WEEDWATCH

STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH



LARGE CRABGRASS

Digitaria sanguinalis

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This light green, bunchtype grass features seedhead spikelets in two to nine finger-like branches along the stalk.
- The summer annual germinates when soil temperatures reach a consistent 55°F.
- > Leaves are rolled in the bud, and the collar is broad with long hairs.
- > Its tall, membranous ligule has jagged edges and no auricles.
- > It grows under close mowing, and prefers open areas with thin turfgrass.

CONTROL TIPS

- > When soil temperatures reach 55°F in the spring, apply a pre-emergence crabgrass herbicide. If you have missed the pre-emergent timing, you can apply an herbicide labeled for post-emergent control.
- > Look for the active ingredient dithiopyr, which provides season-long preand early post-emergence control of crabgrass. There are several liquid, granular or fertilizer granule options.
- > Consult the appropriate product label for recommended rates for your area, as well as for reseeding and overseeding.



TROPICAL SIGNALGRASS

Urochloa subquadripara

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > Commonly mistaken for bull paspalum or crabgrass, this blanketlike grass has relatively long spikelets, 3.5mm to 4mm. Crabgrass spikelets are narrower and not more than 3mm long.
- It roots from the nodes and has more papery leaves, compared with the soft leaves of crabgrass.
- > The seedhead consists of modified racemes that emerge at right angles to the stem, spaced much like the signal flags used on ships.

CONTROL TIPS

- > Once established in turf situations, this grassy weed is extremely difficult to control. Few, if any post-emergent herbicides are effective in selectively removing this species in warm-season turf, where it is commonly found.
- > Several pre-emergent herbicides, such as dithiopyr, prodiamine, oryzalin, benefin + oryzalin or benefin + trifluralin, have demonstrated good to excellent pre-emergent control of this species.

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.



 $^{^{*}}$ State restrictions on the sale and use of Dimension specialty herbicide products apply.