

Cogon Grass Biocontrol

Grab your bug nets! A cooperative research project - between the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Division of Forestry), the United States Department of Agriculture (Forest Service Health Technology Enterprise Team) and the University of Florida - is trying to identify potential natural enemies (e.g., insects and pathogens) of cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*).

The group is asking resource managers to survey and examine existent cogon grass infestations during different seasons for suspicious damage and/or mortality that may be caused by arthropods and/or pathogens. Please send any potential specimens plants and or insects to Jim Meeker, Forest Entomologist, FDACS Division of Forestry, 1911 SW 134th Street, Gainesville, FL. Please include a note with the collector's name, collection date, location, and method of collection with each specimen. Reach Jim at (352) 372-3505, or email: fhealth@doacs.state.fl.us for more information on this project.