



Old World Climbing Fern

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*(Lygodium microphyllum)*

## Instant ID

- Fern with branching leaves on climbing vines reaching more than 100 feet long
- Leaflets somewhat heart-shaped, with several leaflets on each 2-5 inch long leaf
- Reproductive spores grow on leaflet edges

## Native Niches

- Native to Asia and Australia
- Now found throughout Central and South Florida
- Prefers moist areas, but will also live in drier areas





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## Plant Particulars

- Capable of resprouting from a single leaf
- Vines rapidly smother native vegetation and easily spread fire
- Closely related to the Japanese climbing fern, another invasive exotic plant

## Population Prevention

- Considered an invasive exotic species
- Has infested over 16 Florida State Parks
- Florida State Parks has treated an area the size of seven football fields to remove this invasive exotic plant

