Cogongrass look a-likes and other invasive plant updates

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 Leaves
- Yellowish green
- 0.5-1 inch wide, serrated edge
- No obvious stem
- Dense winter thatch

 Flowers
- 2-8 inches, bright white
- Wind-dispersed seed
- Spring (March-June)

 Rhizomes
- Very sharp points
- Segmented with papery scales

 Form
- Often in circular patches
- Dense growth (not a bunch grass)
- 1-5 feet tall
Yellow Indiangrass blooms in the fall
Distinctive ligule
yellow Indiangrass
silver beardgrass

(Bothriochloa laguroides)

UGA photos: www.invasive.org or www.forestryimages.org
silver beardgrass  cogongrass
silver beardgrass

cogongrass
Johnson grass
(*Sorghum halepense*)

Vasey grass
(*Paspalum urvillei*)
beaked panicgrass
*(Panicum anceps)*

switchgrass
*(Panicum virgatum)*
broomsedge
(Andropogon virginicus)

slender woodoats
(Chasmanthium laxum)
Field Guide to the Identification of Cogongrass

With comparisons to other commonly found grass species in the Southeast

USDA Forest Service
University of Georgia
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1349/
tropical soda apple
(Solanum viarum)

Federal/state eradication program is no longer funded
tropical soda apple leaves

- broad, shallowly lobed
- densely pubescent, sticky (both sides)
- large prickles on stem and major leaf veins
• Tropical soda apple flowers are white and the petals curve backwards (recurved)
• Fruit (2-3.5 cm) occur in the leaf axils
• Mottled white and green when immature, turning yellow when mature
• The calyx does not cover much of the fruit
potential TSA look alikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Order</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>oriental mustard</td>
<td><em>Sisymbrium orientale</em> L.</td>
<td>Brassicaceae</td>
<td>Capparales</td>
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<tr>
<td>American black nightshade</td>
<td><em>Solanum americanum</em> P. Mill.</td>
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<td>heartleaf horseradish</td>
<td><em>Solanum cardiophyllum</em> Lindl.</td>
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<td>horseradish</td>
<td><em>Solanum carolinense</em> L.</td>
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<td>robust horseradish</td>
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<td>silverleaf nightshade</td>
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<td><em>Solanum nigrum</em> L.</td>
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<td>hairy nightshade</td>
<td><em>Solanum physalifolium</em> Rusby</td>
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<td>currant tomato</td>
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<td>common coleus</td>
<td><em>Solenostemon scutellarioides</em> (L.) Codd</td>
<td>Lamiaceae</td>
<td>Lamiales</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

http://www.invasive.org/species/weeds.cfm
horsenettle
(Solanum carolinense)

- Horsenettle leaves are generally smaller and more narrow, but can be as large as TSA
- Leaves densely pubescent
- Prickles on stems and major leaf veins
- Potato odor when crushed
Horsenettle flower is star-shaped, petals fused, white to lavender
- Fruit smaller (1-1.5 cm)
- Not clustered as tightly
- Calyx covers a bit more of the fruit
robust horsenettle, western horsenettle
(S. dimidiatum)

Leaves similar to TSA, but flowers star-shaped and lavender to purple and up to 5 cm wide
robust horsenettle, western horsenettle

mature fruit 1.5-3 cm
red soda apple, cockroach berry
(Solanum capsicoides)

- Flowers similar to TSA
- Fruit to 5 cm, red at maturity (highly toxic)
- Scattered pubescence on leaves
- Only reported in south Alabama
tread softly, sprurge nettle (*Cnidosculus urens*)
TSA control in pastures

- Surmount
- GrazonNext
- Grazon P + D

- 2 pt/acre
Chinese tallow tree, popcorn tree
(Triadica sebifera)
Chinese tallowtree, popcorn tree

596,238 Forested Acres Occupied

Has increased >500% in Louisiana

~ 2000 acre increase in AL since 2008

http://www.invasive.org/fiamaps/
Tallowtree control in pastures

• Remedy in diesel or an oil carrier (20%/80%) as a basal bark treatment is the standard Individual plant treatment but it will have some resprouting for sure.

• Remedy as a foliar broadcast treatment (1 qt/A) stinks. Spot spray with a 2% solution is decent.

• Grazon P+D at 1 gallon/Acre in pastures where you can broadcast across the top, applied in late summer is best but spring after full leaf out is ok too. Super expensive! Normal use rate is 2 pt/A.

• Better option is GrazonNext at 2-2.6 pt/A when you can broadcast spray across the top. Should give 70-80% control. Expect less control when mowing has been going on for several years.

- Stephen Enloe
groundsel tree, eastern baccharis, salt bush
(Baccharis halimifolia)

- Native
- Range appears to be expanding
• There is nothing great for eastern baccharis control.
  - Jimmie Cobb, Dow

• One quart Rodeo, 1-2 oz Escort + 5 oz Entrée or TA35 surfactant in 10 GPA by air in Sept-Oct is fair to good, knocking it back for awhile.

• 4% vol/vol Garlon 4 with 0.5% NIS applied as directed spray or broadcast application in late spring/early summer

• 4 oz ai aminocyclopyrachlor/acre with surfactant
  - Andy Ezell, MS State
Questions?