



# Prescribed Fire Newsletter

*Second Quarter 2019*



## Are you being invaded?

As birds begin calling, flowers begin flowering and grass gets greener, spring is in the air. Fauna is transitioning from winter into spring, as vegetation begins to sprout, flower, and thrive. This makes spring an opportune time to search forest for invasive species like cogongrass. Cogongrass is a commonly in South Alabama along roadsides, yards and in forest understory. It is listed as one of greatest invasive plant threats in Alabama and southeastern U.S. Cogongrass is a common problem discuss by forest landowners. The following are common questions natural resource professionals receive.



### Q: Is hand pulling cogongrass effective?

Cogongrass has sharp leaf edges and sprouts at ground level making hand pulling a hazard. Also, when pulling the grass often times the rhizome remains below ground making this ineffective.

### Q: Will Prescribe fire control cogongrass?

No. Fire promotes cogongrass as it kills most other species. Cogongrass is highly volatile burning extremely hot possibly killing fire tolerant species such as Longleaf pine. Burning at anytime promotes growth as well as spreading by equipment to areas not contaminated.



### Q: What herbicide works best for treatment?

Glyphosate and Imazapyr are two most effective herbicides. Each chemical has positives and negatives, read herbicide labels as well as identifying desirable vegetation is vital to choosing correct herbicide. Also, check labels to see if a surfactant is required. Some herbicides contain built-in surfactant so no additional is suggested.

### Q: When is the best time for application?

Single application of Glyphosate or Imazapyr will rarely completely kill cogongrass. However, research has show, optimal treatment is late summer through early fall, making sure you allow approximately 4 weeks before a killing frost. In my opinion, the best time to spray is when you see cogongrass. By waiting land managers may forget a spot or get busy and forget to spray all together.

### Q: Should cogongrass be sprayed beyond the edge of the patch?

Yes, cogongrass spreads by rhizomes. When applying imazapyr applicators should spray a halo beyond patches.

For more information visit: <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/forestry-wildlife/cogongrass-management-faq/>



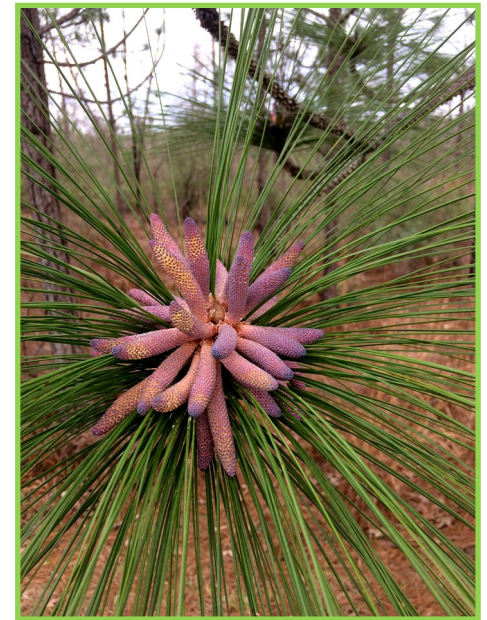
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## Upcoming Opportunities

- 2019 AFA Butler Area Regional Reception, March 28  
**Location:** Ezell's Fish Camp, Butler, AL  
**Registration:** [alaforestry.org/events](http://alaforestry.org/events)
- Recreational Pond Management, Clarke County, April 9  
**Location:** G&D Outdoors, Grove Hill  
**Registration:** Contact Kevin Tucker (251) 275-3121 or [tuckerjk@aces.edu](mailto:tuckerjk@aces.edu)
- Learn and Burn Interactive Field day Mobile County April 8-12  
**Location:** Wilmer, Mobile County, AL  
**Registration:** [alaforestry.org/events](http://alaforestry.org/events)
- Recreational Pond Management, Washington County, April 25  
**Location:** Steve Gilley's Residence, Wagarville, AL  
**Registration:** Contact Sabra Johnson (251) 847-2295 or [sej@aces.edu](mailto:sej@aces.edu)
- Learn and Burn Interactive Field Day Baldwin County, April 29– May 3  
**Location:** Sibley Pines, Baldwin County, Alabama  
**Registration:** [alaforestry.org/events](http://alaforestry.org/events)



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