

MACLURA POMIFERA (RAF.) C. K. SCHNEIDER
(*MORACEAE*), NATURALIZED IN PORTUGAL (NEW
FOR THE *FLORA IBERICA* AREA)

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PORTUGAL, **Beira Litoral**: Coimbra, São João do Campo, Geria, near the National Road 111, the Highway A1 and the Northern Ditch of the Mondego River, on a hedge, 29TNE429542, alt. ca. 10 m above sea level, 9.X.2003, *J. D. Almeida* 8173, COI.

Phanerophyte from North America (Arkansas and Texas), widely planted in the United States as living fence and now naturalized (MABBERLEY, *The Plant-Book*: 428. 1997); ruderal epicoephyte, according to the classification of synanthropic plants of KORNAS (in DI CASTRI & al., *Biological invasions in Europe and the Mediterranean Basin*: 105-133. 1990), introduced by culture in the Botanical Garden of Coimbra and in other places, from where it has been escaping.

Naturalized in several places in the low Mondego Basin, near the city of Coimbra, where is quite frequent, for more than fifty years, this species is new for Portugal and the Iberian Peninsula, and seems to be spreading. Not mentioned in *Flora iberica* and the Portuguese Floras, this species is described by TUTIN (in *Flora Europaea*, 2nd ed., 1: 78. 1993).

Among the accompanying species are present *Laurus nobilis* L., *Celtis australis* L., *Populus nigra* L., *Rubus ulmifolius* Schott, *Gleditsia triacanthos* L., *Oxalis pes-caprae* L., *Fraxinus angustifolia* Vahl, *Aster squamatus* (Spreng.) Hieron., *Arum italicum* Miller, *Arundo donax* L., and other plants.

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