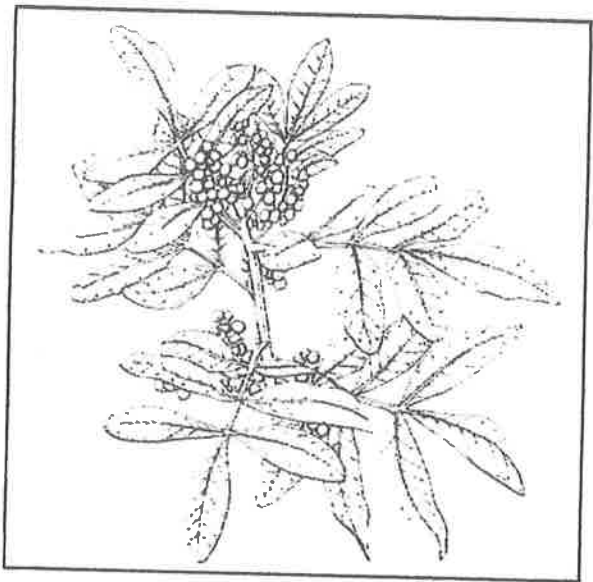


Controlling Non-native Invasive Plants Around Your Home Herbicide Treatment and the Homeowner

Non-native invasive plants such as Brazilian Pepper and Melaleuca, are extremely aggressive, hardy plants that can easily take over natural areas and your own yard. If you've ever tried to cut one down, you may have been discouraged to find that it re-sprouted into a new tree in just a few months. Some non-native plants are invasive here because they have no natural enemies and find our climate ideal. Biological controls for these plants are being researched, but for now, treating each plant with herbicide is the best option for the homeowner to kill them and stop their spread. Fortunately, there are several products containing effective herbicides that are readily available from local garden supply stores and suppliers.



Picture: UF IFAS

The Herbicides

Name	Manufacturer	Active Ingredient	Available From	Cost
Pathfinder II	Dow AgroSciences	triclopyr ester 13.8% (0.75 lb. / gal)	Supplier *	\$80 / 2.5 gal.
Roundup Super Concentrate	Monsanto	glyphosphate 50.2% (3.7 lb. / gal)	garden supply stores	\$39 / 32 oz.
Roundup Brush	Monsanto	glyphosphate 27%	garden supply stores	\$22 / 32 oz.
Brush-B-Gone	Ortho	triclopyr amine 8% (0.54 lb. / gal)	garden supply stores	\$6 / 24 oz.
Brush Killer	Enforcer	triclopyr amine 8.8% (0.59 lb. / gal)	garden supply stores	\$15 / 32 oz.
Vine-X	UPM Corporation	triclopyr ester	garden supply stores	\$22 / 12 oz.

* Supplier refers to a supplier or distributor of the manufacturer's product. Helena Chemical Company in Ft. Pierce is a distributor known to sell this product.

NOTES:

- Prices are approximate and may vary by location.
- None of the listed herbicides may be applied to, or directly over water.
- The product label must be followed. It is illegal to use the herbicide beyond the specification of the label.

There are several other herbicide products available, that are not mentioned in the table above because they are packaged only in large amounts for the commercial market. Products in the above table are sold "ready to use". Roundup Super Concentrate can be diluted with water to 25%.

Safety Tips

- Carefully read and follow the instructions in the label located on the herbicide container. Always wear thick rubber gloves, long sleeves, pants, proper footwear, and eye protection (safety glasses).
- Be sure to wash off immediately any herbicide that gets on your skin.
- Make sure to handle Brazilian Pepper with gloves, especially any cut sections, as this plant is related to Poison Ivy and causes a rash on some people.

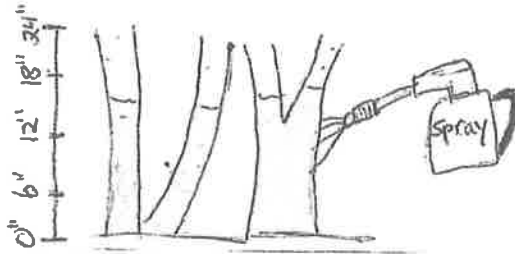
Instructions for Removal and Treatment

Basal Bark Treatment

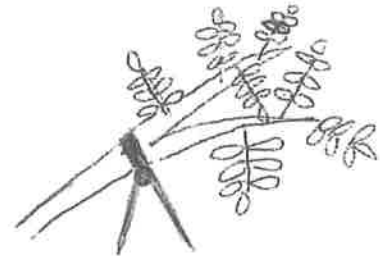
Basal bark treatment allows you to kill a tree or shrub without cutting it down first. This approach is less expensive and may be preferred if you have a large property and don't mind having dead trees standing. This method is frequently used on Brazilian Peppers on publicly conserved lands in central Florida. The herbicide penetrates the bark into the living tissue and translocates through the tree. When you see leaves turning yellow and starting to fall, you will know the herbicide is working. Within a few weeks the leaves will turn brown. It is important to follow the instructions below, spray each trunk, and monitor the tree. If after a few weeks, one or more branches of the tree are still healthy, additional treatment will be necessary. Be aware that if you plan on cutting the trees down after they are dead, the wood may become very hard and cutting it may be difficult. Of the above listed herbicide products, Pathfinder II and Vine-X (which are sold pre-mixed with oil) can be used for this method.



1. Clear any leaves or debris off of the trunk.



2. Spray the entire circumference of the lower 12 to 15 inches of each trunk to entirely wet the bark, but not to the point of runoff.



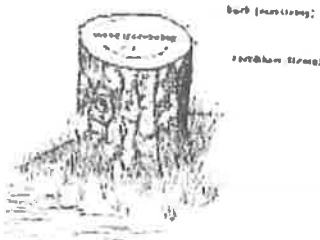
3. Mark the tree with a flag to indicate that it has been sprayed, and then monitor it for herbicide symptoms.

Cut Stump Treatment

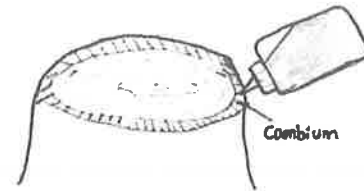
This method is preferred by most homeowners, especially those with only a few trees to remove. The tree is cut down and then an herbicide is **immediately** applied. If this method is used, be sure to dispose of cut material in such a way that seeds are not dispersed. Brazilian Pepper is most fruitful in the winter. All of the herbicides listed on the front can be used for this method.



1. Before cutting down the tree, have the herbicide ready.



2. Cut the trunk(s) of the tree as close to the ground as possible. Brush away any sawdust or debris.



3. Within **5 minutes** of making the cut, use a squirt bottle to apply the herbicide to the living layer of tissue just inside of the bark of the stump.

References

- University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. 2002. Brazilian Pepper-tree Control. Document # SS-AGR-17. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
- Langeland, Ken. University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. 2002. Evaluation of Three Glyphosphate Products for Controlling Adventitious Sprouting of Melaleuca and Brazilian Pepper Tree Stumps. *Wildland Weeds* 5(2):4-7.