

## XenoNET

Let's hear about your favorite exotic websites!  
E-mail the locations of cool sites (preferably sites that focus on exotic *plants*) to amy.ferriter@sfwmd.gov. Include a brief description of the site in your message.

### Florida EPPC

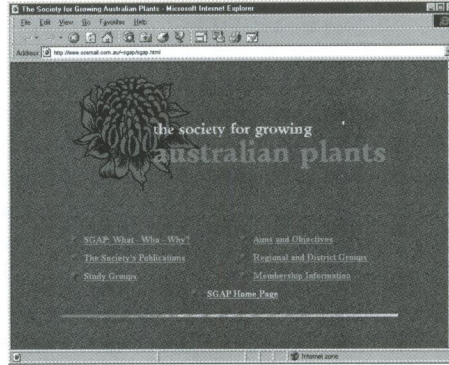
[www.fleppc.org](http://www.fleppc.org)

Okay...so maybe this is a little self-promoting, but it is a great site! It includes information about EPPC and the EPPC Most Invasive Species List, newsletters, membership and conference info, and a guide to other "exotic" sites - like TennEPPC ([www.webriver.com/tn-eppc](http://www.webriver.com/tn-eppc)) and CalEPPC ([www.igc.apc.org/eppc](http://www.igc.apc.org/eppc)). FLEPPC's site also has a list of links for most of EPPC's Category I plants. *Kudos to Tony Pernas for creating and maintaining Florida EPPC's site!*

### University of Hawaii Department of Botany - Hawaiian Alien Plant Studies

[www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/cw\\_smith/aliens.htm](http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/cw_smith/aliens.htm)

Check out Hawaii's list of invasive exotic plants. Photos



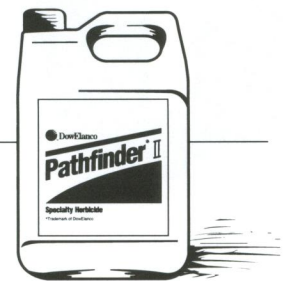
and descriptions available for most listed plants. See which exotic pest plants Florida and Hawaii have in common.

### Society for Growing Australian Plants

[www.ozemail.com.au/~sgap/sgap.html](http://www.ozemail.com.au/~sgap/sgap.html)

Despite its ominous name, this site offers useful information about many of our (least) favorite Australian plants. The quarterly magazine - "Australian Plants Online" provides information about Australian plants in their native range. A "Q/A" section allows readers to ask questions about specific plants. Want healthier carrotwood? Probably not...but Brian Walters (the site creator) has included information about Australian plants that have escaped in Florida (and elsewhere) - and routinely warns gardeners that some Australian plants should probably stay in Australia.

# Easy Control of Upland Exotics



#### Pathfinder\* II Herbicide

- Ready-to-Use
- Non-Petroleum Diluent
- Broad-Spectrum Control
- Applications: Basal and Cut Surface

#### Exotic Species Controlled

- Brazilian Pepper
- Australian Pine
- Chinese Tallow
- Air Potato
- Cat Claw Mimosa
- And many more . . .

For any questions on Pathfinder II, contact your local DowElanco representative.

\*Trademark of DowElanco. Always read and follow label directions.



# Letter to the Editor

The end of Brazilian pepper could mean the end of the fulvous hairstreak butterfly in Florida, but don't bet on it....

I just got my summer copy of the EPPC newsletter and read the article about *Schinus terebinthifolius* and observed that a natural control was being looked into for this species. There is a hairstreak butterfly that uses this tree for a larval food plant. It is the Fulvous Hairstreak, *Electrostrymon angelia pseudofea*.

This butterfly is listed in Marc Minno's and Thomas Emmel's book about butterflies of the Florida Keys and has been verified by Steve Lenberger of Collier County and Roger Hammer of Dade County, both noted butterfly experts in south Florida.

-Bill Harms

According to Marc Minno, the fulvous hairstreak was only rather recently discovered in Florida and probably became established here sometime in the early 1970s. If its only larval foodplant is an exotic species (Brazilian pepper), then the butterfly itself should be considered an exotic species in Florida, at least as a breeding component of our fauna. Some butterflies (and moths) are known only from North America as strays that move northward out of their breeding range. As strays, or waifs, they are not considered to be native since they are not permanent residents.

At least two other butterflies fall into the same predicament as the fulvous hairstreak. These are the light-banded hairstreak, *Tmolus azia* which, in Florida, feeds solely on the invasive exotic leadtree, *Leucaena leucocephala*, and the malachite, *Siproeta stelenes*, which feeds on the exotic green shrimp-plant, *Blechnum brownei*. Without these exotic, naturalized larval foodplants in our flora, these butterflies would obviously have no hope of establishing breeding populations here.

While I do not anticipate ever seeing the day when Brazilian pepper is entirely wiped out of Florida, should that day ever come, the fulvous hairstreak will disappear along with it, unless it can switch over to sumac, poisonivy, poisonwood, or some other member of the Anacardiaceae. *Life is cruel!*

-Roger Hammer, Florida EPPC Board of Directors

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## Questionables

Ever wonder why cypress trees have knees? No? Well, there must be something you've been dying to know.... In this regular feature, "Questionables," readers are encouraged to ask and answer questions relating to exotic plants and plant biology.

Can you answer these?

- Q: Which of Florida's exotic species has the longest leaf? And the shortest mature leaf?  
Q: Botanists often argue whether a plant is native or naturalized. What makes a plant "exotic?"

Questions and answers should be concise, although conceptual discussions are welcome. Questions should be limited to inquiries about exotic pest plants and plant biology. We reserve the right to edit items for clarity. **The writers of all answers that are published will receive a Florida EPPC T-shirt or hat.**

Send answers and/or new questions to "Questionables," 3301 Gun Club Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33416 or e-mail to: amy.ferriter@sfwmd.gov (reference "Questionables" in the subject field). Please include a daytime telephone number in all correspondence.

## Dr. Bill, Dr. Bill!

*"Everglades National Park, and places like it, exist because we dimly realize that we are yet too close to real frontiers and all of our beginnings to thrive indefinitely in a world of asphalt and concrete. Places of refuge from the hurly-burly still are needed, places where one may escape, if only briefly, all sight and sound of fellow humans."*

-William Robertson Jr. in "Everglades: The Park Story" (1988)

Last October, the Florida EPPC Board of Directors spent a few days at Ft. Jefferson, Dry Tortugas. Fond memories of that trip will always include botanizing nearby keys and waiting for the green flash with "Dr. Bill." William Robertson Jr. will retire from Everglades National Park in December after 46 years of service. An unsung hero of the Everglades, Dr. Bill was a pioneer in everything from using fire as a conservation tool in the Park's pine rocklands to studying sooty tern migration patterns in the Dry Tortugas. You name it, he's done it.

Did we ever see that mystical green flash? No, and we probably never will... but as Dr. Bill says, it's still a pretty good excuse to drink a cold beer and watch the sunset over Loggerhead Key. Cheers Dr. Bill!