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spring 2019 / www.ohiolawncare.org

OLCANNEWS

IT PAYS TO BE GREEN



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! **OLCA FIELD DAY**

OARDC, The Arden Shisler Center,
Wooster, OH

The Ohio Lawn Care Association will hold its 17th Annual Northeast Ohio Lawn Care Seminar on Thursday, June 13, 2019 at The Ohio State University/OARDC, The Arden Shisler Center in Wooster, OH.

OLCA invites those involved in lawn and landscape maintenance to attend. Registration will begin at 7:30 am. Continuing education sessions will begin at 8:15 am and station rotations to begin at 9:20 am.

A complete list of continuing education sessions and online registration is available at www.OhioLawnCare.org. If you have any questions, please contact OLCA at 800-510-5296.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT, Joel Smith, Greentech



I am not sure how to act as we actually seem to have a “normal” spring so far this year. I am used to having just put the snow equipment

away and getting on a roll when, you guessed it, SNOW! Let’s hope the weather continues this way as it makes life easier for everyone.

First, I want to thank Aaron Bucci for leading our Board as President last year. It is evident he cares about the lawn care industry and helping solve real world issues. I am grateful to be the new OLCA President this upcoming year and hope to continue where Aaron left off. I’ve been in the green industry my whole life, beginning as a kid sitting on a pillow in order to bush hog at the local driving range.

The mission of OLCA is to *“serve the lawn care industry by providing essential resources for its members”*. We hope to achieve this through our educational, hands-on field days, a new marketing seminar to help grow your business, giving back to those who served through the Grateful Embrace and keeping up on government relations and advocacy. We are also excited to be funding a research project being conducted by the Ohio State University to determine if a smaller particle size results in more uniform distribution, and therefore, improved control of crabgrass at a given rate of active ingredient. Please let us know if there is anything as a member you would like us to help with as we are always looking for new ways to serve you better.

Hopefully this easy spring weather will carry over to the next three seasons and we can all count on Mother Nature to do her part in keeping healthy, happy lawns. I will keep my fingers crossed!

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Mark Bennett, CAE, IOM



Now that spring is here, we hope your business is busy keeping lawns and grass across the state lush and green. As part of your summer activities, we invite you to mark your calendars and plan to attend OLCA’s two outdoor Field Days, in June and August respectively, where you will learn the latest in pest and turf research as well as the 26th Anniversary of the Grateful Embrace this fall.

This past February, OLCA held its first Lawn Care Marketing Seminar, presented by Real Green, aimed at helping lawn care operators better market their business to prospective clients and keep the customers they have. We are encouraged by the response we had to those who attended and are planning to hold a similar event in early 2020.

The first will be held on June 13 at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center at the Ohio State University Wooster campus. Online registration is open now and space is limited, so reserve your spot today. The second will be on August 7 at the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research & Education Facility at OSU in Columbus. These days are a great opportunity to learn the latest in industry research as well as help grow your business and enhance your company’s lawn care operations. Plus, you can earn pesticide recertification credit.

As a member of the Ohio Professional Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR), OLCA is on the front lines of the latest legislation which has been introduced in the Ohio General Assembly which has a direct effect on your daily business operations. We continue to lobby with OPARR for a business environment friendly to professional applicators. I have been fortunate to be part of OPARR’s strategic planning group focused on growing OPARR to strengthen its membership of trade associations and corporate support to advocate for professional applicators from across the state.

We recently received the annual update from CareWorks, OLCA’s third-party administrator for its workers compensation group and, once again, the savings to OLCA members in the group are significant. Did you know that OLCA members who are part of the Association’s Worker Compensation Group save an average of more than \$2,000 annually on their workers compensation premium? That’s earning more than \$15 back for every dollar you spend on your annual OLCA membership dues. Contact our office for additional information.

Be sure to mark your November 2 where OLCA members will help beautify the hallowed grounds at the Dayton National Veterans Cemetery in Dayton and the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman. This annual event, celebrating its 26th Anniversary this year, is Ohio’s lawn care industry way to give back by winterizing the grounds of the cemeteries with fertilizer. This is OLCA’s community outreach project and is reliant upon volunteers just like you to get the work done. Watch for upcoming details or sign up at one of our Field Days this summer.

As always, feel free to contact me at 800-510-5296 or email mark@bennett-management-llc.com with your questions or concerns.

17TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST OHIO LAWN CARE SEMINAR

Thursday, June 13, 2019 • The Ohio State University/OARDC

The Arden Shisler Center

Wooster, Ohio

Everyone involved in lawn and landscape maintenance is invited to this informative event. To allow for hands-on instruction and personal interaction, registration will be limited to the first 200 participants. The group will be divided into sub-groups that will spend 30 minutes at each station. The format allows for hands-on instruction followed by questions and answers. The seminar will feature presentations covering the following topics:

7:30 am – 8:00 am
Registration

8:00 am
Welcome
Value for Your OLCA Membership
Grateful Embrace
OLCA President Joel Smith

8:15 am – 9:15 am
Understanding Herbicide Modes of Action
Ken Hutto, Product Development Manager – Herbicides and Fungicides, FMC Specialty Solutions (ODA Category 8; 1.0 hr)

STATION ROTATIONS
9:20 am – 9:50 am; 9:55 am – 10:25 am;
10:30 am – 11:00 am; 11:00 am – 11:30 am

Applicator Technology (Station 1)
Zane Raudenbush, Asst. Professor & Coordinator, Turfgrass Management (ODA Category Core, 0.5 hr)

Herbicides and Phenology (Station 2)
Kyle Daniel, Department of Horticulture & Landscape, Purdue University (ODA Category 6c, 0.5 hr)

Weed ID for the Lawncare Professional (Station 3)
Dan Voltz, OSU/ATI (ODA Category 8, 0.5 hrs)

Supplier & Equipment Showcase (Station 4)
Vendors will provide highlights of what's new in the industry

11:30 am – 11:45 am
Lawn Care Technician Competition
You will receive a questionnaire comprised of questions from each Station. Those with the highest percentage of correct answers will receive a cash prize! Prizes are awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Prizes will be determined with by raffle.

11:45 am – 12:30 pm
LUNCH

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Diagnosis and Treatment of Abiotic Disorders of Ornamentals
Kyle Daniel, Department of Horticulture & Landscape, Purdue University (ODA Category 6a, 1.0 hr)

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Protecting Pollinator Health
Denise Ellsworth, OSU Entomology / Extension (ODA CORE, 1.0 hr)

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm
BREAK/COMPETITION RESULTS/ WINNERS ANNOUNCED

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm
Mosquito Control Modes of Action
Amy Raudenbush, Field Crop Entomology, OSU (ODA Category 10a, 1.0 hr)

Ohio Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicators License Testing
Noon – 4:00 pm
If you are planning to take the Pesticide Applicators Licensing Test, schedule with the ODA by calling 800-282-1955 or online at www.OhioAgriculture.gov. Select Regulatory Programs, then Schedule an Exam. You must bring a photo ID with you to the test. The test will be held in Laura B. Frick Room 110 at Shisler Center.



A GRATEFUL EMBRACE

On November 2, OLCA, OTF, ONLA and the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman, OH will partake in the annual community service of beautifying the hallowed grounds at the Dayton National Veterans Cemetery in Dayton, OH and Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman, OH. RSVP to attend by visiting the OLCA website at www.OhioLawnCare.org/ and registering online. If you have any questions, please contact OLCA at 800-510-5296.



GRATEFUL EMBRACE
November 2, 2019
Dayton National Cemetery, Dayton, Ohio
The Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery, Rittman, Ohio

We invite all lawn care and landscape professionals to join us on Saturday, November 2 at the Dayton National Cemetery in Dayton and/or Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery in Rittman for "A Grateful Embrace". Show your support to our soldiers and veterans by giving back to those who gave all. Please fill out the form below and email it to lori@bennett-management-llc.com by October 30.

Here is a brief summary of the day's events:

- Arrival and check in times for each event will be 7:45 am
- Donuts and coffee will be served and you will be assigned your area.
- We will have a short ceremony at 8:30 am at each venue capturing the spirit and humbleness of the event that includes guest speakers, Honor Guard and Benediction.
- Work commences at the conclusion of the ceremony
- Most of the materials (fertilizer) will be provided through the generous donations of our industry suppliers.

However, we are asking that those who can donate 5 bags of fertilizer to the cause.

- You'll need to bring spreaders, blowers and all the manpower you can muster to help us get 160 acres of turf fertilized on that day.
- Lunch is also provided!

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to honor those men, women and their families, both living and deceased, who provided the ultimate sacrifice that we might remain a free nation.

We promise that after participating in the Grateful Embrace, you will never be the same again – just ask anyone that has participated in this event!

NAME: _____ COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

LOCATION: ___ DAYTON ___ RITTMAN NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING: _____

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POSTEMERGENCE GRASSY WEED CONTROL STRATEGIES

Dave Gardner,
The Ohio State University

A year in Review – the disaster (for many) that was grassy weed control in 2018

2018 was a particularly difficult one for turfgrass managers who traditionally have problems with warm season weeds such as crabgrass (*Digitaria*). At the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Research and Education Center our crabgrass research area was completely overrun by crabgrass, regardless of product used or application timing that was tested. Many observed that preemergence herbicides that are traditionally very reliable did not provide control that we have seen historically. Additionally, postemergence herbicides were less effective last year because crabgrass continued to germinate later into the season and the new seedlings replaced any plants that were controlled. All too often, control would last for a couple of weeks before the grassy weeds filled back in.

Our grassy weed control issues of 2018 could be attributed to the weather patterns we observed. April was the coolest of the last 25 years in Columbus, with an average monthly temperature of 47.7 degrees. By comparison, this is cooler than the months of March 2012 and March 2016. Because of this unusually cool weather to start the season, cool season turfgrasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass, did not have favorable conditions in which to begin growing. On May 1 the high temperature in Columbus was 81 degrees. What then followed was the warmest May on record. The average temperature was 71.5 degrees, 9.1 degrees above normal. To put another way, the month of June has been cooler than what we observed in the month of May 2018 five times since the turn of the century.

In a typical year cool season turfgrass has the months of April and May to break from winter dormancy and begin growing. The denser the turf, the fewer problems we tend to have with annual weeds such as crabgrass because dense turf shades the soil so weed seeds are not as likely to germinate. Denser turf is also more competitive

with crabgrass seedlings. Crabgrass typically germinates in April but does not really begin growing aggressively until the second week of June. In 2018 we had less than ideal conditions for cool season turfgrass growth in April followed immediately by conditions that were more favorable to crabgrass and other warm season grasses. Additionally, precipitation for the year 2018 set an annual record in Columbus.

Because of the extended warm and wet conditions, preemergence herbicides that would normally provide near season long control likely began to break down before crabgrass stopped germinating in middle or even late July. This combined with the less than competitive cool season grasses at the start of May and an extended season favoring warm season grass germination and growth resulted in the crabgrass problems we saw in late summer.

Looking forward to 2019 – Pre- and Postemergence Grassy Weed Control Strategies

Hopefully you mapped out your problem crabgrass areas last fall and applied a quality preemergence herbicide this spring. Of the many preemergence herbicides, products that contain pendimethalin, prodiamine or dithiopyr continue to be the most often recommended due to their duration and efficacy.

Another option to perhaps consider is an application of a product that combines a preemergence herbicide and a postemergence herbicide, such as Cavalcade PQ. This product has both prodiamine for preemergence control and quinclorac for postemergence control. If this product is applied during the month of May, good control of any germinated crabgrass is achieved with the quinclorac and the prodiamine is applied late enough that there is a better chance of getting season long control. Similarly, sulfentrazone + prodiamine (Echelon) and dithiopyr also have early postemergence activity and therefore can also be applied into the first or second week of May (when there is usually 1-2 leaf crabgrass) and this later timing will increase the likelihood of season long control. I recognize that this timing does not fit well with many lawn care company business models.

continued on page 7

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However, just looking at the agronomics, the later application times have shown to be much more likely to provide season long control.

In addition to the use of preemergence herbicides, something that continues to get better for turfgrass managers are options for postemergence control of grassy weeds. That said, many of the herbicides for postemergence grassy weed control work particularly well on certain species and not as well as an alternative herbicide on

others. Thus the ability to identify the weedy grass you are trying to control is paramount. There are structures you can use on the plant to identify it, such as the ligule and auricle. For certain grasses these can be very reliable. For example, quackgrass has a large clasping auricle, orchardgrass has a large prominent ligule. Barnyardgrass has no ligule. For many grasses that lack large, obvious structures it can be much more complicated to try to identify them. But, if available, the seed head is the most reliable structure with which to identify a grassy weed (Figure 1).

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Figure 1. Field identification of common grassy weeds using the inflorescence (seed head).

The recommended active ingredients for best control are also listed. Unless noted, apply to actively growing weeds at maximum label rate and follow label as to the addition of a non-ionic surfactant.

SUMMER ANNUAL GRASSY WEEDS



Crabgrass – *Digitaria*
(½ rate topramezone + ½ rate quinclorac), quinclorac, mesotrione, fenoxaprop



Goosegrass – *Eleusine indica*
topramezone or fenoxaprop



Barnyardgrass – *Echinochloa crusgalli*
topramezone or fenoxaprop



Yellow Foxtail – *Setaria pumila*
topramezone or fenoxaprop

PERENNIAL GRASSY WEEDS



Quackgrass – *Elytrigia repens*
Non-selective



Orchardgrass – *Dactylis glomerata*
Non-selective



Nimblewill – *Muhlenbergia shreberi*
Glyphosate, topramezone or mesotrione



Field Paspalum – *Paspalum leave*
topramezone

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I often advise people that, if in doubt, try to find an area that's not visible to the client and let a few plants mature and produce a seed head so that you can verify its identity. The figure includes a picture of the seedhead of some of our most common grassy weeds as well as recommendations for postemergence herbicides to use.

Crabgrass produces a seed head with individual flowers on 3 or 4 branches that all attach to the same point. Crabgrass can be controlled postemergence with fenoxaprop, quinclorac, mesotrione or topramezone. Our research has found that a mix of ½ label rate of topramezone and ½ label rate of quinclorac is very effective. The issue of when to apply the herbicide for postemergence control is complicated and somewhat dependent on product used. For example, fenoxaprop tends to be very effective on leaf stage crabgrass but its control of tillering crabgrass is variable. I have seen applications of fenoxaprop to 5-tiller crabgrass that were very effective and others where it barely injured the crabgrass. The conventional wisdom is that fenoxaprop is most effective on leaf-stage or early tillering crabgrass. Quinclorac is effective on leaf stage crabgrass and also late stage (>5 tiller) crabgrass but can be frustratingly inconsistent when crabgrass is between 2 and 5 tillers (roughly June 10 to July 10 in central Ohio). Topramezone seems the most flexible when it comes to the stage of crabgrass at application. That said, and this applies to whichever herbicide you use, if you make a postemergence application before weed seed has stopped germinating, in most cases you will get a few weeks of suppression followed by a new population of crabgrass from seed. For this reason, lasting control of crabgrass tends to occur with applications made after July 1.

Goosegrass looks somewhat like crabgrass from a distance but it tends to distinctly radiate from where it roots and the leaf sheaths are bleached out. For this reason it is sometimes also called silver crabgrass. When it flowers, it looks sort of like a crabgrass inflorescence. However, instead of individual flowers, they are in clusters. Barnyardgrass has a more coarse appearance and a seedhead that has branching along the flower stem, rather than all originating at one point like crabgrass and goosegrass. Goosegrass, barnyardgrass and yellow

foxtail, with its unique seed head, all are most effectively controlled with either topramezone or fenoxaprop.

In many cases the perennial grasses are more difficult to control. Quackgrass and orchardgrass are best controlled with a non-selective herbicide. Sometimes repeat applications are required. Nimblewill, like weedy bermudagrass, are warm season grasses that form patches of bleached out turf in cool season turf during the winter months. These two species can be easily identified when the flower – nimblewill has a single spike while bermudagrass (not pictured) has a seedhead similar to crabgrass that is 3 spikes that radiate from the end of the flower stem. With either species, control is usually best achieved with repeat applications of a non-selective herbicide. Also, there is some evidence of potential selective control with repeat applications of either mesotrione or topramezone, though this may not be as consistent or reliable of a control strategy. There is one perennial species, field paspalum, for which there is a good selective control option. It can be controlled postemergence with one or two applications of topramezone. Topramezone, like mesotrione, bleaches the tissue of the target weed, which may make the weed more visible for a period after herbicide application. This is the reason that some managers will mix mesotrione or topramezone with another herbicide such as quinclorac or triclopyr in order to mute the bleaching effect.

While this article covers some of the more frequently encountered grassy weed species, it is certainly not all inclusive. Again, the importance of proper identification of the weed species should be stressed. In the past few years I have recommended to several individuals to use topramezone to control what they reported to be field paspalum, only to later discover that it was another species such as johnsongrass. Johnsongrass is not as commonly observed in turfgrass. But, when present, it is more effectively controlled with fenoxaprop.

Even in a good weather year, proper identification of the target species is important to ensure that the most effective herbicide is selected for control. IN most years, timely applications of an appropriate herbicide can usually yield good results. Hopefully, the weather patterns of 2018 will, of course, not be observed in 2019.

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SPRING 2019: LAWN CONDITIONS & UPDATE

Joseph Rimelspach & Todd Hicks,
The Ohio State University
Dept. of Plant Pathology

Many lawns are coming out of winter in poor condition. A number of different factors are involved. The thin or dead turf will pose challenges this season especially with achieving acceptable weed control. The following are some observations seen this spring.

Much of the damage seems to be associated with the very wet conditions last fall and winter followed by extensive “heaving” of the turf plants. Frost heaving occurs when wide temperature fluctuations, with repeated cycles of freezing and thawing, cause the water in the soil to expand and contract. This can cause the plant crowns to become elevated. If roots are exposed to cold temperatures and drying winds there can be decline or death of the plants. Lawns with this condition may benefit from light rolling. If there are large bare areas seeding and renovation may be helpful.

Areas in shady lawns seem to be the worst. In some samples/lawns the grass affected was *Poa trivialis* (rough bluegrass) this is a shallow rooted turfgrass and often found in shaded sites. The grass peels back or is loose and not rooted. These sites already have a weak root systems due to competition from the tree roots.

In other cases there is bare soil exposed, with no grass present. One main cause was damage to the lawn last summer and fall from disease(s). One particular disease that was epidemic last year throughout Ohio was Gray Leaf Spot, caused by the fungus (*Magnaporthe oryzae*). This disease kills perennial ryegrass. Where the disease was active last summer and fall the grass was completely killed and the plants decayed and left bare areas in lawns. This condition is wide spread and have been seen on home lawns, golf courses and athletic fields.

The sudden shift from hot summer weather on October 10, 2018 to wet cold conditions the rest of the fall, did not



Thin weak lawn this spring in the Dayton area.

allow for successful seeding and renovation of lawns or lawn recovery from the intense and stressful summer. The majority of lawns in Ohio are composed of cool-season grasses (bluegrass, ryegrass, fine fescue and tall fescue) these grow best in mild autumn and spring weather. Since the weather quickly changed from being too hot to grow these grasses to too cold, there was little time for the cool-season grasses to recover and fill in before winter.

Winter conditions caused many Kentucky bluegrasses to have severe browning of the leaves. In most cases the crowns of the Kentucky bluegrass are alive and will grow with more consistent warmer temperatures.

If there are parts of the lawn with bare soil the question is what to do? If there is Kentucky bluegrass surrounding thin or bare areas, the spots can fill in over-time especially with a sound fertility program. If there is no Kentucky bluegrass or the areas are large, renovation will be needed. Spring however is not the ideal time to do seeding. If seeding is done there may be poor germination and weak establishment of the desired grass.

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At the same time weeds quickly germinate and are often a major problem. So this may be a challenging year! Much depends on the weather and if there is a long mild spring for the cool-season grass to fill in and develop a deep root system before the heat and stress of summer.

Hopefully this helps explain some of what we are seeing in lawns at this time.



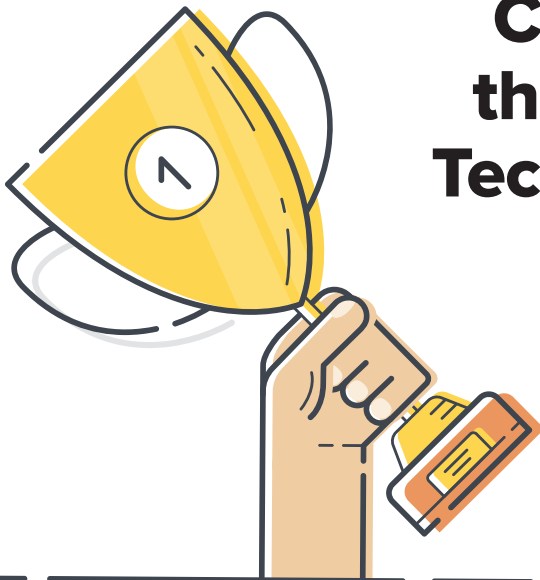
Kentucky bluegrass lawn (Bowling Green, OH) desiccated leaf tissue from winter conditions. Crowns are alive and healthy.



Bare soil in lawn (Columbus) where Gray Leaf Spot killed the perennial ryegrass last summer and fall. Many lawns have dead or bare soil areas like this due to disease and insect damage. Some lawns have plants pushed up from frost heaving.



Shaded lawn in North West Ohio with extensive decline over the winter.



Congratulations to the 2018 Lawn Care Technician of the Year!

Doug Evans, Lawn Plus, LLC,
West Alexandria, OH



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

JUNE 13: Northeast Ohio Lawn Care Seminar
OARDC, The Arden Shisler Center, Wooster

AUGUST 7: Ohio Lawn Care Outdoor Summer Seminar • OSU, Columbus

NOVEMBER 2: A Grateful Embrace
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TURFGRASS WEED CONTROL FOR PROFESSIONALS – 2019 EDITION

Purdue University – Extension

From the desk of Joe Rimelspach



This guide provides weed identification and control information that turfgrass professionals can use to develop effective weed control programs for golf courses, athletic fields, sod farms, lawns, and other turfgrass systems. The recommendations apply to the majority of the United States, with input from experts in Illinois, Indiana,

Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

Here are some of the items included in the publication.

- Weed Types, Weed Life Cycles, Developing a Weed Control Program
- Herbicide Information (use, classification, mode of action, movement, resistance, etc.)
- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers About Weed Control with Herbicides
- Nonselective Herbicides/Fumigants for Turfgrass Renovation
- Nonselective Herbicides for Turfgrass Border Maintenance (Edging)
- Preemergence Herbicides (weed control ratings for preemergence herbicides, turf tolerance information, and more instructions for each product)
- Postemergence Herbicides (weed control ratings for postemergence broadleaf herbicides and turf tolerance, and more instructions for each product)
- Commonly Used Broadleaf Herbicide Combinations for Turfgrass
- Active Ingredients in Commonly Used Herbicide Combinations
- Sedge Control Herbicides (sedge control and turfgrass tolerance ratings, turf tolerance information, and more instructions for each product)
- Plant Growth Regulators for General Turf Use

- Herbicide/PGR Common Names, Chemical Families, and Modes of Action
- Herbicide Math

Formerly Purdue Extension publication AY-336.

Format: Book.

Language: English. Pages: 132.

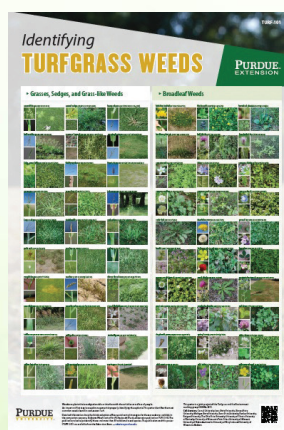
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Also – NEW for 2018 Identifying TURFGRASS WEEDS – Poster – from Purdue University

This Turf ID poster just became available in April of 2018. There are 30 pictures of weedy grasses and sedges and 30 pictures of broadleaf weeds. Each weed has a close-up and overall photos to assist in identification.

It will be sold as a 27” by 40” poster for \$12 each or five copies for \$50.

Contributors to this poster include Ohio State University faculty – Dr. David Gardener (Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science – Columbus) and Dr. Zane Raudenbush (Ohio State ATI – Wooster campus).

UPDATE ON NEW WEED – IN THE SEDGE FAMILY – KALLINGA!

Joseph Rimelspach,
The Ohio State University

Last year we reported that samples of a “weedy grass like plant” were coming into the clinic. These were identified as some type of kallinga. This weed in the past has mainly been in southern USA and the East coast & North East. The following is some information about the weed. If you are seeing something like this send a sample to the C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Clinic. We are growing some of the in the greenhouse here at OSU in order to make specific identification.

Kyllinga is a relative newcomer on the weed scene in home lawns in Ohio, but it can spread rapidly, invading landscapes as well as lawns. The weedy sedge tends to thrive in soil that remains wet for an extended period of time and receives full sun, although will do fine in partial shade.

Kyllinga moves easily from landscape beds to nearby turf and only becomes evident in later summer. The seeds can be spread by mowing equipment taking it from property to property. Close mowing can also cause a kyllinga outbreak as the lawn grass is unable to spread and compete, according to university specialists in the south and west coast. Kyllinga also spreads through short rhizomes, or underground stems. That means even if technicians pull up the weed, each node can still reproduce.

To spot kyllinga, technicians should be on the lookout for weeds that look like nutsedge but with less erect and smaller leaves. Infestations can form dense mats in a turfgrass stand. “Kyllingas can persist under low mowing heights, and unlike yellow and purple nutsedge, these plants produce flowers (Photo 1) even under regular mowing”.

Green Kyllinga – general information:

- Caribbean-native, creeping perennial, sedge-like weed mainly in the southeastern crops and lawns—has been moving north into New England and the Mid-West.



Flowers on a kallinga plant.



Green Kyllinga – note the flowers and that it is strongly rhizomatous.

- Grows to about 6 inches tall and can form dense clumps, tolerated low mowing., Has dark green, triangular stems, and produces rhizomes that may be dark red to purple to help colony spread; does not produce tubers like yellow nutsedge or purple nutsedge.
- Inflorescence is a small, unstalked globe-like or rounded conical cluster at tip of stem, with 3 leaves originating right below the inflorescence.

For cool season lawns some herbicide options to consider are: sulfentrazone, halosulfuron and sulfentrazone with quinclorac. As always READ the LABEL and follow all instructions.



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OHIO LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION NEWS The Ohio Lawn Care Association News is published biannually by the Ohio Lawn Care Association and sent to the Ohio Lawn Care Industry.

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