

# Citrus News

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## Citrus Weed Spotlight

### Brazil pusley

*Richardia brasiliensis*

By Stephen H. Futch, David W. Hall and Brent Sellers

**LIFE CYCLE:** Perennial

**HEIGHT:** Usually prostrate, low-growing, to a height of less than 1 foot

**LEAVES:** Opposite, elliptic to ovate, pointed to rounded, covered with fine hairs on both surfaces; up to 2.5 inches long and 1 inch wide



**STEM:** Multi-branched, hairy, from a thickened, elongated, knotty, woody rootstock; rarely roots along the prostrate stems

**FLOWER:** Small, bright white, tubular; in clusters of a few to 20 flowers at the end of branches; flowers with six spreading, pointed lobes

**FRUIT:** Covered with short, stiff hairs; separates into three nutlets

**SEEDS:** Parts of the flower remain attached to top; outer surface of nutlets covered with short stiff bristles; inner surface grooved

**PROPAGATED BY:** Seeds

**COMMENTS:** Distinguished from Florida pusley most easily by the thickened rootstock; found throughout Florida, west to Texas and Mexico and north to Virginia; widespread in the tropics of the world; native to South America

**CONTROL:** Somewhat difficult to control with glyphosate alone when the plants are mature and well established. Application of glyphosate plus carfentrazone, saflufenacil or 2,4-D will increase post-emergence control. Diuron, indaziflam or simazine are effective in controlling emerging seedlings. 🍷

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