

Brazilian Peppertree

From: Miller, James H. and Steve T. Manning. [working title] An Expanded Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests: A Field Guide for Identification and Control. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station. DRAFT - August 2008

Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) is an evergreen shrub or small tree to 40 feet (12 m) in height often in dense infestations with many short trunks or arching stems of contorted branches. Drooping, odd-pinnately compound leaves smell of turpentine when crushed. Spreads by many root sprouts that yield entangled stems and branches with abundant foliage containing allelopathic chemicals. Produces seed as early as 3 years. Burning can destroy seeds and results in basal and root sprouts that can outgrow native species.

Recommended Control procedures:

Trees. For stems too tall for foliar sprays, cut large stems and immediately treat the stumps with Garlon 3A or a glyphosate herbicide as a 25- to 50-percent solution (1 to 2 quarts per 1-gallon mix); Garlon 4 as a 10-percent solution (12 ounces per 1-gallon mix); Stalker as a 50-percent solution (2 quarts per 1-gallon mix) when they are not fruiting. A subsequent foliar application may be required to control new seedlings and resprouts. For treatment of extensive infestations in forest situations, apply Velpar L* or Hyvar* to the soil surface within 3 feet of the stem (one squirt of spot gun or utility spray bottle per 1-inch stem diameter) or in a grid pattern at spacings and dilutions specified on the herbicide labels.

Saplings. Apply Garlon 4 as a 15-percent solution in basal oil, vegetable oil, crop oil concentrate, diesel fuel or kerosene (3 pints per 3-gallon mix) as a basal spray in the fall when flowering.

Seedlings and saplings. Thoroughly wet all leaves with one of the following herbicides in water with a surfactant: a glyphosate product or Garlon 3A as a 2- to 3-percent solution (8 to 12 ounces per 3-gallon mix); Habitat* as a 0.5-percent solution (2 ounces per 3-gallon mix); or Clearcast as a 2-percent solution (8 ounces per 3-gallon mix).

* Nontarget plants may be killed or injured by root uptake