

# WEED IDENTIFICATION GUIDE



Bayer Environmental Science

## Carpetgrass

*Axonopus affinis* (Carpetgrass) is a mat-forming perennial that can be identified by its smooth leaf blades with rounded tips. Typically, a few long hairs are present on the leaf sheath at the base of the blade. Often found coexisting in centipede lawns. Carpetgrass is found in the Coastal Plain of the Gulf states, north to North Carolina and west to Arkansas and Oklahoma.



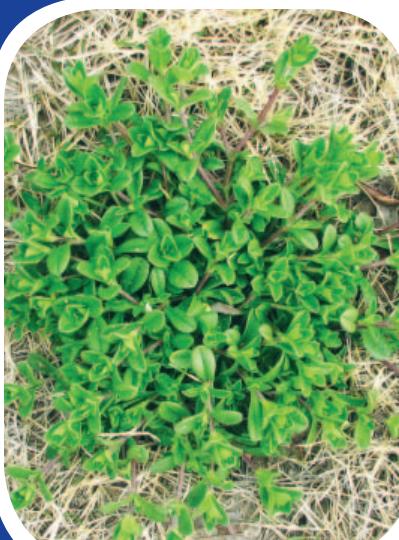
## American Burnweed

*Erechtites hieracifolia* (American Burnweed or Fireweed) is a robust summer annual identified by its spiraling, alternating elliptic to lance-shaped leaves with narrow, sharp-pointed bases on the lower part of the stem and clasping based on the upper. American Burnweed flowers late-spring through fall and can be found throughout most of Eastern, Central and Southern United States.



## Common Chickweed

*Stellaria media* (Common Chickweed) is a mat-forming winter annual or short-lived perennial in temperate regions and is identified by alternating, shiny leaves - egg or oval, to broadly elliptic, in shape. Upper leaves are without petiole, while the lower leaves have sparsely hairy long petiole. Found throughout North America, with the exception of the Rocky Mountains.



## Mouse-ear Chickweed

*Cerastium vulgatum* (Mouse-ear Chickweed) is a winter perennial with alternating leaves that are oblong and covered with hair. Prostrate overall, Mouse-ear Chickweed will have several upright stems. The weed can further be identified by the white flowers containing five petals that are notched at the ends. Mouse-ear Chickweed can be found throughout the United States.

## Clumpy Rye

*Lolium perenne* (Perennial ryegrass) or *Lolium multiflorum* (Annual ryegrass) is a winter annual or perennial that is often a weed leftover from seeding of these grasses in the fall. These plants can become clumpy and unsightly in appearance. Perennial ryegrass is a low-growing, tufted, hairless grass, lacking stolons or rhizomes. Leaves are dark green, smooth and glossy on the lower surface, with untoothed parallel sides and prominent parallel veins on the upper surface.



## Annual Lespedeza

*Kummerowia striata* (Common or Annual Lespedeza) is a freely-branched summer annual legume with leaves that alternate with three egg-shaped to oblong, smooth leaflets with a short spur at the tip of each. Leaflets also have prominent midveins with parallel veins. Common Lespedeza is common in the Southern United States, north to Pennsylvania and west to Texas, Kansas and Missouri.



## Dandelion

*Taraxacum officinale* (Dandelion) is a stemless perennial. With its deep taproots, the Dandelion is identified by the single yellow flower at the end of each long, hollow stalk. When the weed matures, the yellow flower matures into white, puff balls containing seeds. Dandelion can be found throughout the continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii.



## Plantain, Bracted

*Plantago aristata* (Bracted Plantain) is a winter annual with basal leaves that grow from a taproot. Bracted Plantain can be identified by its dark green, soft, hairy to smooth, long linear – grass-like – leaves. Bracted Plantain can be found in most southern states, north to Michigan, west to Texas, California, the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii.

## Crabgrass, Large

*Digitaria sanguinalis* L. (Large Crabgrass) is a summer annual identified by leaf blades that are longer than two inches and are usually hairy and rolled in the bud. Large Crabgrass germinates in early spring and is found throughout the United States with the exception of Florida.



## Asiatic Hawksbeard

*Youngia japonica* (Asiatic Hawksbeard) is a warm season annual that can be identified by the flowering stalks that branch from the uppermost part of the plant. Flowers are yellow to orange-yellow with five tiny teeth at the end of the outermost petals. Asiatic Hawksbeard can be found in Pennsylvania, south through Florida and west into Louisiana.



## Corn Speedwell

*Veronica arvensis* L. (Corn Speedwell) is a low-growing winter annual with two levels of leaves. The lower leaves are near rounded with toothed margins while the upper leaves are smaller in size and more linear in shape. Corn Speedwell can be found throughout the United States, with the exclusion of the Rocky Mountain region.



## Plantain, Broadleaf

*Plantago major* (Broadleaf Plantain) is a perennial herb that can be identified by its distinctive basal rosette of leaves and fibrous root system. Broadleaf Plantain leaves are egg-shaped, with parallel main veins and can be found throughout the United States with the exception of Northeastern United States.

## Dallisgrass

*Paspalum dilatatum* (Dallisgrass) also known as Caterpillar grass, Dallisgrass is a warm-season clump perennial with tall, pointed, membranous ligule. Leaves are rolled in the bud, flat and wide, with fine hairs on the lower section of the leaf. Dallisgrass can be found throughout the Southern United States from the mid-Atlantic west to Tennessee.



## Black Medic

*Medicago lupulina* L. (Black Medic) is a taprooted summer annual or, less commonly, a winter annual or biennial. Black Medic is dark green in appearance, with leaves composed of three leaflets on long petioles. Black Medic can be found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii – especially in lesser or unmaintained turf.



## Creeping Beggarweed

*Desmodium canum* (Creeping Beggarweed) is a perennial which grows from a large taproot with long, extensively branched hairy runners rooting at nodes. Leaves maintain a trifoliate appearance that vary in size with an elliptic shape including a pointed tip. Creeping Beggarweed is found throughout Florida and in southern Texas.



## Prostrate Knotweed

*Polygonum aviculare* (Prostrate Knotweed) is a mat-forming, summer annual identifiable by its blue-green colored, alternating leaves. Leaves are smooth, oblong to linear in appearance and joined to the stem by a sheathing membrane. The annual flowers from late spring until frost and is found throughout the United States.

## Doveweed

*Murdannia nudiflora* (Doveweed) is a summer annual identified by its fleshy, narrow lance-shaped leaves as well as its stems that root at nodes. Doveweed is also identified by short leaf sheaths with short hairs on the upper margins. Doveweed usually germinates later in the growing season than other summer annuals and can be found from Virginia, into Georgia, through Florida and west into Texas.



## Carolina False Dandelion

*Pyrhropappus carolinianus* (Carolina False Dandelion) is a winter annual or biennial with pale-green erect, branched flowering stems with bright yellow flowers at the ends. Leaves are sharply pointed, with complete or deeply lobed margins. Carolina False Dandelion can be found in the Southern United States, west to Texas, into Kansas and as far north as Pennsylvania and Delaware.



## Dichondra

*Dichondra carolinensis* (Dichondra) is a creeping, prostrate perennial that roots at the nodes. Dichondra leaves are light pale green and are sparsely hairy. Leaves are nearly round to kidney-shaped. Dichondra occurs in moist turf and woods and can be found from Virginia to Texas.



## Purple Cudweed

*Gnaphalium purpureum* L. (Purple Cudweed) can be found in cooler climates as an upright summer or winter annual, or as a biennial in warmer climates. Purple Cudweed develops from a basal rosette of leaves and the upper surface of the leaves is covered with woolly white hairs.

## Goosegrass

*Eleusine indica* (Goosegrass) is a summer annual with compressed, often flattened, stems radiating outward from a center point that is white/gray in color. Leaves are smooth, folded in the bud, occasionally with hair near the base. Additionally, there are visible, short-toothed membranous ligule at the base of the leaf blade, divided at the center. Goosegrass can be found throughout temperate and warm regions of the United States.



## Carolina Geranium

*Geranium carolinianum* L. (Carolina Geranium) is a semi-erect eight to 28 inch tall winter annual or biennial. Carolina Geranium can be identified by the greenish-pink to red, densely hairy stems as well as its, round to oval, hairy leaves, with blunt-toothed margins. Carolina Geranium can be found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii.



## Dogfennel

*Eupatorium capillifolium* (Dogfennel) is a tall-growing, short-lived perennial which can be identified by its deeply dissected leaves that appear as fine hair-like linear segments. Feathery in appearance, lower leaves are opposite while upper leaves alternate. Dogfennel is found in Massachusetts and New Jersey, south to Florida and west to Texas and Arkansas.



## Purslane, Common

*Portulaca oleracea* (Common Purslane) is a prostrate, mat-forming summer annual. Leaves alternate or are positioned nearly opposite, with a slightly spoon or wedge-shaped shape. Leaves are rounded at the tip, narrowed at the base. Common Purslane is found throughout the United States, but is more common in the Northwest, while less common in the Pacific Northwest.

## Kyllinga, Green

*Kyllinga brevifolia* (Green Kyllinga) is a mat-forming perennial sedge with dark green leaves and stems. Green Kyllinga grows up to six inches in height. Its seedhead is initially pale-green in color, turning brown at maturity. The seedhead usually has three short leaves just below. Green Kyllinga can be found from Georgia into south Florida and west to Texas and California.



## Cat's-ear Dandelion

*Hypochoeris radicata* (Cat's-ear Dandelion) is a perennial weed with multiple yellow upright flowers that resemble Dandelions. Cat's-ear Dandelions can be differentiated by the toothed and slightly pointed edges of the leaves. Cat's-ear Dandelions can be found along the eastern seaboard from New Jersey to Florida, and west to Mississippi.



## Facelis

*Facelis retusa* (Facelis or Annual Trampweed) is a winter annual with freely branched stems at the base. Facelis leaves are narrow in shape with a dull green upper surface and a lower surface covered with white tufts of long hairs. Facelis can be found in Tennessee and North Carolina, and south into north Florida and west to Texas and Oklahoma.



## Spurge, Spotted

*Chamaesyce maculata* (Spotted Spurge), also known as Prostrate Spurge, this is a summer annual with freely branched prostrate, mat-forming stems from a central taproot. Stems, when broken, have a "milky" sap. Spotted Spurge tends to germinate in the spring and can be found along the Eastern United States as well as west to North Dakota and Texas, and into California and Oregon.

## Poa annua

*Poa annua* (Annual Bluegrass) is a small clumped, yellow-green winter annual. Leaf blades are smooth on both surfaces with keeled or boat-shaped tips while the sheath is smooth, compressed and keeled. *Poa annua* can be found in excessively wet, compacted soils throughout much of the United States.



## Chamberbitter

*Phyllanthus urinaria* L. (Chamberbitter) is a warm-season annual broadleaf weed that is also known as gripeweed and little mimosia. Chamberbitter is identifiable by its two rows of leaves arranged oppositely on branchlets. The leaves are thin, with smooth margins. Chamberbitter is found from Texas to Florida, as well as in the tropics.



## Florida Betony

*Stachys floridana* (Florida Betony) is a smooth or hairy, freely branched upright perennial herb. Leaves are arranged oppositely along the stem and are lance shaped with rounded margins. Florida Betony branches from slender underground stems with segmented tubers. Native to Florida, Florida Betony can now be found from Virginia to Texas.



## Shiny Cudweed

*Gnaphalium americanum* (Shiny Cudweed) is an erect summer or winter annual or biennial with a prominent rosette of basal leaves. Leaves are a bright, shiny green on the upper surface, and densely white hair beneath. It can be found in Southern Florida throughout the southeast, north to New York, west to Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Kansas and Texas – as well as in Oregon.

## Rescuegrass

*Bromus catharticus* (Rescuegrass) is a cool-season perennial bunchgrass. Rescuegrass grows between two to four feet in height and can be further identified by its flat leaf blades of up to a foot in length. Rescuegrass can be found in the Southern United States, north to Oklahoma and west to New Mexico and California.



## Clover, Rabbitfoot

*Trifolium arvense* (Rabbitfoot Clover) is a winter annual with densely hairy leaves and stems. Rabbitfoot Clover is identified by alternating leaves with three, narrow, oblong leaflets and smooth leaf margins with small teeth-like projections at the tip. Rabbitfoot Clover can be found throughout the Southeastern United States to the central peninsula of Florida, west to Louisiana and north to Missouri.



## Florida Pusley

*Richardia scabra* L. (Florida Pusley) is a summer annual with branched, densely hairy stems from a taproot. The alternating leaves are oval-shaped and slightly rough with hairy margins and can be identified by its white, tubular, clustered flowers at the end of its branches. Florida Pusley can be found in the Southeast, Northeast and Midwestern United States.



## Virginia Buttonweed

*Diodia virginiana* (Virginia Buttonweed) is a mat-forming spreading perennial herb. Leaves are elliptic to lance-shaped and are joined across the stem by a lightly hairy membrane. Leaves are dark green and shiny, with white tubular flowers at each leaf axil. The weed can be found in New Jersey, west to Illinois and Missouri and south into the Gulf Coast states.

## Thin Paspalum

*Paspalum setaceum* (Thin Paspalum), also called Bull Paspalum, is a warm-season perennial in the family Poaceae, found throughout much of the United States but primarily along the eastern corridor. Thin Paspalum can be identified by its flat, hairy to almost smooth, leaf blades. This weed produces short rhizomes and can form a clump.



## Clover, White

*Trifolium repens* L. (White Clover) is a low-growing perennial with creeping stems that root at the nodes. Identifiable by its compound leaves divided into three leaflets that may have a white band encircling the base of each leaflet. White Clover can be found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii.



## Lawn Burweed

*Soliva sessilis* (Lawn Burweed) is a low-growing, freely branched winter annual. Leaves alternate with sparse hair and are twice divided into narrow lobes. Lawn Burweed occurs in most turf and is generally found in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont regions of most southern states, as well as in North Carolina, south into Florida and west to Texas.



## Yellow Woodsorrel

*Oxalis stricta* (Yellow Woodsorrel) is a herbaceous perennial found in warmer climates and an annual in cooler areas. Yellow Woodsorrel is identified by its green to yellow-green, alternating leaves, divided into three partly-folded, lobes appearing heart-shaped. It can be found in most of the Eastern and Central United States.