



Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*) Control Herbicide Options

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BRIEF

Trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*), also known as cow itch vine, trumpet vine, or hummingbird vine, is in the Bignoniaceae family and is native to the eastern United States. Trumpet creeper is frequently found in a variety of southeastern United States forests and can be a competitor in pine stands. If not controlled, it can kill the trees it grows on by canopied over the crowns and not allowing adequate sunlight to get to the tree's foliage for photosynthesis. Trumpet creeper is a deciduous, woody vine that can "climb" trees up to 40 feet or greater heights (Photo 1) or form mats on shrubs or grows in clumps lower to the ground (Photo 2). The 1 to 4 inch long green leaves are pinnate, ovate in shape and opposite (Photo 3). The orange to red showy flowers are terminal cymes of 4 to 10 found on the plants during late spring into summer (Photo 4). Large (3 to 6 inches long) seed pods are formed on mature plants in the fall that hold hundreds of seeds (Photo 5). Trumpet creeper control is best performed during active growth periods from mid-June to early October in Georgia. If trumpet creeper has climbed up into a number of trees, a prescribed burn or cutting the vines to groundline may be needed to get the climbing vine down to groundline where foliar active herbicides will be effective. In either of these cases, trumpet creeper should be treated during green-up (new green growth) after the burn or cutting.

HERBICIDES LABELED TO CONTROL TRUMPET CREEPER

There are other name brand and generic herbicides with the same active ingredient for many of the forest herbicides listed below that can be substituted for the products in this paper. The rate per acre or percent solution may change though due to different amounts of active ingredient.

I. Pre-plant to Establish Loblolly or Slash Pine

Add one of the following to the summer (June-October) site prep tank

Accord® XRT II (Corteva Agriscience; 50.2% glyphosate)

- A FOLIAR active only herbicide
- 5 qts/ac + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO or crop oil

Arsenal® AC (BASF; 53% imazapyr; 4 lb per gal)

- A SOIL + FOLIAR active herbicide
- Apply at 16 to 24 oz/ac + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO, or crop oil
- Application timing is from June to early October (prior to leaf color change)

Chopper® Gen2 (BASF; 27% imazapyr; 2 lb per gal)

- A SOIL + FOLIAR active herbicide
- Apply at 32 to 48 oz/ac
- Application timing is from June to early October (prior to leaf color change)

No mature hardwood border trees restrictions with Accord XRT II as long as one does not apply products to hardwood foliage. If Imazapyr (Chopper Gen2, Arsenal AC or a generic equivalent) is used, stay one to two tree heights away from mature hardwoods on site borders. Accord XRT II can be used near sensitive, mature hardwoods.

II. Post-plant over-the-top application in loblolly pine stands

Arsenal® AC (BASF; 53% imazapyr; 4 lb per gal)

- A SOIL + FOLIAR active herbicide
- Broadcast apply at 8 - 16 oz/ac + 1/4% non-ionic surfactant AFTER 15 August of the first growing season in areas where Virginia creeper is present
- Application timing is from mid-July to early October (prior to leaf color change)
- Consider using triclopyr as a DIRECT spray treatment over imazapyr where there are sensitive, desirable plants nearby as imazapyr is soil + foliar active and if the applicator gets some product on the ground at this concentration in a small area, desirable plants may die

III. Post-plant over-the-top application in longleaf and slash pine stands

Arsenal® AC (BASF; 53% imazapyr; 4 lb per gal)

- A SOIL + FOLIAR active herbicide
- Broadcast apply to the foliage of Virginia creeper where it is present at 6 - 12 oz/ac with NO surfactant AFTER 15 August of the 2nd growing season through the 5th growing season
- Application timing is from mid-August to early October (prior to leaf color change)
- Consider using triclopyr as a DIRECT spray treatment over imazapyr where there are sensitive, desirable plants nearby as imazapyr is soil + foliar active and if the applicator gets some product on the ground at this concentration in a small area, desirable plants may die

IV. Post-plant DIRECT spray in loblolly, longleaf, and slash pine stands

Accord® XRT II (Corteva Agriscience; 50.2% glyphosate)

- A FOLIAR active only herbicide
- 1.5% solution + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO or crop oil
- Apply to trumpet creeper foliage as a DIRECT spray
- Do NOT apply on planted pines or any other desired vegetation
- Application timing is from mid-July to early October (prior to leaf color change)

Arsenal® AC (BASF; 53% imazapyr; 4 lb per gal)

- A SOIL + FOLIAR active herbicide
- Apply at 1% solution in water + 1% non-ionic surfactant, MSO, or crop oil
- DIRECT spray Arsenal®, water and surfactant solution thoroughly wetting all foliage (just before the point of runoff), especially the sapling top. DO NOT spray desirable plants
- A backpack sprayer, 12-volt operated 15- or 25-gallon tank sprayer (on an ATV or tractor) or PTO driven tractor mounted sprayer using a medium droplet size
- Application timing is from mid-July to early October (prior to leaf color change)
- Consider using triclopyr over imazapyr where there are sensitive, desirable plants nearby as imazapyr is soil + foliar active and if the applicator gets some product on the ground at this concentration in a small area, desirable plants may die

Follow label directions and wear all personal protective equipment as required by the label when applying herbicides.



Photos 1 and 2: The photo on the left is trumpet creeper growing up a tree. The photo on the right is trumpet creeper growing in a clump.



Photos 3 and 4: The photo on the left shows the leaves of trumpet creeper. The photo on the right is the flowers of trumpet creeper. Note the new green growth in the left photo. This is a good time to apply the listed above herbicide(s) for best control after initial late spring (June) into summer (July-September) growth.



Photo 5: *The seed pods of trumpet creeper.*

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