

Leadtree (*Leucaena leucocephala*)



FABACEAE FAMILY

GROWTH HABIT

Leadtree (*Leucaena leucocephala*) is a deciduous shrub or small tree that can reach ~30 feet in height, often multistemmed. **Flowering** occurs throughout much of the year. **Leaves** are alternate and twice pinnately compound with small leaflets that are short-pointed. **Flowers** are white and present in dense, rounded clusters. **Fruits** are flat long pods in clusters and are initially green and turn reddish brown at maturity. **Seeds** are glossy and dark brown.

DISTRIBUTION IN FLORIDA

Found throughout most of peninsular Florida with outliers found in Okaloosa county in the western panhandle.

Photo: William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org

Table 1. Herbicide options for Leadtree
 Herbicides are expressed on a (% v/v) by product basis.
 The label is the law. Always refer to product label before use.

HERBICIDE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	PRODUCT(S)	-----Recommended Approach -----		
		BACKPACK FOLIAR	BASAL BARK	CUT STUMP
TRICLOPYR ESTER	GARLON 4 ULTRA, ELEMENT 4 AND OTHERS	NR	20-30%	NR
TRICLOPYR ACID	TRYCERA	NR	20-30%	50%
TRICLOPYR AMINE	ELEMENT 3A AND OTHERS	NR	NR	50%
TRICLOPYR CHOLINE	VASTLAN	NR	NR	50%
AMINOCYCLOPYRACHLOR	METHOD 240SL	0.5%	NR	NR
AMINOPYRALID	MILESTONE AND OTHERS	0.25%	NR	10%

NR= Not Recommended

NOTES SECTION

Herbicide Notes for Leadtree:

- Foliar treatments are most effective on seedlings and small saplings.
- General basal bark concentrations are 20-30% for triclopyr products. Basal bark treatment is effective on small stems <3 inches in diameter. Inconsistent results have been observed with larger stemmed trees.
- General cut stump concentrations for all recommended herbicides are 50%. Cut stump is labor intensive but it is effective at preventing stump sprouting.

Adjuvant Considerations: Surfactants are often required for foliar treatments to improve herbicide absorption. Nonionic surfactants have been useful for aminopyralid and aminocyclopyrachlor treatments.

Seasonality of Treatments: Apply foliar treatments only when leadtree is actively growing. Flowering may occur throughout much of the year so targeting pre-flowering trees may be difficult.

Specific Hydrologic Considerations: Leadtree does not tolerate waterlogged soils but may thrive in many nutrient poor, disturbed areas. It proliferates on spoil islands and exhibits some salt tolerance.

Specific Considerations for each Herbicide for Potential Non-Target Damage

- Aminocyclopyrachlor may injure or kill beautyberry and several other trees, shrubs and forbs. While it is safe to apply under oaks, it is still generally recommended for individual plant treatment only.
- Triclopyr ester may be volatile at temps > 85 F, which can lead to non-target injury.

Retreatment Interval Consideration: Leadtree is difficult to control. Resprouting may often occur 6-12 months after treatment for multiple treatment approaches. Seedling recruitment often occurs over the spring and summer. Seedlings can reach sexual maturity within one year. Therefore, monitoring and retreatment should be done 6-12 months after initial treatment.

Calculations for % v/v: (Volumes must be in the same units, i.e., gallons, ounces, liters, etc).

$$\% \text{ v/v} = (\text{Volume of herbicide product} / \text{total herbicide plus carrier volume}) * 100\%$$

Reference Table for % v/v

% V/V	Ounces of herbicide to add for 1 gallon (128 oz) total mix size
0.25	0.32
0.5	0.64
1.0	1.28
2.0	2.56
5.0	6.4
10.0	12.8
20.0	25.6