What can little old you do about Lygodium microphyllum? Plenty!
Japanese climbing fern:
Leaflets usually lobed & with some hairs on the lower surface; leaf stalks not articulate (they remain attached to leaflet blades)

Old World climbing fern:
Leaflets usually without lobes & without hairs on the lower surface; leaf stalks articulate (left behind when leaf drops)
Lygodium microphyllum (Cav.) R. Br.

Really?

Ken A. Langeland, University of Florida, Bugwood.org
Seriously?
Central Florida Lygodium Strategy (CFLS) is…

- A partnership:
A strategic program:

- stay north
- Public and private lands
- detect and remove Lygodium microphyllum

A goal:

- create a "Lygodium-free" zone across central Florida
- prevent northward spread
Big picture in Florida

- >55 private properties treated
- >18,500 acres surveyed
- >1300 acres treated
- 48 conservation areas buffered
- 130 sentinel sites to measure success
- Public managers reporting sightings
Lessons learned

Failure? A goal:
• create a “Lygodium-free” zone across central Florida - environmental conditions
• prevent northward spread - facilitated spread

Success? A strategic program:
• stay north – surveys to assess
• public and private lands – multiple funding sources
• detect and remove Lygodium microphyllum – re-treat
Do nothing, lose everything...
Vision for the future

• Continue approach with partnership shift in private lands treatment funding

• Public lands
  ✓ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to help with data coordination and communication, technical assistance
  ✓ SWFWMD & SJRWMD

• Private lands
  ✓ Florida Forest Service- County Foresters to assist with private landowners
  ✓ Extension Agents
  ✓ CISMAs
Private lands treatment

http://www.floridainvasives.org/matrix/index.cfm
Find it

- By aerial surveys:
- Via CISMAs:
- Via Sentinel sites
  - along northern line
Kill it

- Small or low-growing infestations - Spray-to-wet leaf surfaces with herbicide
  - Plants must be growing, not stressed

  **If climbing into trees:**
  *poodle cut & spray*
  - cut at waist height
  - 10-12 inch gap
  - treat lower, rooted portion of the plant with herbicide

- **Re-treat**
“Treat when you can get into the site”
Biocontrol
defoliating moth, *Neomusotima conspurcatalis*
Biocontrol
The mighty mite... *Floracarus perrepae*

66,627 mites released
Biocontrol

The mighty mite... *Floracarus perrepae*
Continue to ramp up submittal of sighting data – ideally via EDDMapS or FNAI

www.IveGot1.org
YOU are
the Central Florida Lygodium Strategy
Special thanks

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