WEEDWATCH

STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH



SMOOTH CRABGRASS

Digitaria ischaemum

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This summer annual germinates when soil temperatures reach a consistent 55 F.
- It features rolled vernation and a prostrate growth habit.
- It can be distinguished from large crabgrass (*D. sanguinalis*) by the absence of hairs on the leaves and sheaths. Both species will grow under close mowing, but smooth crabgrass can survive and set seed at mowing heights as low as 0.25 in.

CONTROL TIPS

- > When soil temperatures approach 55 F in late winter or spring, apply a preemergent crabgrass herbicide.
- > Look for products containing the active ingredient dithiopyr. It provides season-long preemergent and early postemergent crabgrass control.
- > Consult the appropriate product label for recommended rates for your area, as well as reseeding and overseeding recommendations.



CHAMBERBITTER

Phyllanthus urinaria

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This summer annual is often found in ornamentals and landscape beds, but has recently become more problematic in turfgrass. It's also known as gripeweed, leafflower or little mimosa, among other names.
- As a member of the spurge family, chamberbitter reproduces by seed found in the fruit attached underneath the branch.
- > It's a small, erect plant with grooved stems, thin leaves and smooth margins. It grows from a well-developed taproot.

CONTROL TIPS

- In turf, apply a preemergent herbicide containing isoxaben prior to germination. For landscape or container-grown ornamentals, use a product containing isoxaben and trifluralin.
- > Apply preemergent products labeled for chamberbitter first in early spring and again two to three months later for season-long control.
- > Hand weed any plants that may have emerged prior to application.

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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.

