**WEEDWATCH**

STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH

**COMMON GROUNDSEL**

*Senecio vulgaris*

**IDENTIFICATION TIPS**
- This plant, which prefers cool, rich, moist soils, is a winter or summer annual. It can also be a biennial in coastal areas.
- It features a single stem or branched upright growth, 6 to 18 in. tall, and its yellow flowers bloom nearly year-round.
- Leaves are highly variable, from hairless to lightly covered with long wavy or cotton-like hairs.
- Groundsel reproduces by seed; each plant may produce three to four generations of seeds in one season.

**CONTROL TIPS**
- Because the seed is easily spread and can potentially deposit numerous seeds throughout the season, the best option for control is an early-season application of a pre-emergent broadleaf herbicide with at least three months' residual, such as one containing the active ingredient isoxaben.
- To prevent common groundsel infestation, use good sanitation practices supplemented with pre-emergence broadleaf herbicides.

**CREEPING WOODSORREL**

*Oxalis corniculata*

**IDENTIFICATION TIPS**
- This summer perennial contains a slender, shallow taproot and roots at nodes along the creeping, slightly hairy stems.
- Leaves are deeply loped, heart-shaped and may be green to reddish-purple.
- Flowers are small and bright yellow, with five petals, and form in clusters of one to five at the end of slender stems.

**CONTROL TIPS**
- Mowing, fertilizing or irrigating turf is not an effective method of control — this plant can actually be spread through such practices.
- If lawn mowers are used where creeping woodsorrel is growing, wash or air-spray mowers to remove seeds and clippings before moving to a weed-free turf.
- Once established, it is very competitive. Application of a pre-emergent herbicide labeled for *Oxalis* control in the fall is a good option. Two applications, four to six weeks apart, may be needed to get all the seedlings.

For more information regarding these and other turf weeds — and related control technologies and tips — please visit www.DowProvesIt.com or call 800/255-3726.