

# Citrus Weed Spotlight

## Scarlet morning-glory

*Ipomoea hederifolia* (*Ipomoea coccinea* var. *hederifolia*)

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

**LIFE CYCLE:** Annual twining vine

**HEIGHT:** Climbing, 3 to 10 feet long or high

**LEAVES:** Alternate, usually three-lobed, but sometimes five- to seven-lobed, 1 to 4 inches long, smooth

**STEM:** Herbaceous, smooth, thin, usually twines

**FLOWERS:** Solitary or clustered, borne on long, hairy stalks; sepals are one-eighth-inch long; tips are one-eighth-inch long, tail-like, long-tapering; flowers are a dark, solid scarlet red; petals are fused to form a narrow, trumpet-shaped tube, 1 to 1¾ inches long, flared at mouth; stamens and pistil extend beyond flower tube; may close in late morning; blooms summer through fall

**FRUIT:** Round capsule, one-third-inch wide, stalked

**PROPAGATED BY:** Seeds; seeds are wedge-shaped, one-eighth-inch long, black to dark brown, finely hairy

**COMMENTS:** Climbs through vegetation, into tree canopies or spreads along the ground; can shade out medium-sized trees, shrubs and other vegetation; scattered and native throughout Florida, north into southern Georgia and west to New Mexico; also found in the West Indies as well as Central and South America; cultivated as an ornamental

**CONTROL:** Control with glyphosate is enhanced when applied in combination with either Treevix (saflufenacil) or Aim (carfentrazone), if adequate coverage is achieved when plants are growing on the ground. When applying either Treevix or Aim, be sure to follow label recommendations on the addition of surfactant and ammonium sulfate. We currently lack sufficient data to make a full recommendation on pre-emergence herbicide control. It is assumed that standard pre-emergence herbicides like diuron and simazine should provide some suppression of emerging seedlings. 🌱

*Stephen H. Futch is a University of Florida multi-county Extension agent at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred; David W. Hall is a retired botanist with the University of Florida departments of botany and natural sciences in Gainesville; Brent Sellers is a University of Florida associate professor at the Range Cattle Research and Education Center in Ona.*



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