

**Family:** Apocynaceae

**Taxon:** *Dischidia ovata Benth.*

**Synonym:** NA

**Common Name:** watermelon Dischidia

Questionnaire :	current 20090513	Assessor:	Patti Clifford	Designation: L
Status:	Assessor Approved	Data Entry Person:	Patti Clifford	<b>WRA Score 0</b>
101 Is the species highly domesticated?			y=-3, n=0	n
102 Has the species become naturalized where grown?			y=1, n=-1	
103 Does the species have weedy races?			y=1, n=-1	
201 Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"			(0-low; 1-intermediate; 2-high) (See Appendix 2)	High
202 Quality of climate match data			(0-low; 1-intermediate; 2-high) (See Appendix 2)	High
203 Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)			y=1, n=0	n
204 Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates			y=1, n=0	y
205 Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?			y=-2, ?=-1, n=0	y
301 Naturalized beyond native range			y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2), n= question 205	n
302 Garden/amenity/disturbance weed			n=0, y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2)	n
303 Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed			n=0, y = 2*multiplier (see Appendix 2)	n
304 Environmental weed			n=0, y = 2*multiplier (see Appendix 2)	n
305 Congeneric weed			n=0, y = 1*multiplier (see Appendix 2)	n
401 Produces spines, thorns or burrs			y=1, n=0	n
402 Allelopathic			y=1, n=0	
403 Parasitic			y=1, n=0	n
404 Unpalatable to grazing animals			y=1, n=-1	
405 Toxic to animals			y=1, n=0	n
406 Host for recognized pests and pathogens			y=1, n=0	
407 Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans			y=1, n=0	n
408 Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems			y=1, n=0	n
409 Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle			y=1, n=0	y
410 Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)			y=1, n=0	
411 Climbing or smothering growth habit			y=1, n=0	y

412	Forms dense thickets	y=1, n=0	n
501	Aquatic	y=5, n=0	n
502	Grass	y=1, n=0	n
503	Nitrogen fixing woody plant	y=1, n=0	n
504	Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)	y=1, n=0	n
601	Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat	y=1, n=0	n
602	Produces viable seed	y=1, n=-1	y
603	Hybridizes naturally	y=1, n=-1	
604	Self-compatible or apomictic	y=1, n=-1	
605	Requires specialist pollinators	y=-1, n=0	
606	Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation	y=1, n=-1	
607	Minimum generative time (years)	1 year = 1, 2 or 3 years = 0, 4+ years = -1	
701	Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)	y=1, n=-1	n
702	Propagules dispersed intentionally by people	y=1, n=-1	y
703	Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant	y=1, n=-1	n
704	Propagules adapted to wind dispersal	y=1, n=-1	y
705	Propagules water dispersed	y=1, n=-1	
706	Propagules bird dispersed	y=1, n=-1	n
707	Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)	y=1, n=-1	y
708	Propagules survive passage through the gut	y=1, n=-1	n
801	Prolific seed production (>1000/m <sup>2</sup> )	y=1, n=-1	
802	Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)	y=1, n=-1	n
803	Well controlled by herbicides	y=-1, n=1	
804	Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire	y=1, n=-1	
805	Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)	y=-1, n=1	

Designation: L

WRA Score 0

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**Supporting Data:**

101	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Is the species highly domesticated? No] No evidence of domestication that reduces invasive traits.
102	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Has the species become naturalized where grown? NA]
103	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Does the species have weedy races? NA]
201	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Species suited to tropical or subtropical climate(s) - If island is primarily wet habitat, then substitute "wet tropical" for "tropical or subtropical"? 2 - High] Native to North east Queensland, Cape York Peninsula, Australia and New Guinea.
202	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Quality of climate match data? 2 - High] Native to North east Queensland, Cape York Peninsula, Australia and New Guinea.
203	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)? No] Altitudinal range: near sea level to 150 m.
203	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Broad climate suitability (environmental versatility)? No] USDA hardiness zone 11: above 4.5 degrees Celsius (40 degrees Fahrenheit).
204	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Native or naturalized in regions with tropical or subtropical climates? Yes] Native to North east Queensland, Cape York Peninsula, Australia and New Guinea.
205	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range?] Members of Dave's Garden have <i>Dischidia</i> for sale.
205	2012. Gardino Nursery. <i>Dischidia ovata</i> [accessed November 3 2012]. <a href="http://www.rareflora.com/dischidiaova.html">http://www.rareflora.com/dischidiaova.html</a>	[Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range? Yes] Gardino Nursery in south Florida has <i>Dischidia</i> for sale.
205	2012. The Violet Barn. <i>Dischidia ovata</i> [accessed 3 November 2012]. <a href="https://www.violetbarn.com/store/index.php?a=viewProd&amp;productId=1096">https://www.violetbarn.com/store/index.php?a=viewProd&amp;productId=1096</a>	[Does the species have a history of repeated introductions outside its natural range? Yes] The Violet Barn in Maine has <i>Dischidia ovata</i> for sale.
301	2012. Randall, R.P.. A Global Compendium of Weeds. 2nd Edition. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia	[Naturalized beyond native range? No] No evidence.
302	2012. Randall, R.P.. A Global Compendium of Weeds. 2nd Edition. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia	[Garden/amenity/disturbance weed? No] No evidence.
303	2012. Randall, R.P.. A Global Compendium of Weeds. 2nd Edition. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia	[Agricultural/forestry/horticultural weed? No] No evidence.
304	2012. Randall, R.P.. A Global Compendium of Weeds. 2nd Edition. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia	[Environmental weed? No] No evidence.
305	2012. Randall, R.P.. A Global Compendium of Weeds. 2nd Edition. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia	[Congeneric weed? No] No evidence.

401	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Produces spines, thorns or burrs? No] Not armed.
402	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Allelopathic? Unknown]
403	2010. Nickrent, D.. The parasitic plant connection. Department of Plant Biology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale <a href="http://www.parasiticplants.siu.edu/index.html">http://www.parasiticplants.siu.edu/index.html</a>	[Parasitic? No] Not a parasitic plant family.
404	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Unpalatable to grazing animals? Unknown]
405	2012. National Center for Biotechnology Information. PubMed. <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez</a>	[Toxic to animals? No] No evidence.
405	2012. Specialized Information Services, U.S. National Library of Medicine. TOXNET toxicology data network [online database]. National Institutes of Health, <a href="http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/">http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/</a>	[Toxic to animals? No] No evidence.
406	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Host for recognized pests and pathogens? Unknown]
407	2012. National Center for Biotechnology Information. PubMed. <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez</a>	[Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans? No] No evidence.
407	2012. Specialized Information Services, U.S. National Library of Medicine. TOXNET toxicology data network [online database]. National Institutes of Health, <a href="http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/">http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/</a>	[Causes allergies or is otherwise toxic to humans? No] No evidence.
408	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Creates a fire hazard in natural ecosystems? No] Slender vine.
409	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle? Yes] Partial to full shade.
409	2012. Steve's Leaves. <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://stevesleaves.com/store/?ecwid_product_id=9527883#ecwid:category=0&amp;mode=product&amp;product_id=9527883">http://stevesleaves.com/store/?ecwid_product_id=9527883#ecwid:category=0&amp;mode=product&amp;product_id=9527883</a>	[Is a shade tolerant plant at some stage of its life cycle? Yes] Shade to partial shade.
410	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)?] Soil pH requirements: 6.1 to 6.5 (mildly acidic) 6.6 to 7.5 (neutral)
410	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions (or limestone conditions if not a volcanic island)? Unknown]
411	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Climbing or smothering growth habit? Yes] A slender vine not exceeding a stem diameter of 2 cm.
412	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Forms dense thickets? No] Vine.

501	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Aquatic? No] Terrestrial; vine.
502	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Grass? No] Vine; Apocynaceae.
503	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Nitrogen fixing woody plant? No] Vine; Apocynaceae.
504	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Geophyte (herbaceous with underground storage organs -- bulbs, corms, or tubers)? No] Vine.
601	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Evidence of substantial reproductive failure in native habitat? No] No evidence.
602	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Produces viable seed?] Propagate from cuttings. Seed doesn't store well; sow right away.
603	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Hybridizes naturally? Unknown]
604	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Self-compatible or apomictic? Unknown]
605	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Requires specialist pollinators? Unknown]
606	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Reproduction by vegetative fragmentation? Unknown]
607	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Minimum generative time (years)? Unknown]
701	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Propagules likely to be dispersed unintentionally (plants growing in heavily trafficked areas)? No] No evidence.
702	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Propagules dispersed intentionally by people? Yes] Members of Dave's Garden have <i>Dischidia</i> for sale.
702	2012. Gardino Nursery. <i>Dischidia ovata</i> [accessed November 3 2012]. <a href="http://www.rareflora.com/dischidiaova.html">http://www.rareflora.com/dischidiaova.html</a>	[Propagules dispersed intentionally by people? Yes] Gardino Nursery in south Florida has <i>Dischidia</i> for sale.
702	2012. The Violet Barn. <i>Dischidia ovata</i> [accessed 3 November 2012]. <a href="https://www.violetbarn.com/store/index.php?a=viewProd&amp;productId=1096">https://www.violetbarn.com/store/index.php?a=viewProd&amp;productId=1096</a>	[Propagules dispersed intentionally by people? Yes] The Violet Barn in Maine has <i>Dischidia ovata</i> for sale.
703	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Propagules likely to disperse as a produce contaminant? No] No evidence.
705	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Propagules water dispersed? Unknown]
706	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Propagules bird dispersed? No] Fruit about 60-65 x 3 mm. Seeds brown, numerous. Each seed about 2-2.5 x 0.5-0.75 mm, plumed at one end, the plumes white, about 20-25 mm long.

707	2001. Kaufman, E./Weissflog, A./Hashim, R./Maschwitz, U.. Ant-gardens on the giant bamboo <i>Gigantochloa scorchedinii</i> (Poaceae) in West-Malaysia. <i>Insectes Sociaux</i> . 48: 125-133. <a href="http://www.springerlink.com/content/tj6ug3yajr5wlbr5/fulltext.pdf">http://www.springerlink.com/content/tj6ug3yajr5wlbr5/fulltext.pdf</a>	[Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)? Yes] <i>Dischidia ovata</i> is ant dispersed.
707	2007. Forster, P.I.. The Asclepiad flora of New Guinea In: Ecology of Papua - part one. Tuttle Publishing, Singapore <a href="http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&amp;lr=&amp;id=h9LGV7oe0i0C&amp;oi=fnd&amp;pg=PA371&amp;dq=Dischidia+ovata&amp;ots=Ya-4L55z4y&amp;sig=EUwBsdOvCUeeTvL9JL2vN4yn0UE#">http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&amp;lr=&amp;id=h9LGV7oe0i0C&amp;oi=fnd&amp;pg=PA371&amp;dq=Dischidia+ovata&amp;ots=Ya-4L55z4y&amp;sig=EUwBsdOvCUeeTvL9JL2vN4yn0UE#</a>	[Propagules dispersed by other animals (externally)?] Ants are known to disperse seeds of certain <i>Dischidia</i> .
708	2010. CISRO. Australian tropical rainforest plants - Edition 6 - <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm">http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Dischidia_ovata.htm</a>	[Propagules survive passage through the gut? No] Fruit about 60-65 x 3 mm. Seeds brown, numerous. Each seed about 2-2.5 x 0.5-0.75 mm, plumed at one end, the plumes white, about 20-25 mm long.
801	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Prolific seed production (>1000/m <sup>2</sup> )? Unknown]
802	2012. Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: <i>Dischidia ovata</i> . <a href="http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/">http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/57418/</a>	[Evidence that a persistent propagule bank is formed (>1 yr)? No] Seed does not store well; sow as soon as possible.
803	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Well controlled by herbicides? Unknown]
804	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Tolerates, or benefits from, mutilation, cultivation, or fire? Unknown]
805	2012. WRA Specialist. Personal Communication.	[Effective natural enemies present locally (e.g. introduced biocontrol agents)? Unknown]

## Summary of Risk Traits

### **High Risk:**

- Native to tropical and subtropical climates
- Climbing vine
- Shade tolerant
- Growing popularity as an ornamental vine
- Ant dispersed
- Wind dispersed

### **Low Risk:**

- Limited climatic tolerance
- Not naturalized
- Not known as an invasive weed
- No species in the genus are considered invasive
- Not armed (no spines, thorns, burrs)
- Seed does not store well (no seed bank)