

Uruguay waterprimrose control with herbicides

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Uruguay waterprimrose [*Ludwigia hexapetala* (Hook. & Arn.) Zardini, Gu., & Raven] is an aggressive plant native to South America. Although it has been present in the United States for many years, it has rapidly increased over the last decade, especially in California and Florida. In many situations, the plant's extensive creeping stem biomass has generally resulted in limited control. Studies were conducted in mesocosms in Florida to examine both new active ingredients and commonly used tank mixes for control of both above- and below-water biomass.

Aminopyralid, imazamox alone and in combination with flumioxazin, and glyphosate alone and in combination with flumioxazin or 2,4-D provided effective shoot control at 60 d after treatment (DAT) following winter and spring applications. florpyrauxifen-benzyl (benzyl 4-amino-3-chloro-6-(4-chloro-2-fluoro-3-methoxyphenyl)-5-fluoropyridine-2-carboxylate) provided good initial control at 35 DAT, but regrowth was similar to the non-treated control at 60 DAT. No herbicide treatment resulted in effective control of below-water biomass. These studies suggest Uruguay waterprimrose shoot growth may be controlled with multiple selective and nonselective options. However, below-water biomass control will likely be much more difficult. Based on results of this study, future work should focus on seasonality of treatment and sequential treatment intervals to address the below-water biomass issue.