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SEEDS & SCIENCE

JAN, 2023 SFMA

HELP US HELP YOU-WHAT WE NEED

DR. LEAH BRILMAN TECHNICAL SERVICES

Help Us Help You

- ¹ Problem in Turf
- Weeds, Disease, thinning, etc.
- Photos sent via email or text – often 3rd party
- ⁴ What is this weed?
- ⁵ Assumption- This weed came in your seed

- ⁶ Why did my seed not come up?
- ⁷ What is this disease?
- ⁸ What is wrong?



Lets Start

First Questions for ID of Problem

- Species of Turfgrass planted and/or there previously
- Where are you located
- When planting occurred
- Soil Type Soil Test if possible
- Weather at time of planting or recent weather (disease ID)
- Rainfall or irrigation (water quality)
- Management fertilizer, mowing frequency and height, was previous turf sprayed out multiple times (soil disturbed?)
- Photo of tag (allows tracking lots, species, cultivars, weeds)
- High resolution photos of turf and weeds. Broadleaf, grass or sedge. When appeared?



What not to do

Weed ID – Broadleaf, Grass or Sedge

- 1. Broadleaf Weeds
 - Two leaf seedling (Dicot)
 - Leaves have central vein and branch off
 - Central tap root or fibrous (can have stolons, etc.)
 - Annual or perennial easier to control
- 2. Grass Weeds
 - One leaf seedling (monocot)
 - Straight veins in leaves
 - Hollow stems with nodes flat or rolled
 - Fibrous roots (can have stolons/rhizomes)
 - Annual or perennial Grass out of grass harder to control
- 3. Sedges
 - One leaf seedling
 - Solid triangular stems (sedges have edges)
 - Can look like grass



Narrowleaf plantain



Annual ryegrass



We want to help Send us Good Photos

- High dpi and preferred jpeg format (new heic can be problem)
- Low dpi cannot zoom in to look at details
- If you seeded, when, what, Seed tag with lot number
- Grades of seed more expensive seed = usually less problems
- Seed Testing looks at 2.5 grams to 50 grams of seed in 55,000 lbs (or more) of seed
- Always chance testing will miss some Weed or Other Crop Seed
- Perennial Weed or Other Crop Seed more problem than annual (usually)
- Examples Other Crop Species you may not want in Turf
- Creeping bentgrass Annual ryegrass Orchardgrass
- Poa trivialis
 Tall Fescue

Timothy

Bermudagrass

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Seed Quantities Purity – 2.5 grams Kentucky Bluegrass, 5 grams Perennial ryegrass





Seed Quantities Purity – Crop and Weed or UGS 25 grams Kentucky Bluegrass, 50 grams Perennial ryegrass or Tall Fescue



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The parky and germination test results reported on this from have been carried out in accordance with ACSA rules unless otherwise specified. That results reflect the condition of the specific acromatic test in accordance with ACSA rules unless otherwise specified. That results reflect the condition of the specific acromatic test in ac

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Buying seed? There are 2+ tags to look for...

- Oregon or Other State Blue tag = Certified tag
 - Statement of genetic purity
 - Ex: regulated by State of Oregon and administered by the Oregon State University
- White tag = Analysis tag
 - Statement of content including % of pure seed, varieties, germination, inert, crop, weeds
 - Regulated by the Federal Seed Act & State Regulations
 - Lot Number allows tracking



Blue certification tag



White analysis tag



Undesirable Grass Seed - UGS

- Bentgrasses- Agrostis spp.
- Bermudagrasses Cynodon spp.
- Annual bluegrass Poa annua
- Rough bluegrass Poa trivialis
- Meadow Fescue Lolium pratense (Festuca pratensis)
- Tall Fescue Lolium arundinaceum (Festuca arundinacea)
- Orchardgrass Dactylis glomerata
- Redtop Agrostis gigantea
- Timothy Phleum pratense
- Velvetgrass Holcus lanatus



All weeds easier to ID with flower / seedheads – Do not want to wait that long **Broadleaf weeds**

- Identification easier
- Look at shape of leaf, how margins look, how leaves attached to stem
- Stem shape square, round, etc.
- Mow soon after germination can remove growing point
- Easier to remove with herbicides or pulling when young



Identification of Grass Weeds

- More difficult than broadleaf weeds
- Standard taxonomic texts depend on seedheads Vegetative differences much harder
- Key characteristics for ID need high quality photos at high magnification
 - Ligule size, shape, hairs, etc.
 - Vernation Rolled or folded in bud
 - Auricles Presence and size (clasping?)
 - Collar- Continuous, Divided, twisted
 - Sheath Split, fused
 - Growth habit Bunch, rhizomes, stolons (May not see on young plants)
 - Leaf tip pointed, boat shaped
 - Hairy, rough leaf surface
- Many potential grass weeds not in Vegetative Keys



Identification of Grass Weeds (C. Reynolds, Texas A&M)

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Identification of Grass Weeds – Light green grass growing early spring







Identification of Grass Weeds – Light green grass growing early spring



Downy brome Both annual grasses – keep mown for control





Identification of Grass Weeds- Annual ryegrass Excellent photos sent by customer Helps distinguish from more serios weeds





Examples : Perennial Grasses with hard ID

- Quackgrass -clasping auricles. Quackgrass can be distinguished from <u>annual</u> <u>ryegrass</u> (*Lolium multiflorum*) by rhizomes. Quackgrass rolled vernation (like annual ryegrass) and a short, membranous ligule. Lower sheaths are often hairy while upper sheaths are usually smooth. Leaves are an ashy, blue-green color. Are very thick and sometimes have a longitudinal twist. <u>Tall fescue</u> also has auricles.
- Smooth brome Perennial, two to three feet tall. Hairless, vertical stem. Conspicuous M- or W-shaped constriction on blade (V-neck sweater). Downy brome annual, hairs on stem.





Sedges, Rushs and others (can look like grasses)

- Sedges have solid triangular stem
 - Nutsedges
 - Kyllingas
- Rushes have hollow, cylindrical stems, Flowers on sides
- Horsetail Primitive plant, rhizomes, fern-like leaves



Sedges, Rushs and others (can look like grasses)

- Kyllinga IDed as annual ryegrass
- Seedling annual ryegrass would not be that big (perennial ryegrass at 2-3 leaf stage)
- Seedheads in the plant pulled up -
- Can see the ridges on the plants



Help us Help You

- Broadleaf or grass weed
- Did you remove existing weeds (especially perennials with rhizomes) or turf?
- If soil disturbed did you wait until weeds had germinated and killed again?
- Did you use herbicide like Tenacity as preemergent?
- Did you plant at time of year and with enough seed that turfgrass could rapidly compete?
- Did you keep a copy or photo of the label so the lot can be traced?
- Did you pay for high quality grass seed (no or low crop or weed)?



THANK YOU DR. LEAH A. BRILMAN LBRILMAN@DLFNA.COM



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