

Senna pendula

Senna pendula (Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd.)
H. Irwin & Barneby

Family: Fabaceae

No common name; sometimes called scrambled egg plant, but the name is applied to several of the bushy sennas.

Description: Shrub that tends to sprawl over other plants, rocks, and fences. Compound leaves with about 3–6 pairs of leaflets with rounded tips. Slight unpleasant odor. Bright yellow clusters of flowers most of the year. Pods cylindrical, 6 inches long, in pendant clusters, brown. Seeds in 1 or 2 rows, brown, smooth.

Distribution: Native of tropical and subtropical Americas. Now widely distributed as an ornamental and naturalized. In Hawai'i, common in lowland pastures and other disturbed areas including dry zones such as Kona and Moloka'i and wetter areas such as Hana, Maui, and east Kaua'i. Not recorded on Ni'ihau.



Environmental impact: Forms dense stands in pastures and other disturbed areas. Seem to be more of a problem in drier areas.

Management: Based on work with other sennas, probably sensitive to dicamba and triclopyr and tolerant of MCPA.