

Earleaf Acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*)

FABACEAE FAMILY



GROWTH HABIT

Acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*) is an evergreen tree that can reach ~50 feet in height, often multi-stemmed. **Flowering** occurs from spring through fall. **Leaves** are alternate reduced phyllodes (blade-like flattened leaf stalks), slightly curved and 5-8 inches long. Leaves exhibit 3-7 parallel veins. **Flowers** are loose, orange-yellow spikes originating in the leaf axils or in clusters at the stem tips. **Fruits** are flat oblong, twisted pods. **Seeds** are black, flat and attached by string like arils that are orange.

DISTRIBUTION IN FLORIDA

Found throughout the southern peninsula as far north as Orange County.

Table 1. Herbicide options for Earleaf acacia
 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 | CUT STUMP | REDUCED HACK & SQUIRT |
| TRICLOPYR ESTER | GARLON 4 ULTRA, ELEMENT 4 AND OTHERS | NR | 20% | 20% | NR |
| TRICLOPYR ACID | TRYCERA | NR | 10-20% | 50% | NR |
| TRICLOPYR AMINE | ELEMENT 3A AND OTHERS | NR | NR | 50% | NR |
| TRICLOPYR CHOLINE | VASTLAN | NR | NR | 50% | NR |
| AMINOCYCLOPYRACHLOR | METHOD 240SL | 0.25% | 5-10% | 5-10% | 50% |
| AMINOPYRALID | MILESTONE AND OTHERS | 0.25% | NR | 10% | NR |

NR= Not Recommended

NOTES SECTION

Herbicide Notes for Earleaf acacia:

- Aminopyralid and aminocyclopyrachlor are extremely effective as foliar treatments at very low concentrations.
- Basal bark treatment is also very effective for triclopyr ester and acid products at 10-20% v/v.
- If using triclopyr ester for cut stump treatment, treat the whole top and the sides of the stump as a combined basal bark/cut stump approach. Also, keep in mind that no cut stump herbicide treatment will control all lateral root sprouts.
- Reduced hack and squirt concentrations for Method is 50%. This technique is extremely effective when 1 ml of a 50% solution is applied to 1 hack for every 4 inches of stem diameter. Earleaf acacia wood is very dense and this technique may be easier with hatchets than machetes.

Adjuvant Considerations: Nonionic surfactants are effective for foliar treatments with aminocyclopyrachlor and aminopyralid.

Seasonality of Treatments: Treatments are generally effective throughout the year. Flowering may occur from spring to fall. Treatments should be applied by early flowering to prevent seed production.

Specific Hydrologic Considerations

- Earleaf acacia will tolerate seasonal inundation and has been observed to secondarily invade melaleuca stands following intensive melaleuca treatment.
- All triclopyr formulations except triclopyr ester are labeled for use when standing water is present. For basal bark application, only Trycera can be used when earleaf acacia is in standing water. For reduced hack and squirt, Method is fully labeled for use in uplands and seasonally dry wetlands but not when standing water is present.

Specific Considerations for each Herbicide for Potential Non-Target Damage

- Aminocyclopyrachlor may injure or kill cypress, beautyberry and several other trees, shrubs and forbs. While it is safe to apply under oaks, it is still generally recommended for IPT only.
- Triclopyr ester may be volatile at temps > 85 F, which can lead to non-target injury.
- Although labeled for use in aquatics, Trycera should be used carefully as a basal bark treatment when standing water is present to avoid in-water activity.

Retreatment Interval Consideration: Earleaf acacia likely has a long-lived seedbank, as do many legumes. Seed germination is promoted by fire. This species is highly successful in disturbed areas and nutrient poor tropical environments. Monitoring and retreatment is currently recommended on an 18-24 month basis as new plants become sexually reproductive by 2 years. However, plants may grow to over 15 feet in height in two years, which may quickly limit foliar treatment options.

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 |