

Annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*)



Annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*) is a winter annual weed that is adapted to various turfgrass sites. It is an undesirable grass species due to its seed production, surface interference, color, and disease susceptibility. Annual bluegrass is the most common and widely distributed grassy weed in the world. It is also one of the most invasive weeds in turfgrass stands. *Poa annua* populations are very diverse, which make it a difficult weed to control. It is widely adapted to variations in mowing height, site conditions, and cultural practices. It is well adapted to golf course areas, but it is not a desirable species for athletic surfaces where wear resistance and recuperative capacity are important.

Identifying Characteristics:

Growth Habit: bunch-type to stoloniferous

Vernation: folded

Ligule: long, pointed, membranous

Auricles: absent

Sheath: open part way only, flattened; slightly sharply creased

Collar: broad, divided

Leaf tip: boat-shaped

Leaf Blades: adaxial: smooth, slightly keeled, two distinct, clear lines, on each side of the midrib; abaxial: smooth with midrib

Seedhead: panicle