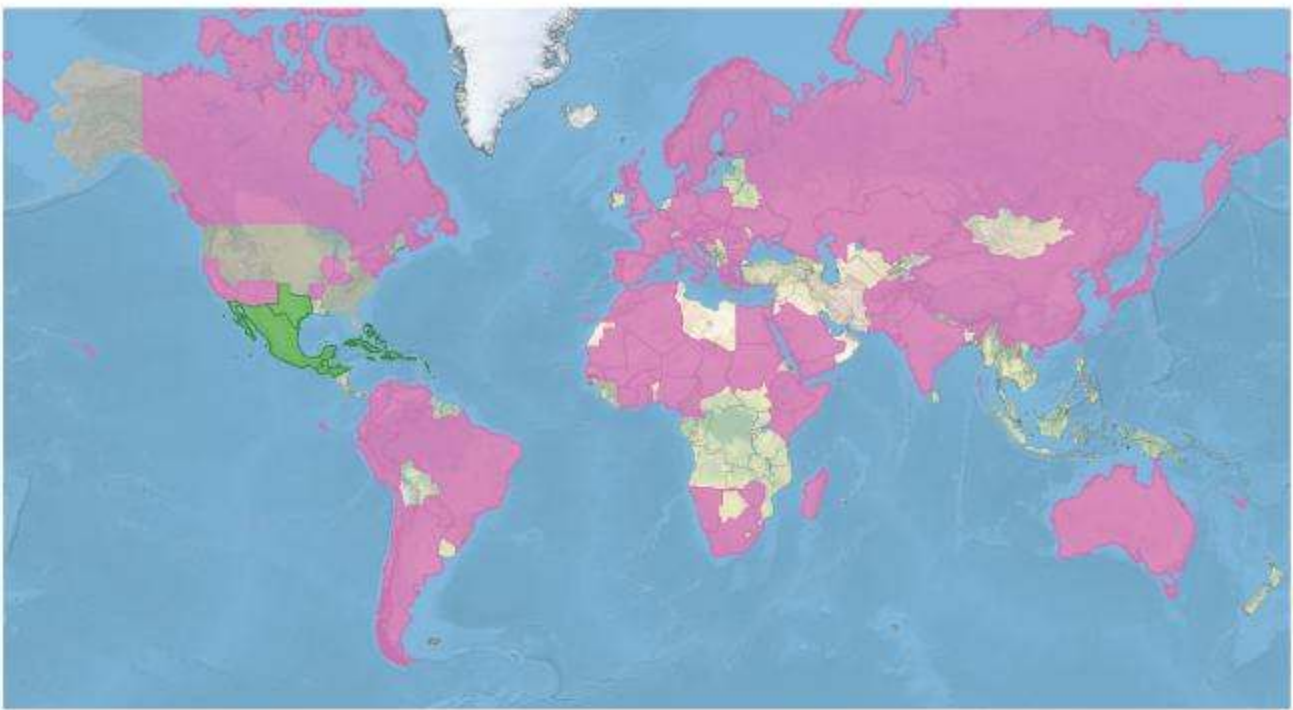
COMMON NAME: THORN APPLE

FAMILY: SOLANACEAE

Plant Description

It is an annual herb or shrub that grows in disturbed habitats. The plant grows to heights ranging from 0.3 m to 1.5 m, with a crown that can spread horizontally up to 2 m. It has alternatively arranged leaves that are broadly to narrowly ovate and slightly lobed at the base. Flowering and fruiting is usually from July to September. Flowers are white, tubular, and give off a fragrance at night. Fruits are spherical or ovoid, 3-5 cm long, and covered with numerous spines; fruits appear brown when ripe and split open to release brownish seeds. The whole plant has a greyish appearance due to the presence of soft greyish hairs.





CABI, 2022. *Datura innoxia*. In: Invasive Species Compendium, Wallingford, UK:
CAB International. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/18004>
#toDistributionMaps [accessed: 25/01/2022]

Introduced
Native
Origin not recorded

***Datura innoxia* SOLANACEAE**

Origin: Tropical America

Introduction: The plant was introduced to India unintentionally (possibly as a contaminant of imported agricultural seeds).

Impacts: The plant has allelopathic effects on nearby plants and delays growth of neighbouring seedlings. It is thus able to form monoculture stands, locally reducing native biodiversity. All parts of the plant are poisonous and can be fatal if eaten by animals or humans.

The plant has antibacterial properties due to which it is used in traditional medicines. It is also used as an ornamental and sacred plant.

Management: No effective mechanical management efforts are known from India or anywhere else. Management of an established patch requires frequent removal; in the case of patches of juveniles, they should be removed before seed-setting happens.

In some parts of the world, e.g., Australia, it is controlled with the help of herbicides.