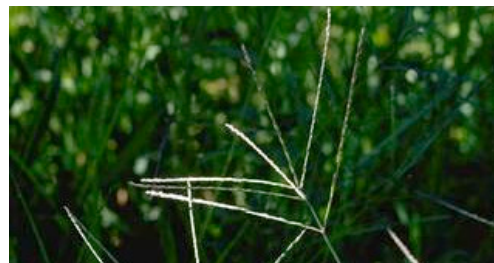


Guide to Common Weeds in Lawns in California

Crabgrass

Spring/summer annual weed. Control by reducing irrigation; check for leaks and overseeding. Apply a preemergent herbicide in February. Note seed heads (right) come out from different places. Compare to bermudagrass below.



Oxalis, woodsorrel

Found year-round. Sometimes has purple leaves. Often confused with clover, but has heart-shaped leaflets and five petals on yellow flowers. Seeds expelled from pods (right) stick to mowers. Clean mowers with air or water. Use postemergent herbicides, but make sure they are safe for the turf species.



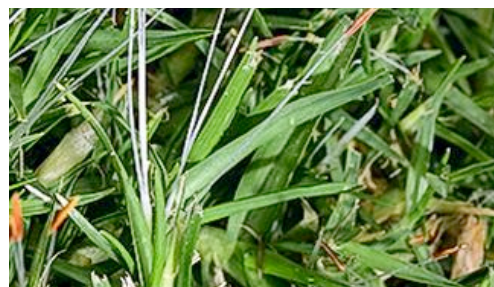
Bermudagrass

Perennial. Grows in warm weather. Spreads by seeds, stolons, and rhizomes. Can use a nonselective herbicide or mechanical means to renovate. Can use some postemergent herbicides depending on the turf species. Note seed head (left) meets at one point.



Kikuyugrass

Perennial. Grows in warm weather. Spreads by seeds, stolons, and rhizomes. Can use a nonselective herbicide or mechanical means to renovate. Can use some postemergent herbicides depending on the turf species. Flowers look like white fungus on cool, humid days.



Burclover (left), black medic (right)

Annual. Burs on burclover can be spiny or smooth. Black medic is similar looking but does not have burs. Control by hand pulling, increasing nitrogen and reducing phosphorus, and herbicides depending on the turf species.



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Yellow nutsedge

Perennial. Sprouts from tubers in spring; dies back in late fall. Flowers are green-yellow. Produces numerous tubers. Often introduced in contaminated topsoil or fill. Hand pull frequently, dig up small sections at least 10 inches deep, modify irrigation and drainage, and apply postemergent herbicides before the 5-leaf stage.



Purple nutsedge

Perennial that sprouts from tubers in spring and dies back in late fall. Generally found in warmer locations. Produces numerous tubers. Tubers often found in chains (right). Flowers are reddish brown. Often introduced in contaminated topsoil or fill. Hand pull frequently, dig up small sections at least 10 inches deep, modify irrigation and drainage, and apply postemergent herbicides before the 5-leaf stage.



Annual bluegrass

Cool weather annual. Shallow roots with tuft-like growth. Spreads by seeds, which are produced very quickly. Grows best in moist areas. Hand pull and modify irrigation. Must apply preemergent herbicides by early September. Difficult to control with postemergent herbicides.



For additional information on weed identification, visit the UC IPM weed photo gallery at http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/weeds_intro.html.

Download a copy of this guide in Spanish as well as a copy of the *Guide to Common Turfgrass*, also in both English and Spanish, from the UC IPM Green Bulletin Web page, <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/greenbulletin/>.