

Golden pothos (*Epipremnum pinnatum* cv. *Aureum*)

ARCEAE FAMILY



GROWTH HABIT

Golden pothos (*Epipremnum pinnatum* cv. *Aureum*) is a climbing vine with large, waxy green and yellow leaves, thick stems and numerous dotted aerial roots. Also forms dense ground cover. **Flowering** is uncommon. **Leaves** are simple, alternate, with juvenile and adult forms. **Flowers** are a spadix. **Fruits** are a small one to two seeded berry.

DISTRIBUTION IN FLORIDA

Found throughout the southern and central peninsula but occurs as far north as St. John’s County.

Table 1. Herbicide options for Golden pothos.
 Herbicides are expressed on a (% v/v) by product basis.
 The label is the law. Always refer to product label before use.

HERBICIDE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	PRODUCT(S)	-----Recommended Approach -----	
		BACKPACK FOLIAR	CUT STEM AND REVERSE CUT STEM
TRICLOPYR ESTER	GARLON 4 ULTRA, ELEMENT 4 AND OTHERS	2%	NR
TRICLOPYR ACID	TRYCERA	2-3%	NR
GLYPHOSATE	ROUNDUP CUSTOM, RANGER PRO, OTHERS	5%	50%
METSULFURON	ESCORT, MSM60	2 oz/A	NR

NR= Not Recommended

NOTES SECTION

Herbicide Notes for Golden pothos

- The waxy leaves and dense ground cover have made foliar treatments, especially with glyphosate, inconsistent. The triclopyr ester and acid formulations have demonstrated good foliar burndown, but do not provide complete stem kill with one treatment. Metsulfuron has shown excellent activity on arrowhead vine but has not been well tested on golden pothos and care must be taken around sensitive trees.
- Glyphosate is effective as a reverse cut stem treatment to kill climbing vines. This eliminates the need to physically remove them. This works by poodle cutting all stems and aerial roots and immediately dipping them in a 50% solution for 2-5 seconds. This works well for small vines but can be slightly less effective on extremely large vines, > 1 inch in diameter. One strategy for large vines is to treat when transpiration rates are highest (midday) to pull more herbicide into the stems. Leaving stems in the solution for longer may also be helpful.

Adjuvant Considerations: Methylated seed oil adjuvants at 1% v/v are generally a good choice for waxy-leaved plants like golden pothos to improve herbicide absorption. For glyphosate, a water conditioning agent can prevent a loss of efficacy due to hard water.

Seasonality of Treatments: Plants are subject to injury from cold weather, especially in central and northern Florida. Do not treat if plants have been exposed to frost or severely cold weather until plants are actively growing again.

Specific Hydrologic Considerations Golden pothos tolerates inundation in the wet season as a ground cover and climbing vines will survive extended periods of inundation as epiphytes. Control will be poor if foliar applications are made when ground cover is partially or wholly inundated.

Specific Considerations for each Herbicide for Potential Non-Target Damage

- Triclopyr ester may volatilize at temperatures above 85°F which can lead to non-target injury.
- Triclopyr acid is labeled for aquatic use when Golden pothos is in standing water. However, it also has considerable in water activity that can result in non-target damage.
- Metsulfuron has soil activity and can injure some trees shrubs and native ferns.

Retreatment Interval Consideration: Monitoring should be done at six months to assess efficacy on ground cover and retreatment by 12 months to control regrowth from root crowns, stems, and new seedlings. Climbing cover may take 6-12 months to successfully respond to treatment. Extremely large stems may take 12-24 months to completely successfully respond to treatment.

Calculations for % v/v: (Volumes must be in the same units, i.e., gallons, ounces, liters, etc).

$\% v/v = (\text{Volume of herbicide product} / \text{total herbicide plus carrier volume}) * 100\%$

Reference Table for % v/v

% V/V	Ounces of herbicide to add for 1 gallon (128 oz) total mix size
0.25	0.32
0.5	0.64
1.0	1.28
2.0	2.56
5.0	6.4
10.0	12.8
20.0	25.6