

NUTSEGE

(*Cyperus* spp.)



Nutsedge (1) is a perennial which reproduces by spreading rootstocks, underground tubers, and partially by seeds. Although nutsedge bears a superficial resemblance to some grasses and is sometimes called nutgrass and coco grass, it is not a true grass, but instead is a sedge. Nutsedge grows best under moist lowland conditions and is found in fields, waste areas, gardens, and lawns.

Nutsedges may grow to a height of 6 to 36 inches and are characterized by a solid (not hollow) stem which is triangular in cross section. Stiff, coarse, yellowish-green leaves are borne in rows of three about the base of the stem (grass leaves are two ranked).

Flowers and seeds are borne atop a relatively long leafless stem. Yellowish-brown flowers are inconspicuous and produce coarse spikelets of seeds. Seeds (2) attached to radiating branchlets (spikes) appear umbrellalike.

Scaly rootstocks bear small nutlike tubers at the ends.

There are two species of nutsedge in this important group of lawn pests: yellow nutsedge, *Cyperus esculentus*, and purple or common nutsedge, *C. rotundus*. These differ in geographic distribution, size, and coloration. Yellow nutsedge is a native North American plant and is most commonly found in northern areas of the United States, although it does extend its range at times into the South. Purple nutsedge is believed to have been introduced from tropical areas into the South. It is now common from Florida to California. Nutsedges are serious pests wherever they grow.

Upright stems of purple nutsedge grow longer than the basal leaves, whereas leaves are longer than the main stem in yellow nutsedge. Spikelets of purple nutsedge are colored a brownish purple, but yellow nutsedge has yellowish-green spikelets. Underground tubers of purple nutsedge measure 1 inch long and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, but yellow nutsedge tubers seldom exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter.

2,4-D can be applied repeatedly until nutsedge is eliminated. EPTC has also proven useful as a control. Controls should be applied within two weeks of shoot emergence.

Prepared in cooperation with Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland.

(DRAWING FROM NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PUBLICATION NO. 36, USDA EXTENSION SERVICE)

U. S. Borax Builds New Regional Office, Warehouse

Construction of a new regional office and warehouse is already under way in Des Plaines, Ill., announces Hugo Riemer, president, U. S. Borax, Los Angeles, Calif. The proposed structure will occupy 27,750 square feet of a two-acre site.

W. W. Wilson, regional marketing manager, says the new building will serve as regional and district headquarters for midwestern distribution of the company's products, including industrial and agricultural borates, potash, herbicides, and 20 Mule Team line of household and industrial maintenance products.

The new facility will also serve as national headquarters for the firm's railroad sales organization which supplies weed-killers and application equipment for railroad rights-of-way.

Completion of the new building late in 1965 will consolidate U. S. Borax' Chicago warehouse on Lumber St., and the Peterson Ave. offices.

In another announcement, J. F. Corkill, U. S. Borax marketing department vice president, says the company's Atlanta regional sales office has been moved from 1627 Peachtree St. N.E. to 1720 Peachtree Rd. N.W., in Atlanta, Ga.

WACA Reelects Stewart

Frank B. Stewart was re-elected president of the Western Agricultural Chemical Association at the annual convention held recently at Pebble Beach, Calif.

This association, comprised of agricultural chemical companies from 13 western states, cooperates with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and state departments of agriculture in enactment of laws and regulations for safe use of insecticides, fungicides, and weedkillers.

Stewart is executive vice president and general manager of Miller Products Co., Portland, Ore.