

Creeping indigo in Pastures

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Creeping indigo



<http://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/creeping-indigo>

Creeping indigo

- Often found growing with grass (not alone)
- Generally in thin turf
- Not common or rare
- Pink flowers
- Toxic



<http://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/creeping-indigo>

Soccer park, heavy foot traffic

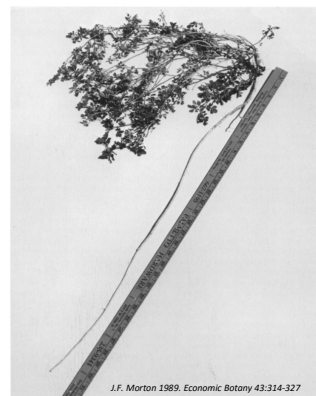


Creeping Indigo

- Damaged pastures are ideal environment
 - Horse pastures in particular

C. indigo

- Legume, so likely found on sandy sites
- Deeply perennial
- Very persistent



J.F. Morton 1989. *Economic Botany* 43:314-327



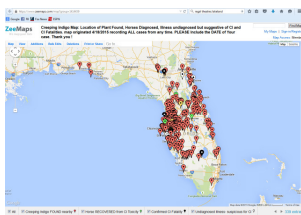
http://sfbfp.fos.ufl.edu/articles/article_2013_june.shtml

Creeping Indigo

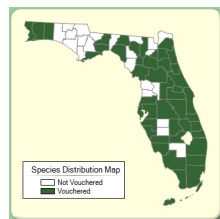
- Seed are very hard and persistent
- Seeds commonly accumulate plant toxins



Locations



Source: ninaswarriors.com

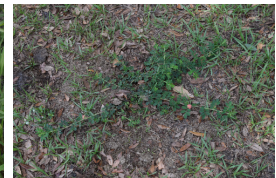


Source: USF Plant Atlas

Look-alikes



Hairy indigo



Creeping indigo

Look-alikes



Hairy indigo

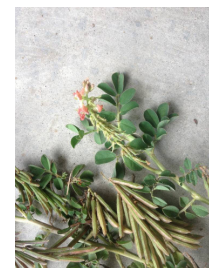


Creeping indigo

Look-alikes



Hairy indigo



Creeping indigo

Look-alikes



Creeping beggarweed

Look-alikes



Three-flowered beggarweed

Look-alikes



Three-flowered/sagotia beggarweed

Questions?

Management

1. Healthy grass
 - C.I. hates competition
 - Soil sample, improve fertility if necessary
2. Proper grazing
 - 1 acre will accommodate 600-700 lbs of horse
 - Try to keep 3-6" of grass
3. Herbicides

Herbicides

1. GrazonNext HL
 - Extremely active on all legumes (2 applications)
 - Application rate 16-32 oz/A
 - Spot spraying – 0.6 oz/gal
 - 34 oz/A/yr maximum
 - 0 day grazing (horses)
 - Do not use manure for mulch

Herbicides

2. Banvel

- Next best on legumes (2 applications)
- Application rate 32 oz/A
 - Spot spraying – 0.6-1.2 oz/gal
- 64 oz/A/yr maximum
- 0 day grazing (horses)
- Do not use manure for mulch
- Volatile. Use caution around sensitive plants

Herbicides

3. Remedy or 2,4-D

- 3rd best on legumes (2 applications)
- Application rate 32 oz/A
 - Spot spraying – 0.6-1.2 oz/gal
- 64 oz/A/yr maximum
- 0 day grazing (horses)
- Do not use manure for mulch
- Volatile. Use caution around sensitive plants

Are Herbicides Harmful?

Pesticides have a checkered past

- DDT
- Agent Orange



Pesticides have a checkered past

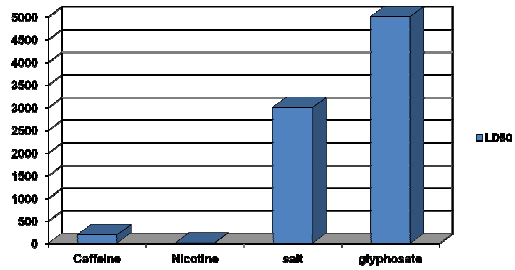
- DDT
- Agent Orange
- Both of these were prior to establishment of EPA in 1972.



Pesticide regulation

- Federal
 - EPA
 - FDA
- State
 - FDACS
- Over 120 specific tests (\$200 million) are required before a pesticide can be registered.
- The label is then written so that there is a, "reasonable certainty of no harm"

Glyphosate toxicity



*The smaller the number, the greater the toxicity

Herbicides on Pastures

- The choices I have listed have 0 day grazing restriction for horses
- Creeping indigo is far more dangerous than these herbicides
- However...if you are concerned, remove the horses for 3-7 days after the application.