

Brazilian Pepper Control

The information presented here is widely available on the intranet and for the most part comes from research conducted in Florida. The following links will help you understand the severity of the problem in Florida and give you some insight into why we are trying to control this nonnative invasive plant here in Port Aransas.

<http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/node/405>

http://www.fleppc.org/Manage_Plans/schinus.pdf

http://www.fleppc.org/Manage_Plans/BPmanagPlan06.pdf

Brazilian Pepper can be controlled with appropriate herbicide application. Simply cutting the tree down will not kill the plant and it often grows back quickly forming a multi-stemmed trunk that is even more difficult to remove.

You must follow the herbicide label for application so read the herbicide labels carefully.

Recommended Control Methods:

Small seedlings (less than 24 inches tall): If seedlings are not too numerous, they can be simply pulled up and removed. If they are numerous they can be controlled with application of herbicide. Because we have many non-native invasive grass species care should be taken to limit soil disturbance. Large areas of disturbed soil can lead to invasion of these grasses which are also difficult to control.

Herbicide containing the active ingredients (Glyphosate 41.0 %, or Triclopyr amine 44.4% or Triclopyr ester 61.6%) should be used. Glyphosate is sold under numerous different trade names such as “Roundup” so read the label and make sure you are buying the Glyphosate product that has at least 41.0% active ingredient. Glyphosate products are widely sold at home improvement stores and ranch and feed stores. Triclopyr amine is sold under trade names such as Garlon 3A, Renovate, and Ortho Brush-Be-Gon. Ortho Brush-Be-Gon is the only one of these products that is sold at local home improvement stores. The other products need to be ordered from a chemical supply company and come in a minimum size of 2.5 gallons. Renovate does come in 1 pint containers and is labeled for Aquatic Use. So if you trees are growing in standing water within a wetland this would be the product you would want to use.

Bottom line, for small seedlings pull them up or spray with Glyphosate or Ortho Brush-Be Gon. Follow the label for the foliar spray application. Garlon 3A only comes in a 2.5 gallon minimum size and must be ordered from a chemical supply company. Renovate can be ordered in 1 quart or 2.5 gallon sizes.

Trees: Should be treated with herbicide employing either basal bark or cut stump methods.

Basal bark application: If you do not care about the appearance of leaving a dead tree in place then a basal bark application of Triclopyr ester mixed in an oil carrier will kill the tree. The bottom 18 inches of the trunk of the tree needs to be completely treated. The trunk should be thoroughly wetted but not to the point of runoff. The herbicide can be sprayed on or painted on with a brush. Triclopyr ester can be purchased from chemical supply companies in the trade names of Garlon 4, or Pathfinder II, Garlon 4 has to be mixed with an oil carrier such as "Bark Oil" or "Improved JLB Oil Plus". The oil carrier is also available from chemical supply companies. Garlon 4 should be mixed 15-20% in the carrier oil. Pathfinder II is premixed and ready to use. The minimum available for purchase is 2.5 gallons. Pathfinder II will cost about \$100.00 for the 2.5 gallon container. Garlon 4 will cost about \$200.00 for the 2.5 gallon container. The oil carrier will cost about \$100.00 for 10 gallons.

Bottom line, only Triclopyr ester is affective for basal bark treatments and may be cost prohibitive for the home owner with just a few trees.

Cut Stump application: If your intent is to cut the tree down then you can treat the cut stump with any of the products listed above. Glyphosate has been shown to be not as affective as Triclopyr but it will work, and is more readily available to the homeowner. The stump should be treated within 5 min of being cut. In the cut stump method only the outer area of the cut surface near the bark needs to be treated. It can be sprayed on or painted on with a brush. Follow the label directions for cut stump applications. Glyphosate and Triclopyr amine should be mixed at a ratio of 1:1 in water and applied to the cut stump surface. Garlon 4 is mixed as above (Basal bark application) and applied to stump cut surface and remaining parts of the stump. Pathfinder II comes ready to use and is applied to the cut stump surface and remaining stump.

Bottom line, Glyphosate is not as affective and may require follow up treatments but it is widely available and can be bought in small quantities making it useful for the individual homeowner. If you have the option to use Garlon 4, or Pathfinder II, it is more effective, but remember the minimum available for purchase is 2.5 gallons.



Cut Stump with chemical application to outer layer (DowAgro).



Basal bark application to bottom 18 inches of the tree trunk (DowAgro)

Chemical Supply Venders for Triclopyr (Garlon 3A, Garlon 4, Pathfinder II)

Helena Chemical
Rick Bennett
979-268-5206

UAP Agricultural Products
AJ Thibodeaux
713-705-9800

Red River Specialties
Stan Jones
1-800-22206007

Townsend Chemical
Yancy Meguess
1-888-340-4097

Estes Chemical
Kelly Duffie
1-800-234-9790