Eastern Baccharis (Baccharis halimifolia, Baccharis sp.) Control Herbicide Options

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Brief

Eastern baccharis (Baccharis halimifolia) is a native shrub in the Aster family. It has spread rapidly into newly established pine plantations on former crop ground. Other common names are saltbush, groundsel tree and sea myrtle. It is a semi-evergreen to evergreen woody shrub that can grow to 20 feet tall (typically 2 to 8 feet tall) and commonly grows in multi-stem clumps (Photo 1) or individual plants (Photo 2). It has opposite branching and semi-evergreen simple oval to oblong lobed leaves 1 - 2 inches long and 1/2 - 1 inches wide (Photo 3). The flowers are white (Photo 4) and are wind dispersed. In Georgia, flowering typically occurs from August into November. Baccharis control may be best done prior to flowering as the wind-blown seeds are numerous per plant and these seeds can germinate into young plants that will cause problems in future years.

Herbicides labeled to Control Baccharis

I. Pre-plant to Establish Loblolly, Longleaf, or Slash Pine
Add one of the following to the summer (June - October) site prep tank

FORESTRY GARLON® XRT (DOW AgroSciences 89.3% triclopyr)
♦ Apply at 1.25 – 2.5 qts/ac + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO, or crop oil (if applied alone)
or 1 – 2 qts/ac when applied with a site prep rate of Chopper

No mature hardwood border trees restrictions with Garlon as long as one does not get products on hardwood foliage. If Imazapyr (Chopper or Arsenal or a generic equal) is used with these products, stay 1 to 2 tree heights away from mature hardwoods on site borders.

II. Post-plant DIRECT spray in Loblolly, Longleaf, and Slash Pine Stands

FORESTRY GARLON® XRT (DOW AgroSciences 89.3% triclopyr)
♦ A foliar active only herbicide (Garlon 3A, 4 and 4Utra can be used as well)
♦ Apply at 2 – 3% solution in water + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO, or crop oil
♦ Apply to Baccharis foliage as a DIRECT spray
♦ DO NOT apply on planted pines or any other desired vegetation
♦ June – October application (with temperature less than 90 degrees F)
III. Post-plant Cut stump treatment in Loblolly, Longleaf, and Slash Pine Stands

FORESTRY GARLON® XRT (DOW AgroSciences 89.3% triclopyr)
♦ A foliar active only herbicide (Garlon 3A, 4 and 4Ultra can be used as well)
♦ Cut Baccharis plants and IMMEDIATELY apply at 12 – 20% solution in basal bark oil
♦ Apply to Baccharis cut stumps to include especially the area just inside the bark where the conductive tissue is
♦ DO NOT apply on planted pines or any other desired vegetation
♦ Late October to early February application

IV. Post-plant Basal bark treatment in Loblolly, Longleaf, and Slash Pine Stands

FORESTRY GARLON® XRT (DOW AgroSciences 89.3% triclopyr)
♦ A foliar active only herbicide (Garlon 3A, 4 and 4Ultra can be used as well)
♦ Spray completely around the lower 16-18 inches of all stems including the root-collar with a 12 20% solution in basal bark penetrant oil
♦ DO NOT apply on planted pines or any other desired vegetation
♦ Late October to early February application

PATHFINDER® II (DOW AgroSciences 13.6% triclopyr)
♦ Ready-to-use product
♦ Spray completely around the lower 16-18 inches of all stems including the root-collar

Photo 1 and 2. The photo on the left is a dense clump of Baccharis shrubs. The photo on the right is an individual multi-stem Baccharis shrub.
Photos 3 and 4. The photo on the left are the leaves of *Baccharis*. The photo on the right is the *Baccharis* in the lowering stage. Note the new green growth.