WEEDWATCH
STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH

PURPLE DEADNETTLE
Lamium pupureum

IDENTIFICATION TIPS
› With square stems and purple-red flowers, this winter annual closely resembles henbit (Lamium amplexicaule).
› Opposite leaves with pointed tips often have a purple tinge. Leaves grow on short or long petioles dependent on where the leaf is located on the plant—unlike henbit, where leaves lack petioles.
› Purple-red flowers grow in clusters of three to six in the upper leaves.
› Deadnettle, a member of the mint family, reproduces by seed.

CONTROL TIPS
› Purple deadnettle germinates in the fall and flowers in the spring. It thrives in thin turf and moist, shady sites.
› Dense, lush turf is the best way to reduce spread and encroachment of winter annuals. Properly mow, fertilize and water in spring and summer to minimize thin turf areas.
› Apply a preemergent herbicide containing dithiopyr prior to germination in the fall.

HENBIT
Lamium amplexicaule

IDENTIFICATION TIPS
› Primarily found in turfgrass and landscapes, henbit prefers thin, nutrient-rich soil.

CONTROL TIPS
› Henbit germinates in the fall, reproducing by seed and flowers in spring.
› Dense, lush turf is the best way to reduce spread and encroachment of winter annuals. Properly mow, fertilize and water in spring and summer to minimize thin turf areas.
› Apply a preemergent herbicide containing isoxaben prior to germination in the fall.

PHOTOS: DR. SHAWN ASKEW

Recommended Dow AgroSciences solution
Dimension specialty herbicide

Recommended Dow AgroSciences solution
Gallery specialty herbicide

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.