

2013 Management Options for Common Weeds Infesting Home Lawns



Virginia buttonweed — mat forming summer perennial broadleaf. Leaves are opposite and flowers are white with 4 lobes. Reproduces by heavy seed production and vegetatively by stem fragments. No single application provides control. Multiple applications are necessary starting in early spring.

Control options: Metsulfuron , Weed Free Zone, 2,4-D; spot treatments of glyphosate; hand remove large mats and dispose.



Torpedograss — creeping perennial grass with sharply pointed white rhizomes. Most difficult grass to manage in southern turfgrass. Mainly a problem in south Louisiana. Reproduces from stem fragments and rhizomes. No selective control in St. Augustinegrass.

Control options: Quinclorac (bermudagrass, zoysiagrass) multiple apps; multiple applications of sethoxydim will temporarily suppress in centipede; glyphosate spot treatments (centipede, St. Aug)



Dallisgrass — course textured, clumping perennial with short rhizomes - membranous ligule. Very competitive in drought stressed turfgrass.

Control options: Sethoxydim - repeated applications (centipede); spot treatments of glyphosate (bermudagrass, St. Aug)



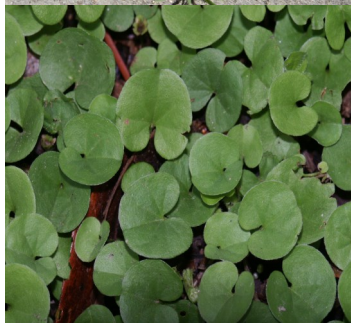
Dollarweed — creeping perennial broadleaf weed. Petiole in the center of leaf, “umbrella like”. Prefers moist soil and thin turfgrass.

Control options: Repeated applications of Weed Free Zone, Weed B Gon, Atrazine, weed & feed with atrazine. Improved control by tank-mixing atrazine + Weed Free Zone or Weed B Gon (St. Aug, centipede, zoysia) - do not apply atrazine to actively growing bermudagrass.



Common bermudagrass— creeping mat-forming perennial grass that produces stolons and rhizomes. Reproduces vegetatively and by seeds. Very invasive grass that out-competes most turfgrass species. Weed infests St. Augustinegrass lawns mowed too short. Sometimes called “wire grass”.

Control options: Repeated applications of sethoxydim (centipede); Repeated applications of Acclaim (zoysia); spot treatments of glyphosate (St. Aug); repeated applications by a licensed applicator of Prograss + atrazine provides suppression (St. Aug). Raise mowing height to 3” (St. Aug).



Dichondra (ponyfoot) - creeping prostrate perennial that roots at the nodes. Leaves resemble a pony's foot. Grows in thin poorly managed turf.

Control options: Weed Free Zone, Weed B Gon, and other three-way mixtures are very effective (for all southern turfgrass) . Observe heat precautions with above herbicides; Atrazine (St. Aug, zoysia and centipede). Improve turf cultural practices such as proper fertility and correct mowing heights.



purple nutsedge (3)

yellow nutsedge (2)

green kyllinga

Purple and yellow nutsedge, green kyllinga — rapidly spreading grass-like perennial weeds. Purple nutsedge has deep green dagger shaped leaves and underground tubers connected by chains. Yellow nutsedge has pale green sharply tapered leaves and underground tubers that do not form chains. Green kyllinga forms weak rhizomes.

Control options: purple and yellow nutsedge - Halosulfuron (Sedgehammer and others) - safe for all southern turf. Yellow nutsedge and green kyllinga: Basagran (all southern turf).



crabgrass (3)

goosegrass (2)

Crabgrass and goosegrass — summer annual grasses infesting turfgrass statewide. Crabgrass germinates as early as mid-February in south Louisiana. Goosegrass often infests in compacted soils. Both species have membranous ligules. Goosegrass is more difficult to control.

Control options: **preemergence herbicides in late winter (February):** Hi-Yield with Dimension, Green Light Crabgrass Preventer, Scotts Halts (all southern turf). **Postemergence:** Image Crabgrass Killer (bermudagrass, and zoysiagrass); sethoxydim (centipedegrass); spot treat with glyphosate (St. Augustinegrass)



Bahiagrass — aggressive mat forming perennial grass with shallow purple tinted rhizomes. Usually has a V-shaped seed head. Can be difficult to mow unless rotary blade is sharp. Very competitive during drought.

Control options: metsulfuron (St. Augustinegrass, centipede, bermudagrass, zoysiagrass), repeated sethoxydim (centipedegrass),



wild geranium

sow thistle

lawn burweed

dandelion

white clover

Indian mock strawberry

Winter broadleaves — begin germinating in late-September and are very common in thin turfgrass. Winter weeds flower in late winter and early spring are usually very heavy seed producers.

Control options: **preemergence:** late-September application of Portrait (all southern turf). **Postemergence from November to March:** atrazine (St. Augustinegrass, centipede, zoysiagrass, dormant bermuda), Weed B Gon, Weed Free Zone, Trimec, and other three-way herbicides (all southern turf). **Late postemergence:** April application of Weed & Feed (St. Augustinegrass, centipedegrass).