



Weed Free Lawns



Weed control is a process not a product. Remember that lawn weeds are often a symptom of other problems. The four most common reasons for weed problems are: Compaction, Water Problems, Lack of Fertilizer, and Mowing Too Short.

Compaction

Check your lawn for compaction by poking a screw driver into the soil. There may be areas where the tool does not penetrate very deeply, indicating compaction.

Solutions vary from hand aerating, power aerating or even removing and replanting the lawn.

Watering Problems

Check the sprinkler coverage by placing pans around the lawn, turning on the sprinklers and see if the sprinklers are covering evenly by checking if there is water in the pans.



If there is more than about 30% difference in

water level between pans, adjust your sprinklers accordingly. In some cases this may involve remodeling the irrigation system. See our Lawn Watering Guide for more information on watering.

Fertilizing

Few people fertilize their lawn adequately. If you are not getting the desired amount of growth, check that you are applying your fertilizer in the right amounts at the indicated seasons and intervals.



If you are using **Master Green**, 3 applications at 7-14 day intervals should be sufficient to build a residual nutrient level so the grass can really grow and thicken to prevent weed invasion.

After this initial jump start, return to regular fertilization 4-6 times a year.

Mowing

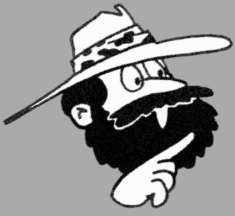
This common problem results when people try to make their lawn look like green carpeting.

Most lawns (including bluegrass, fescues, and rye grass) prefer to be mowed at a height of 2".

Some of the new turf type fescues prefer a 3" mowing height. Bermuda and Zoysia are two among the few lawns that will tolerate short mowing.

The shorter you mow, the less leaf blade is left to manufacture food for the plant. The roots are also hotter due to less shade from the blades. Lastly, weed seeds are then exposed to sunlight and warmth encouraging them to germinate. These three resulting problems make it harder for the grasses to compete against the weeds.





Common Lawn Weeds & Control



Note: Many tried and true products we have used in the past are no longer available in California. Due to changing restrictions and products, some of these have not been tested for best efficiency. We welcome reports on your experiences in order to make better selections. Always follow labels for application rate.

General Precautions

As with any product, correct application rates are critical to success without causing damage.

When spraying weed control products, spray the material evenly over the lawn. You can use **Mark It**, a temporary blue dye, to determine where you have sprayed.

If you are after several different weeds that require different controls, ask one of our Nursery Professionals for recommendations.

A healthy, lush lawn is the best way to keep weeds out!

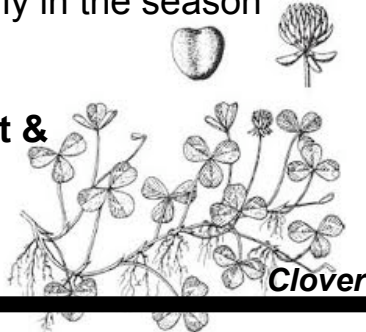
Dandelion, Chickweed & Clover



Dandelion

These three weeds are relatively easy to get rid of. Generally, one application of **Master's Weed & Feed**, or other broadleaf weed killer suitable for lawns will take care of the issue. You can also prevent infestations early in the season

with **Master's Easy Livin' Pre-Emergent & Food** according to package directions.



Clover

Oxalis

Oxalis emerges in full force in late winter/early spring. It is easily identified by the clover like leaves and yellow flowers.



Control depends on knocking the offending weeds back, reducing the germination of weed seeds and encouraging thick grass growth.

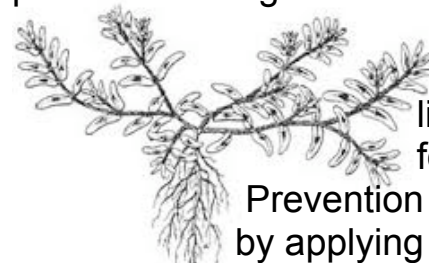
Kill the weeds using **Turflon** according to directions. It may take repeat applications to get adequate control.

Prevent new seeds from germinating with **Master's Easy Livin' Pre-Emergent and Food**. Always follow recommended application rates.

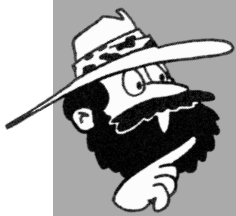
Spurge

This low growing weed emerges in summer. Herbicides we have used in the past are no longer on the market, although **Weed Whacker**, among others, is listed as a control for lawns.

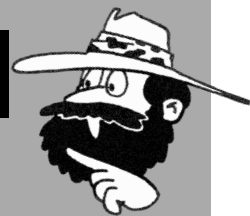
Prevention is usually best, by applying **Master's Easy Livin' Pre-Emergent and Food** according to package directions beginning in March.



Continued on reverse...



Lawn Weeds & Control Continued

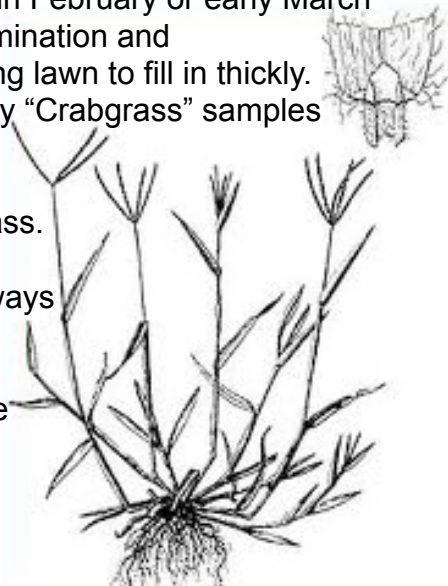


Crabgrass

Use **Bayer All in 1 Lawn** or other **Crabgrass Killer** to reduce the number of existing weeds in bluegrass, rye and fescue lawns.

Using the **Master's Easy Livin' Crabgrass Pre-Emergent and Food** according to package directions beginning in February or early March will help prevent germination and encourage the existing lawn to fill in thickly.

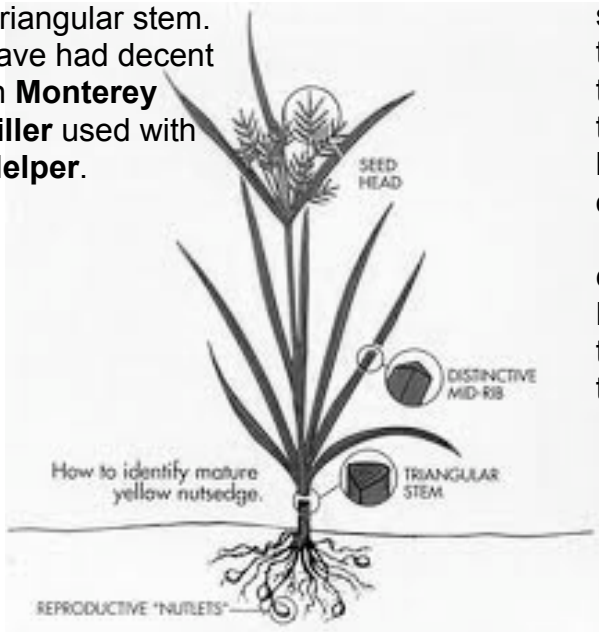
Caution: Many "Crabgrass" samples brought in or described are really Bermuda or Dallisgrass. The controls for Crabgrass do not always work for any grassy weed, so make sure you have an accurate identification before buying or spraying a product.



Nutsedge

This notorious weed is difficult to hand remove because when pulled the roots leave behind "nutlets" that resprout. It is easily identifiable by lush bright green new growth and the tell-tale triangular stem.

We have had decent success with **Monterey Nutgrass Killer** used with **Herbicide Helper**.



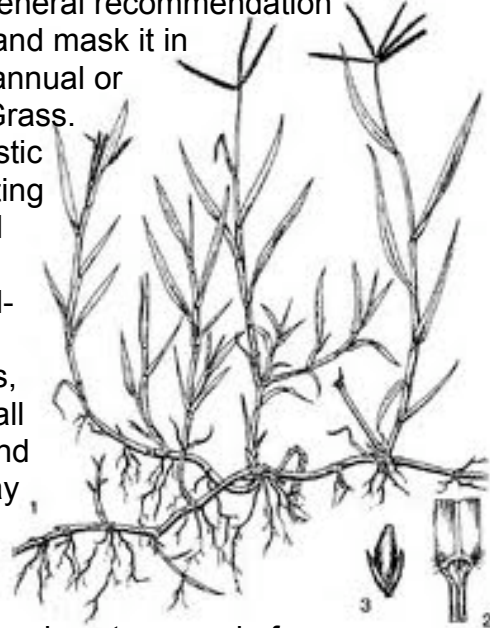
Bermuda

This perennial vining weed is almost impossible to eliminate in a lawn. Although **Turflon** and **Bayer Crabgrass Lawn Control** list Bermuda, we have no experience with these products. Our general recommendation is to live with it and mask it in the winter with annual or perennial Rye Grass.

Any realistic hope of eliminating this pesky weed requires over a year of bare soil-no lawn.

To do this, kill the lawn in fall with **Remuda** and continue to spray any re-growth over the next summer.

Even this program is not assured of success, as Bermuda has been known to keep re-emerging for over two years.



Dallisgrass

Dallisgrass looks very similar to crabgrass. This tough weed has few products that will tackle it without killing the lawn. We are currently looking for the best option on the market.

For temporary control, spot spray with **Remuda** (it may take two-three applications) and then reseed.

