WEEDWATCH
STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH

SOUTHERN BRASS BUTTONS  Cotula australis

IDENTIFICATION TIPS
› This low-growing annual is often confused with swinecress, thanks to its similar leaves and flower heads. Swinecress has a skunk-like odor; brass buttons has no odor.
› Its seed leaves are long, narrow and fleshy, and the first true leaves are divided into three narrow lobes.
› Small, pale yellow flowers cluster into heads atop long stalks and bloom from January through May.
› In mature plants, finely dissected leaves are sparsely covered with short hairs. They’re arranged alternately along the stem on short stalks.

CONTROL TIPS
› Its broad leaves can take over a large area quickly, so it’s important to treat this weed early.
› Apply a preemergent herbicide containing isoxaben prior to germination, followed by 0.5 in. of irrigation.

LESWER SWINECRESS  Coronopus didymus

IDENTIFICATION TIPS
› This quick-spreading weed is often found in lawns and gardens throughout the U.S. and is common in newly seeded fescue. Prolific seed production, tolerance to low mowing and heavy traffic have increased the prevalence of this weed in turfgrass.
› First and later leaves alternate along the stems. The edges have one or more rounded, coarse teeth, and there are short hairs on the tips. Its leaves also have a skunk-like odor.
› Small white, four-petaled flower clusters bloom from February through October.

CONTROL TIPS
› This member of the mustard family is a low-growing, prostrate winter or summer annual that’s often confused with southern brass buttons.
› Apply a preemergent herbicide containing isoxaben early in the season or a postemergent herbicide containing triclopyr to emerged swinecress in late winter or early spring.

* State restrictions on the sale and use of Turflon Ester Ultra apply.

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.