

Lygodium japonicum

JAPANESE CLIMBING FERN

Schizaeaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

FLEPPC Category: 1

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: Yes

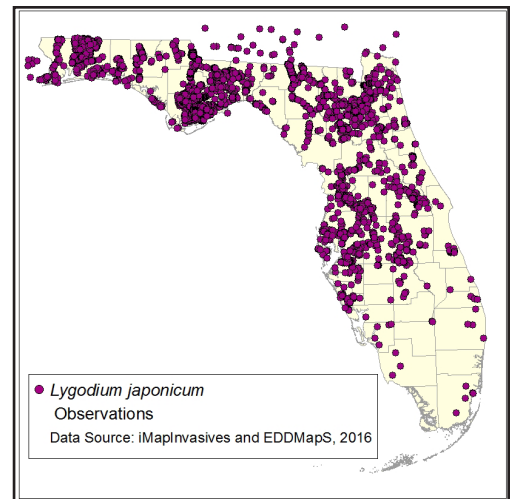
IFAS Assessment

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

USDA Hardiness Zone: 8a-11

Growth Habit: Vine (Fern)

Origin: Eastern Asia, temperate to tropical



Lygodium japonicum, FNAI

Description: Perennial vine-like fern reaching up to 27 m in length. Fronds are compound and have indeterminate growth, reaching lengths of over 6 m. Stems are green, orange, or black and wiry, forming dense mats. Leafy branches (pinnae) from the main rachis are triangular in shape, 10-20 cm long. Leaflets lobed, stalked, with terminal lobes dissected, pubescent below. Fertile leaflets are contracted in shape and have two rows of sporangia along the inrolled leaf margin.

Note: Similar to Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*), which has unlobed leaflets that are glabrous below.

Habitat: upland hardwood forest, floodplain forest, flatwoods, upland pine, swamps, marshes, slope forest, wet prairie, baygall, disturbed areas

Comments: Smothers native vegetation, especially tree seedlings.

Florida Introduction Date: 1930's

Control Methods:

Chemical: Foliar (3% glyphosate, do not exceed 40 gallons spray solution per acre or 50 oz/100 gal of imazapyr; use only where non-target damage is not a concern (IFAS).

Useful Resources:

- Dave's Garden. 2014. PlantFiles: Japanese climbing fern, *Lygodium japonicum*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/32029/>. Accessed on June 23, 2014.
- Langeland, K.A., H.M. Cherry, C.M. McCormick, K.C. Burks. 2008. Identification and Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas-Second Edition. IFAS Publication SP 257. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.
- Langeland, K.A., J.A. Ferrell, B. Sellers, G.E. MacDonald, and R.K. Stocker. 2011. Integrated management of non-native plants in natural areas of Florida. EDIS publication SP 242. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.