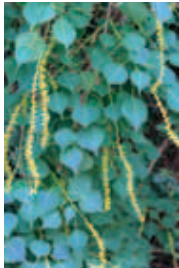


Tallowtree, Popcorn tree



Tallowtree or popcorn tree [*Triadica sebifera* (L.) Small], formerly [*Sapium sebiferum* (L.) Roxb.] is a deciduous tree growing to 60 feet (18 m) tall that can form pure stands, especially in wet prairies. Leaves are broadly ovate to diamond-shaped and turn bright yellow and scarlet in the fall. Abundant bundles of white waxy popcorn-like seeds appear on branchlets in the fall also. Seeds, high in fat and protein, are consumed and spread by birds and mammals. Saplings as young as 3 years can produce viable seed and remain reproductive for 100 years to produce 100,000 seeds per year. Infestations intensify by prolific surface root sprouts. Seed viability in the soil is 2 to 7 years.

Management strategies:

- Do not plant. Remove prior plantings, and control sprouts and seedlings. Bag and dispose of fruit in a dumpster or burn.
- Tallowtree litter mulch inhibits its own seed germination as well as native seeds.
- Minimize disturbance within miles of where this plant occurs, and anticipate wider occupation when plants are present before disturbance.
- High-priority sites to monitor and treat are by water.
- Treat when new plants are young to prevent seed formation.
- Cut, bulldoze, and mulch when fruit are not present.
- Manually pull new seedlings and tree wrench saplings when soil is moist, ensuring removal of all roots.
- Burning treatments intensify infestations and should not be used.

Recommended control procedures:

Large trees. Make stem injections using dilutions and cut-spacings specified on the herbicide label (anytime except March and April) with Arsenal AC*, Clearcast*, or Habitat* herbicide in aquatic situations; or when safety to surrounding vegetation is desired, inject Garlon 3A or a glyphosate herbicide.

- For felled trees and cut saplings, apply a herbicide herbicide to stump tops and sides immediately after cutting using Garlon 4 as a 10-percent solution in a basal oil (1 quart per 3-gallon mix) when stumps are less than 6 inches in diameter and a 20-percent solution (2 quarts per 3-gallon mix) on larger stumps, or apply Garlon 3A or a glyphosate herbicide mixed in water as a 20-percent solution (2 quarts per 3-gallon mix) on all sizes of stumps. ORTHO Brush-B-Gon, Enforcer Brush Killer, and Vine-X are effective undiluted for treating cut-stumps and available in retail garden stores (safe to surrounding plants). Follow the label directions.
- For treatment of extensive infestations in forest situations, apply Velpar L* to the soil surface within 3 feet of the stem (one squirt per 1-inch stem diameter) or in a grid pattern at spacings specified on the herbicide label, or Clearcast* as an aerial spray, which has safety to many hardwoods, at 48 ounces per acre.

Saplings. Apply Garlon 4 as a 15-percent solution (58 ounces per 3-gallon mix) in a labeled basal oil product, vegetable oil or mineral oil with a penetrant, or fuel oil or diesel fuel (where permitted); undiluted Pathfinder II when safety to surrounding vegetation is desired; or elsewhere, Stalker* as a 6- to 9-percent solution (1.5 to 2 pints per 3-gallon mix) in a labeled basal oil product, vegetable oil or mineral oil with a penetrant, or fuel oil or diesel fuel (where permitted) to young bark as a basal spray.

Seedlings and saplings. Thoroughly wet all leaves with one of the following herbicides in water with a surfactant (July to October): Arsenal AC* as a 0.75-percent solution (3 ounces per 3-gallon mix); Arsenal PowerLine* as a 1.5-percent solution (6 ounces per 3-gallon mix); Krenite S as a 20-percent solution (5 pints per 3-gallon mix); Clearcast* as a 2-percent solution (8 ounces per 3-gallon mix); or when safety to surrounding vegetation is desired, Garlon 4 as a 2-percent solution (8 ounces per 3-gallon mix).

* Nontarget plants may be killed or injured by root uptake.