

Control of Hard to Manage Weeds along Highway Rights-of-Way¹

Jason Ferrell and Ken Langeland²

Table 1. Control of upland invasive weeds

Herbicide	Rate	Comments
Cogongrass		
Glyphosate (Roundup Pro, etc)	4 to 8 pt/A or 3 to 5% solution	Cogongrass is most sensitive to glyphosate when applied in the fall. Spring applications are less effective. Mowing existing vegetation and treating the regrowth approximately 2 weeks later is often best. Multiple applications are often required before complete control is achieved.
Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline* BASF Corp	64 fl oz/A or 1% solution	Cogongrass is most sensitive to when applied in the fall. Spring applications are less effective. Mowing existing vegetation and treating the regrowth approximately 2 weeks later is often best. Arsenal is more effective on cogongrass than glyphosate, but expect total vegetation control and bare ground for 2 to 4 months after application. DO NOT apply Arsenal over the root zone of desirable hardwood trees. Multiple applications are often required before complete control is achieved.

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Tropical Soda Apple		
Garlon 4 Ultra	1 qt/A or 0.5% solution for spot application	A broadcast application of Garlon 4 is effective on TSA if applied near blooming or after regrowth from mowing. Applications made in late summer months or while fruiting are less effective. Garlon 4 has no soil residual activity and recolonization from seed is likely to occur after application. If spot-spraying, it is important to achieve full coverage. The Organo-auxin rule must be obeyed when using this herbicide.
Milestone VM	5 to 7 fl. oz/A or 0.1% solution for spot application	A broadcast application of Milestone VM is effective on TSA at any growth stage or time of year. Mowing is not necessary to improve control. Milestone VM has significant soil residual activity and control of seedlings is likely to occur for over 6 months after application. If spot-spraying, it is important to achieve full coverage. The Organo-auxin rule must be obeyed when using this herbicide.
Brazilian Pepper or Chinese Tallow		
Garlon 4	10%-25% diluted in oil	Basal bark or cut-stump application, rate will depend on applicator technique and site conditions, e.g. soil water content.
Pathfinder II or Remedy RTU	Undiluted	Basal bark application
Garlon 3A	50 - 100%	Cut stump application. Apply herbicide immediately after felling.
Garlon 3A	0.50-1.5%	Brazilian pepper only. Foliar application. Use sufficient volume to ensure thorough coverage.
Escort XP	1-2 oz/acre	
Kudzu		
Escort XP*	3 – 4 oz/A	Apply Escort XP when kudzu is actively growing for optimum control. Several hardwood species are sensitive to Escort XP at these rates. Escort XP should not be used for kudzu control if desirable hardwoods are present.
Transline*†	5 to 21 fl oz/A	Transline should be applied from late summer through fall for optimum control. For small populations that are not well established, lower application rates are acceptable. For larger, more mature stands, the maximum application rate should be used. Transline is safer on hardwood species than Escort XP. Transline is only labeled for use in select counties in North Florida. See product label for specifics. The Organo-auxin rule must be obeyed when using this herbicide.

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Herbicide	Rate	Comments
Air Potato		
Glyphosate (Roundup Pro, etc)	1 – 2% solution	Glyphosate gives good control when applied late season, such as August-October. Early-season applications may require repeat treatments, and applications made after plants begin yellowing result in limited control. Desirable vegetation under air potato may not be damaged when lower rates of glyphosate are used. Removal of bulbils from the ground will aid long term control.
Climbing ferns – Lygodium		
Escort XP*	1 – 2 oz/A or 2 oz/100 gallon	Apply Escort XP or glyphosate to all live fronds for best results. Treatment of Lygodium often results in non-target damage due to the climbing nature of these species. In long-established stands of Lygodium, re-treatment will be required in < 6 months due to re-sprouts and new fern growth from spores. If not included in the product, an appropriate NIS surfactant at 0.5% v/v should be added to the herbicide solution. For fronds growing high in trees, cut at waist level and treat remaining rooted fronds.
Glyphosate (Rodeo, Roundup Pro, etc)	7.5 pints/A or 2% solution	

* denotes products not currently found on the DOT bid list.

† Transline is only labeled for use in specific counties in Florida.

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Table 2. Aquatic Vegetation Control

Herbicide	Rate	Comments
Cattail		
Habitat [†] BASF Corp	32 fl oz/A Surfactant required: 0.5% v/v NIS or 1% v/v MSO	Apply to actively growing cattails in the spring, summer, or fall . DO NOT apply in the root zones of desirable hardwood vegetation. Do not apply to irrigation water The addition of an approved aquatic surfactant is required.
Clearcast [†] BASF Corp	64 fl oz/A Surfactant required: 0.5% v/v NIS or 1% v/v MSO	Apply to actively growing cattails in the spring, summer, or fall . Can be used in the root zones of desirable hardwood vegetation. Refer to current label for irrigation and watering restrictions. The addition of an approved aquatic surfactant is required.
Glyphosate (Rodeo, Accord Concentrate, etc.)	7.5 pt/A or 0.75 -1.5% solution	Fall applications are most effective. The addition of an approved aquatic surfactant is required.
Alligator weed		
Habitat [*] BASF Corp	32 fl oz/A Surfactant required: 0.5% v/v NIS or 1% v/v MSO	Apply to actively growing alligator weed in the spring, summer, or fall. DO NOT apply in the root zones of desirable hardwood vegetation. Do not apply to irrigation water
Clearcast [*] BASF Corp	64 fl oz/A Surfactant required: 0.5% v/v NIS or 1% v/v MSO	Apply to actively growing alligator weed in the spring. For summer and fall applications, add glyphosate 32 fl oz/A. Can be used in the root zones of desirable hardwood vegetation. Refer to current specimen label for irrigation and watering restrictions.
Glyphosate (Rodeo, etc)	0.75-1.5% solution	Repeat applications will be necessary. Addition of approved surfactant is necessary.
Renovate	3-8 qt/acre or .75-1.0% solution	Repeat treatments will be necessary, especially to floating mats. Additional surfactant may improve performance.
Water Hyacinth		
2,4-D amine [*]	2-4 qt per acre or 0.5-1.0% solution	Refer to specific product label to ensure that the 2,4-D brand used is labeled for aquatic weed control. Refer to label for water use restrictions.
Reward	0.5-2.0 gal/acre or 0.5% solution	Addition of an approved surfactant is essential. Refer to label for water use restrictions.
Glyphosate (Rodeo, etc)	5-6 pints per acre or 0.75-1.0% solution	Addition of an approved surfactant is essential. Refer to label for water use restrictions. Visual symptom are not observed until over three weeks after application.
Water Lettuce		
Reward	0.5-1.0 gal/acre or 0.5 to 1.0% solution	Addition of an approved surfactant is essential.
Stingray	3.4-13.5 oz/acre	Addition of an approved surfactant is necessary.
Torpedograss		
Glyphosate (Rodeo, etc.)	2-3% solution	Torpedograss control will be improved when maximum leaf surface is exposed above the water line. Regardless of herbicide or application rate, multiple applications will be required for complete control. The addition of an approved aquatic surfactant is required.
Habitat	1% solution	

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