Coral ardisia (*Ardisia crenata*)

MYRSINACEAE FAMILY

GROWTH HABIT

Coral ardisia (*Ardisia crenata*) is a small upright shrub two to four feet in height but can reach six feet. It grows in dense clumps and is often multi-stemmed. **Flowering** occurs from May to June and fruits mature from July to December. **Leaves** are dark green and glossy from 3 to 7 inches long, elliptic to lance-shaped with scalloped margins. **Flowers** are white and pinkish which form in clusters on the oldest branches. **Fruits** are bright red berries that hang down from the branch. Many may remain on the plant for up to a year. Germination of **seeds** is extremely high. Seedlings form dense colonies beneath mature plants that are often hidden under fallen leaves.

DISTRIBUTION IN FLORIDA

Found throughout the State, but is currently most abundant in north Florida.

Table 1. Herbicide options for Coral ardisia.
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	
		FOLIAR	BASAL BARK
TRICLOPYR ESTER	GARLON 4	2-3%	10%
TRICLOPYR ACID	TRYCERA	1.5%	10%
TRICLOPYR AMINE	GARLON 3A	3%	NR
IMAZAPIC	PLATEAU (TANK MIX USE WITH GARLON 3A)	1%	NR

NR= Not Recommended

NOTES SECTION

Herbicide Notes for Coral ardisia

- Always consult the herbicide label for specific concentration recommendations. Foliar treatments are often slow to work and may take one to three months for complete defoliation. Care must be taken to treat both the overstory of mature plants and the understory of seedlings below the adults.
- Glyphosate is not recommended as a stand alone herbicide due to inconsistent control.
- Basal bark treatment is tricky due to the multistemmed nature of the plant. Caution is recommended when using this approach to prevent exceeding the maximum use rates on the herbicide label.

Adjuvant Considerations: A methylated seed oil is generally useful to improve herbicide uptake into this waxy leaved plant.

Seasonality of Treatments: Numerous operational observations have indicated treatments are most effective in the late summer and early fall. Winter and spring treatments are extremely slow to work and may result in somewhat variable control. Additionally, many seedlings can persist under the leaf litter layer in the fall, where they are hidden and protected from foliar treatments.

Specific Hydrologic Considerations: In addition to upland sites, coral ardisia often grows where a seasonally high water table is common or around hillside seeps. While the influence of hydrology on efficacy is unknown, it may influence non-target damage, which is described below.

Specific Considerations for each Herbicide for Potential Non-Target Damage

- Triclopyr ester may be volatile at temps > 85 F, which are common when treatments are most effective in the late summer and early fall.
- Foliar applications of triclopyr amine products at 3% v/v to dense stands of coral ardisia in areas with a shallow water table have resulted in considerable injury to live oak. This has been attributed to in-water activity and subsequent root uptake by the affected oaks.
- Imazapic may cause injury to some trees and shrubs and should be used with caution. Consult the label for specific species tolerance before use.

Retreatment Interval Consideration: Seed are generally viable for less one year. Juveniles become sexually mature within two years. Given these characteristics, followup treatment 12-24 months after initial treatment can greatly diminish reinfestation. Following these efforts, it is important to get the site on a two to three year monitoring/treatment rotation.

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

% v/v = (Volume of herbicide product / 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