

Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*) Treatment Recommendations

If you have:

Small patches

-Pull out by the root, if possible. (See disposal note below) Monitor the site for new sprouts. Sprouts can either be treated with a herbicide or hand-pulled.

Large patches, climbing into trees

-Pull as much of the fern out of the trees as possible. Be careful not to damage the limbs of desirable trees. Treat the remaining rooted fern material with a herbicide. If you cut the upper portion of the plant off and want to remove it from the site, see disposal note below.

Large patches, climbing horizontally along the ground

-Remove as much of the green fern material from the site as you can (See disposal warning below). This may be difficult in areas where the lygodium has formed a thick blanket. When the fern starts to re-sprout from the roots, treat it with a herbicide. Several treatments may be necessary.

-If removal of the plant is impossible, treat as much of the green parts of the plant as possible with a herbicide. Several treatments may be necessary. If you don't remove the green parts of the fern before applying a herbicide, the remaining matted fern material may be very thick in some areas. It may be removed after treatment, but the fern spores may still be viable. (see disposal note below)

As with all weeds, follow-up is essential. Visit treated areas, and look for regrowth. Regrowth should be sprayed with herbicide.

Suggested Herbicides*

Dry areas: Herbicides like Brush-B-Gone (triclopyr amine 8%), Brush Killer (triclopyr amine 8.8%), "Ready-to-use" Roundup (glyphosate .96%), Roundup Pro (glyphosate 41%) and Roundup Super Concentrate (glyphosate 41%) are effective and can be purchased at retail garden supply stores. These herbicides should only be used in dry areas. They may not be applied directly to water. Repeat applications will probably be necessary in most cases.

Wet areas: The herbicide Rodeo (glyphosate 53.8%) can be applied directly to the plant when it is growing over water.

Read and follow all herbicide label directions. It is illegal to use a herbicide in a manner inconsistent with the label's instructions.

Non-Target Damage - These herbicides are not selective. Be careful not to contact desirable plants with these herbicides.

Disposal - Careful disposal of Old World climbing fern yard waste is important. Nearly invisible, fern spores are easily spread by wind. Fern material should be bagged immediately. Never discard Old World climbing fern in natural areas. Mulching and composting are not recommended because spores may remain viable for long periods of time.

*Mention of a trade name does not constitute a guarantee or warranty of the product. There is no express or implied warranty as to the fitness of any product discussed. Any product trade names that are listed are for the benefit of the reader and the list may not contain all products available due to changes in the market.