

Kudzu Vine

Kudzu is one of the main nuisance weeds in the Southern US. It is sometimes known as "the vine that ate the South." A member of the pea family, it spreads by rhizomes, stolons, and seeds. One estimate is that it is spreading at 150,000 acres a year and has been found as far north as Canada.



To properly manage kudzu, stem cutting should be immediately followed with the application of a systemic herbicide, such as clopyralid, directly on the cut stem. This process is an effective means of transporting the herbicide into the kudzu's extensive root system. The usage of herbicides can be combined with other methods of eradication and control, such as mowing, grazing, or burning, which can allow for an easier application of the chemical to the weakened plants. After initial herbicidal treatment, follow-up treatments and monitoring are usually necessary, depending on how long the kudzu has been growing in the area.

Kudzu Killer, based on the active ingredient clopyralid is the most effective herbicide to control this weed that can be purchased over the counter without a permit. It is 40.9% active, the same as the commercial product and comes in a 8 oz. container. It is sprayed at the rate of ¼ - ½ oz. per 1,000 square feet so the 8 oz. bottle will treat up to ¾ of an acre. Application should be made when the kudzu is actively growing, which in most areas would be May to October. The advantage of Kudzu Killer is that most hardwood trees and conifers are tolerant to the product. This is a great advantage since kudzu crawls up trees in most areas. Also if used to control kudzu in pastures or grazed areas where livestock are present, there are no grazing restrictions with Kudzu Killer.

For label and more information contact us at 559-499-2100 or visit our web site at www.montereylawngarden.com.



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Healthy Kudzu leaves



Kudzu in flowering stage



Kudzu vines will cover structures and can kill other native vegetation by blocking sunlight