

# *Lygodium japonicum*

## JAPANESE CLIMBING FERN

### Schizaeaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** 1

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes

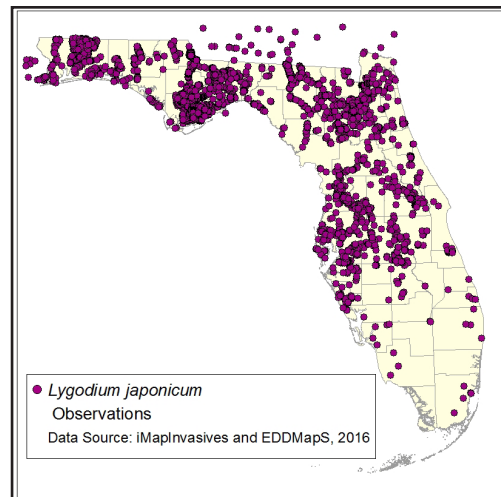
**IFAS Assessment**

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

**Florida Introduction Date:** 1930's

**Control Methods:** .

Chemical: 3% glyphosate per 100 gallons. Do not exceed 40 gallons spray solution per acre, imazapyr 50 oz/100 gal (~0.39%) (use only where appropriate relative to non-target species), imazapic 40 oz/100 gal (~0.31%). [IFAS].

**Useful Resources:**

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.

**Comments:** Smothers native vegetation, especially tree seedlings.