

...findings with everyone at the next Sam... meeting.

Cape-ivy Research: Stems with nodes and root fragments >2mm have a greater than 50% resprout rate

Topic: Cape-ivy Fragment Resprout Research Project

Background

Cape-ivy is a non-native species in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) that is highly invasive. Cape-ivy seeds in California are considered sterile; the predominant method of spread is vegetative. Cape-ivy re-grows from cut stem fragments and little research exists on which parts of the ivy resprout. It is known that Cape-ivy stem fragments with one or two nodes resprout, however, for other parts such as leaves or roots, it is not known. Through this study we hope to find out more accurately which parts of Cape-ivy resprout, and how to improve Cape-ivy removal efforts.

The study was conducted at Ft. Cronkhite in Rodeo Valley of GGNRA. Cape-ivy fragments were collected from current Cape-ivy project sites and were divided in two groups: one consists of leaf fragments, stem fragments without nodes, and root fragments. The second group consists of stem fragments with nodes. The first group served as the experiment and the second as the control because it is known that stem fragments with nodes resprout. Twenty Cape-ivy fragments per category were sown in each of 3 18"x18" flats, containing 100% Sunshine Mix and kept in a nursery greenhouse to ensure optimal resprouting of fragments. Flats were watered weekly. Each fragment planted had a unique identification number placed next to it. Date of resprout and the size of the plant were recorded at set intervals.

Plants that did not have resprouts: leaves with petioles and root fragments 0-2mm. (Figure 2). Stems without nodes had only one resprout. In all categories, stems with nodes, root fragment 2-4mm and root fragments 4-6mm, all had greater than fifty percent resprout rate (Fig