

## HOW INVASIVE PLANTS ARE MANAGED

### Slide 1

The following slides will explain how invasive plants are managed. For more information regarding invasive plants visit the Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States at [invasiveplantatlas.org](http://invasiveplantatlas.org).

### Slide 2

Executive Order (EO) 13112 defines invasive species as species that are non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. Invasive species can be plants, animals, or pathogens.

### Slide 3

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a combination of control methods, and is the best approach to manage invasive plants. IPM does not refer to a specific management technique, but rather a multi-strategy tactic that uses suitable and consistent techniques and methods to maintain pest populations.

- **Biological control** is the use of imported organisms that eat, infect or otherwise keep specific invasive plants at low levels indefinitely. USDA and FDACS verify that bio-controls are proven to be host-specific (example, the air potato beetle (*Lilioceris cheni* [photo credit: FDACS])
- **Chemical control** is the use of specially-formulated herbicides registered with the U.S. EPA and FDACS to kill plants (example, herbicide application via an aerial application by helicopter [photo credit: Stephen Ausmus courtesy USDA]; and herbicide application via a backpack sprayer [photo credit: USFWS]).
- **Mechanical control** is the use of specially-made machines to "harvest" invasive plants by cutting and collecting them and transporting them to a place to decompose (example, aquatic harvesting via an aquatic weed harvester [photo credit: AME News]).
- **Physical control** examples include but are not limited to hand-pulling, flooding, burning, dredging, and shading (example, prescribed burn [photo credit: Dale Wade]; and hand-pulling (credit: unknown)).

### Slide 4

Here are examples of before and after aerial herbicide treatments of *Melaleuca* in A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (Accelerated Exotics Control Plan May 22, 2007) and herbicide backpack treatments of Australian pine on Wesley Island, in Ft. Pierce Inlet. Wesley Island is currently undergoing restorative planting initiatives in an attempt to restore the island back to its natural habitat.