

Web Sites You May Want to Visit

To learn more about invasive plants and what various organizations are doing about them, visit the following sites on the internet.

Agricultural Research Service
www.ars.usda.gov/

Center for Exotic and Invasive Plants
plants.ifas.ufl.edu

Federal Noxious Weed Program
www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/weeds

Florida Department of Agriculture,
Department of Plant Industry
www.doacs.state.fl.us/~pi/index.html

Florida Department of Environmental Protection,
Bureau of Invasive Plant Management
www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/invaspec/

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council
www.fleppc.org

Invasive Plant Research Laboratory
www.weedbiocontrol.org/

The National Agricultural Library's Invasive
Species website
www.invasivespecies.gov

National Noxious Weed Program
<http://dogwood.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/weeds>

South Florida Water Management District
www.sfwmd.gov

Southwest Florida Water Management District
www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/

TAME Melaleuca Project
<http://tame.ifas.ufl.edu>

The Nature Conservancy
<http://nature.org/>



Picture of the Month

Cataclysta camptonozale, now known as
Austromusotima camptonozale.

Photo by Christine Bennet

Biological Control Agent for Lygodium Now Ready for Release

On August 17, 2004, the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued a permit for the release of *Cataclysta camptonozale* in Florida. This moth, now known as *Austromusotima camptonozale*, is the first biological control agent slated for release against the Old World climbing fern, *Lygodium microphyllum*. An official release event will be held sometime in September.

Old World climbing fern is an invasive weed in south Florida where it threatens many wetland communities in the Everglades ecosystem. The fern is native to wet areas in the Old World tropics and subtropics from western Africa to eastern and southern Africa, and eastern India across southeast Asia to northern Australia and the Pacific to Tahiti. The fern entered Florida as a commercial ornamental plant and was first documented as having become naturalized in 1965. However its explosive growth and rapid spread are relatively recent and it is now causing concern because of its dominance of native vegetation in many communities.