

PLANT IDENTIFICATION IN LAWNS

FIND YOUR "WEED" THEN LOOK ON THE BACK
FOR WHAT IT MEANS.



ANNUAL BLUEGRASS *Poa annua*
Photo by Rasbak (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



BITTERCRESS *Cardamine hirsuta*
Photo by Rasbak (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



CINQUEFOIL *Potentilla* sp.
Photo by Hans Hillewaert (Lic. CC BY-SA 4.0)



COMMON CHICKWEED *Stellaria media*
Photo by Hugo.org (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



CRABGRASS *Digitaria* sp.
Photo by Richard Arthur Norton (Lic. CC BY 2)



DANDELION *Taraxacum* sp.
Photo by iStock



GOOSEGRASS *Eleusine indica*
Photo by Michelle Wiesbrook, University of Illinois



GROUND IVY *Glechoma hederacea*
Photo by Rasbak (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



HENBIT *Lamium amplexicaule*
Photo by Kaldori (License CC0)



(PROSTRATE) KNOTWEED
Polygonum ariculare
Photo by Dalgial (License CC BY-SA 3.0)



MOSS *Bryophyta*
Photo by iStock



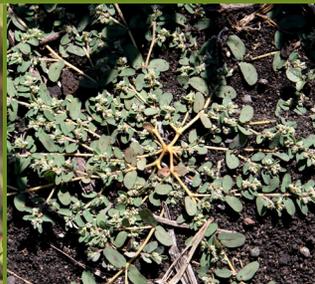
MOUSE-EAR CHICKWEED
Cerastium fontanum
Photo courtesy Wikipedia (Public Domain)



(BROADLEAF) PLANTAIN *Plantago major*
Photo by Jesse Taylor (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



RED SORREL *Rumex acetosella*
Photo by Henripekka Kallio (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



SPOTTED SPURGE *Euphorbia maculata*
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WHITE CLOVER *Trifolium repens*
Photo by Forest & Kim Starr (Lic. CC BY 3.0)



WILD VIOLET *Viola sororia* sp.
Photo by James Steakley (Lic. CC BY-SA 3.0)



YELLOW NUTSEGE *Cyperus esculentus*
Photo courtesy Wikipedia (Public Domain)

WHAT THE PLANTS SAY ABOUT YOUR SOIL

PLANT TYPE	CONDITION								
	Low nitrogen in soil	Soil is compacted	Area is too shady	Area is too wet	Grass is thin	Area is too dry	Low soil pH level	Soil is poorly drained	Mow height is too low
ANNUAL BLUEGRASS									
BITTERCRESS									
CINQUEFOIL									
COMMON CHICKWEED									
CRABGRASS									
DANDELION									
GOOSEGRASS									
GROUND IVY									
HENBIT									
KNOTWEED									
MOSS									
MOUSE-EAR CHICKWEED									
PLANTAIN							High pH		
RED SORREL									
SPOTTED SPURGE									
WHITE CLOVER									
WILD VIOLET									
YELLOW NUTSEDGE									

NOTE: Plants in your lawn may indicate soil problems. Before you reach for a chemical solution to rid your lawn of plants, explore the chart below to determine why the plants are thriving (Condition), and what you should do about it (Recommendations). Still have questions? Call or email the **URI Gardening and Environmental Hotline** at 401-874-4836 or gardener@uri.edu.

RECOMMENDATIONS								
Test soil for nutrient levels; leave grass clippings on lawn or fertilize based on soil test results.	Test soil for predominant texture; core aerate to improve compaction.	Test soil; reseed with shade tolerant grass seed mix only.	Test soil; Repurpose area to include plants that tolerate wet sites.	Test soil; reseed to thicken grass.	Test soil for predominant soil; amend with organic matter or repurpose area.	Test soil for pH levels; amend based on results.	Test soil for predominant texture; core aerate to improve drainage or repurpose area garden.	Mow higher and/or less frequently, to 3" or 4".