

Melaleuca Treatments & Okeechobee Gourd Update

Watch out for Wright's Nutrush

Alex Onisko
SFWMD
5/30/19

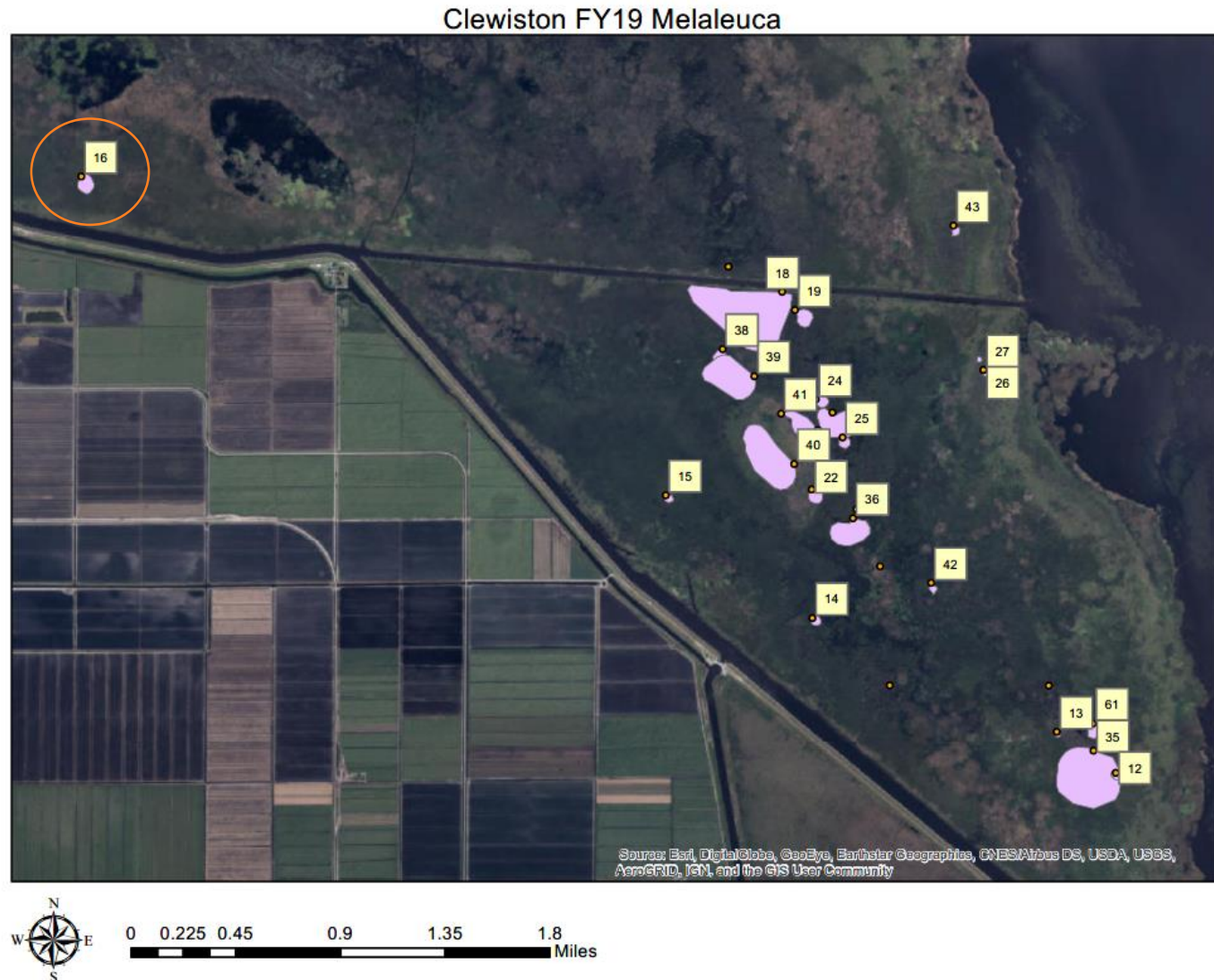
Melaleuca Treatments Focused on 3 main Regions

- Clewiston
- Fisheating Bay & Harney Pond
- Indian Prairie & Buckhead Ridge
- Most targeted Melaleuca trees were treated except for those that were difficult to access due to low water. They will be treated when water levels rise.

Lake O Melaleuca Treatments FY19



- All targeted Melaleuca in the Clewiston region were treated except the circled point.
- Treatment will be attempted again when water comes up.

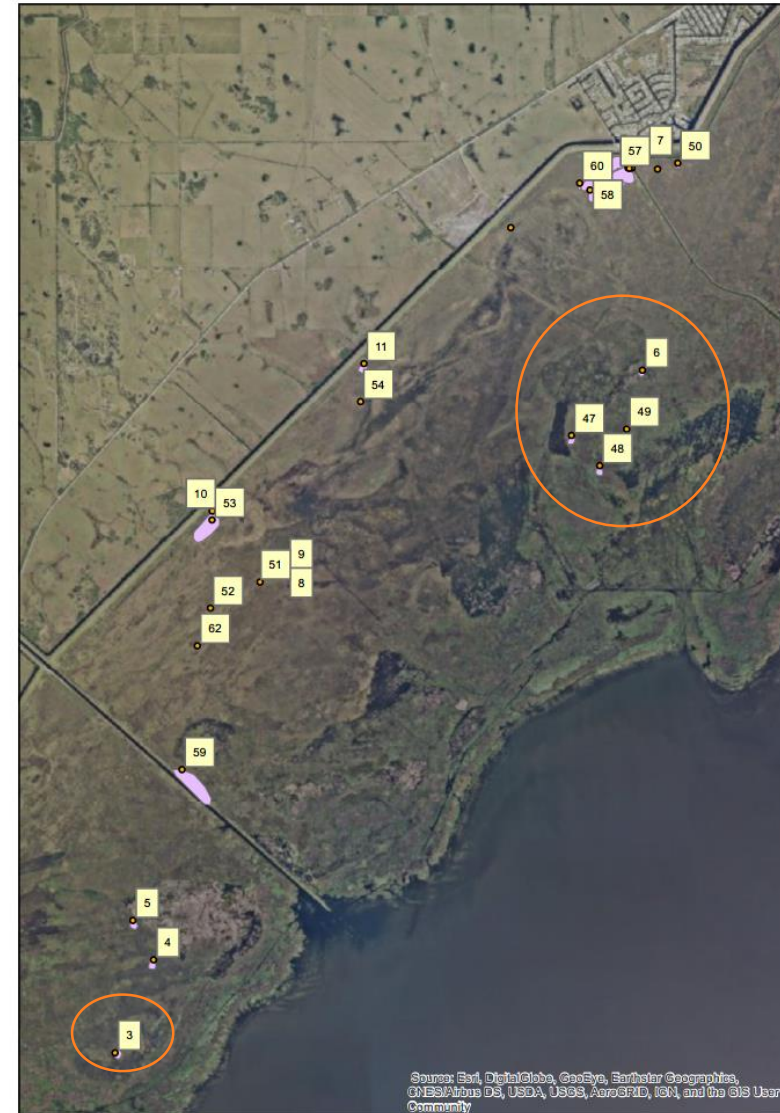


- All targeted Melaleuca in the Fisheating Bay & Harney Pond region were treated except the circled point.
- Treatment will be attempted again when water comes up.



- All targeted Melaleuca in the Indian Prairie & Buckhead Ridge region were treated except the circled points.
- Treatments will be attempted again when water comes up.

Indian Prairie, Buckhead FY19 Melaleuca Labeled



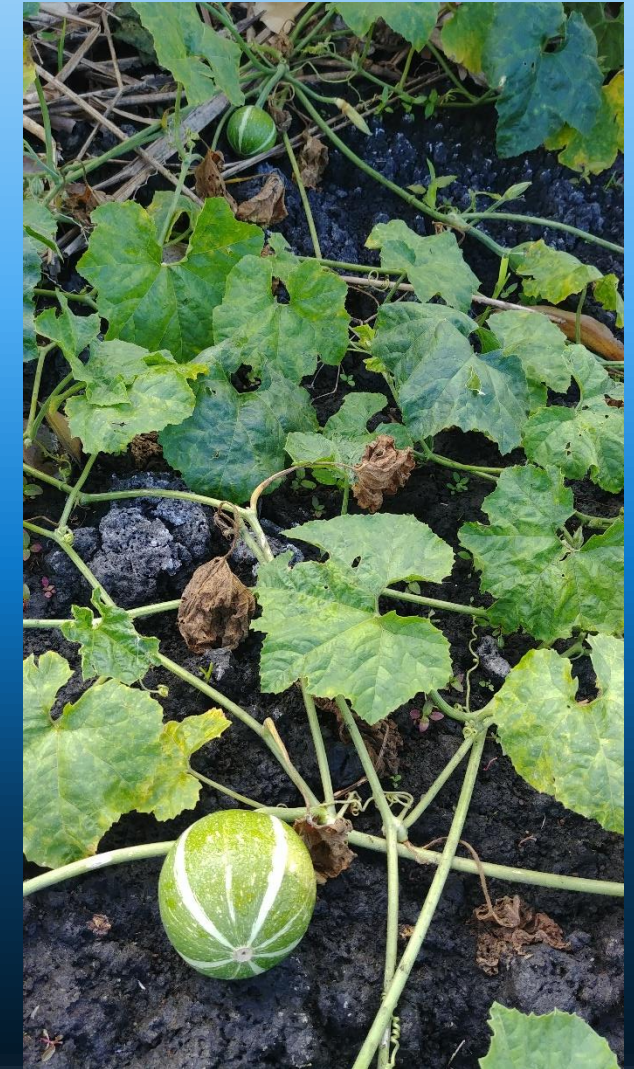
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



0 0.3250.65 1.3 1.95 2.6
Miles

Okeechobee Gourd

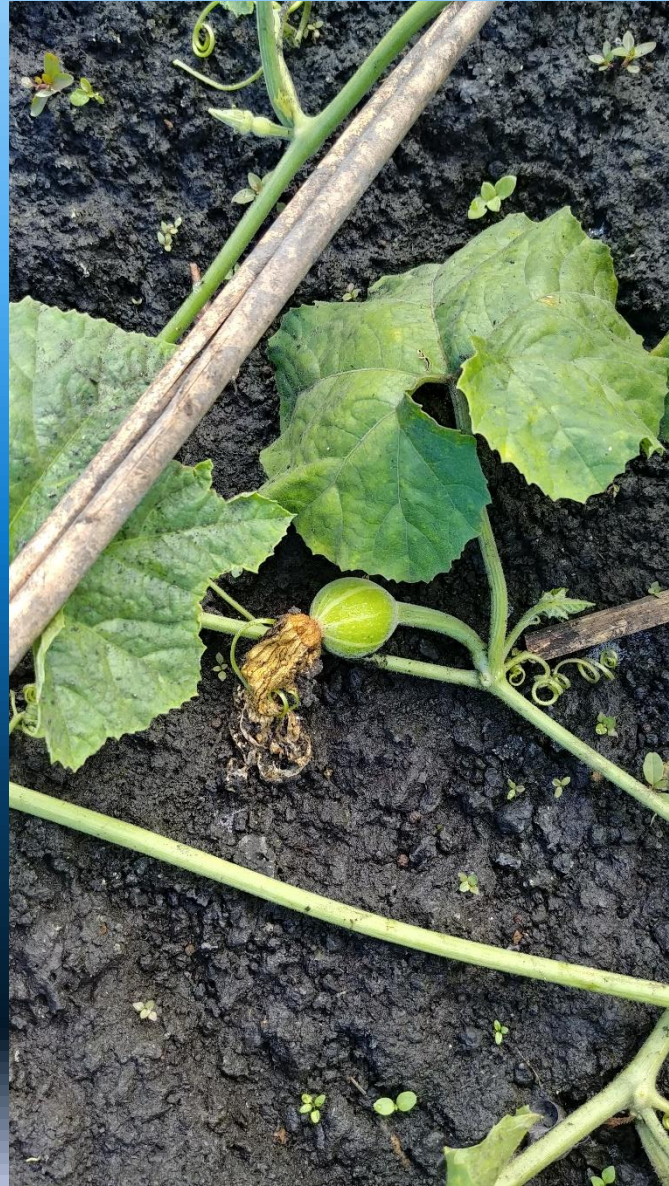
- Gourd flowers are ~3 inches long, cream-colored and open in the morning.
- Leaves are heart shaped with 5-7 shallow lobes and serrated margins.
- Gourds are light green and sound with indistinct stripes.



Okeechobee Gourd



Okeechobee Gourd



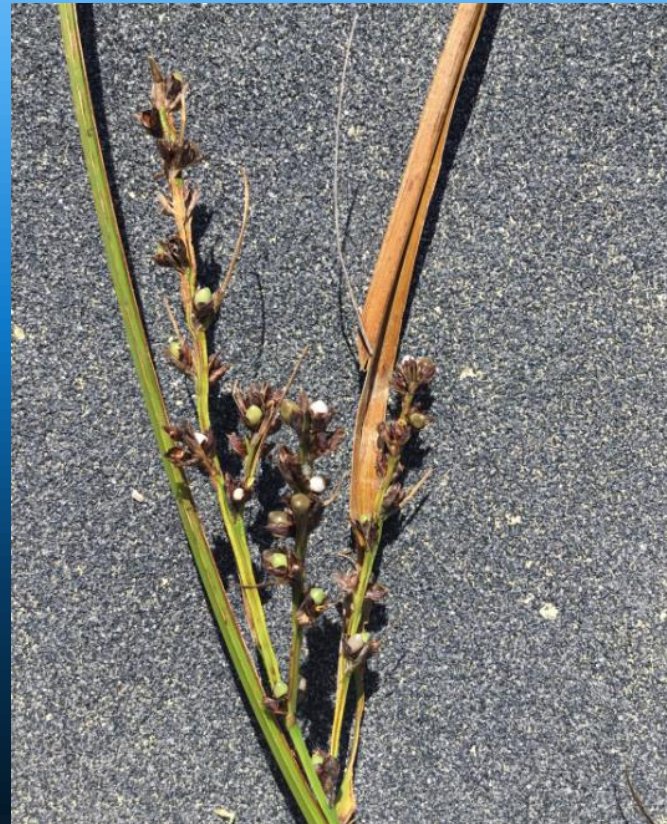
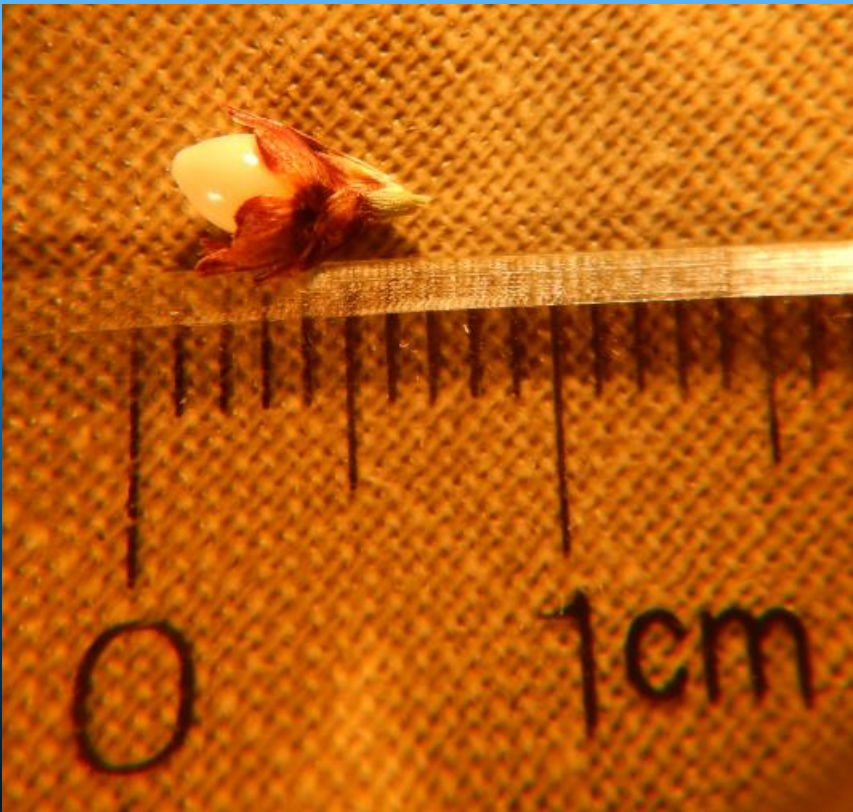
Scleria lacustris aka Wright's Nutrush

- Common names:
 - Wright's nutrush
 - Lakeshore nutrush
- FLEPPC Category I
- Annual sedge
- Invades Marshes & Wetlands (no canopy)



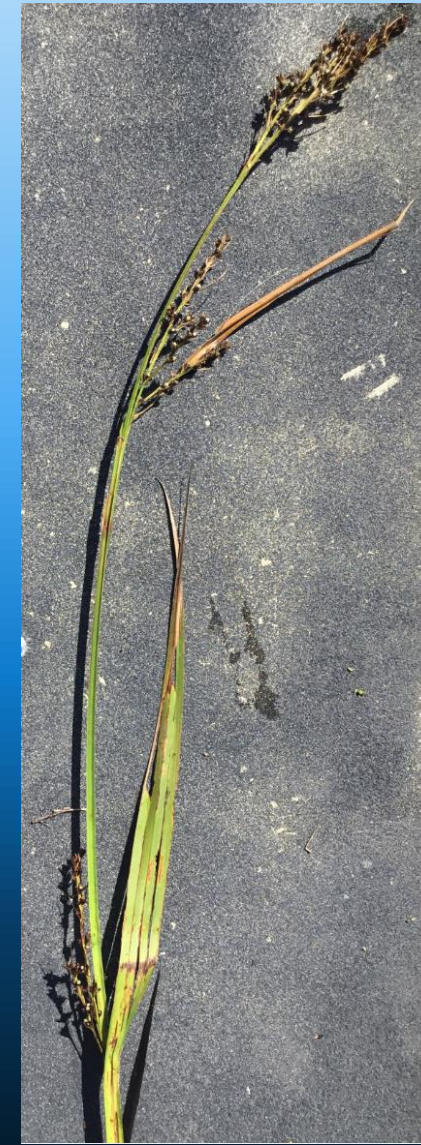
Wright's Nutrush (*Scleria lacustris*) Identification

Sharp leaf margins, pleated leaves. Small, smooth protected seeds. Triangular stems. Base of plants spongy and red.





Left: Wright's nutrush on both sides of an airboat trail in the Moore Haven Marsh. 2016



Right: Mature and seeding Wright's Nutrush.



Wright's nutrush infestation
in Moore Haven Marsh 2016

Large stands of Wright's nutrush invading a marsh at Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park.



View from the center of the Wright's nutrush infestation pictured in the previous slide. Scarce emergent native vegetation.



Dense thatch and abundant seeds on the ground after Wright's nutrush completes its lifecycle, impeding native vegetation from germinating and growing in the marsh.



Contact

- Please send Melalueca, Wright's Nutrush, and Okeechobee Gourd pictures, GPS Points, and/or location descriptions to Alex Onisko at aonisko@sfwmd.gov
- More information on the Okeechobee Gourd can be found at <https://www.fws.gov/verobeach/MSRPPDFs/Okeechobee.PDF>
<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mv072>