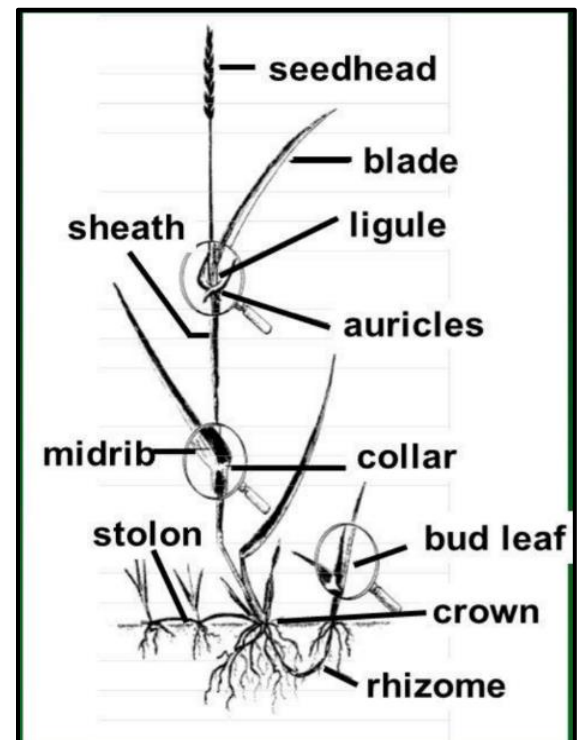


GRASSY WEEDS

TITLE:	BERMUDAGRASS
LATIN NAME:	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>
FAMILY:	<u>Poaceae</u>
OVERALL DESCRIPTION:	
<p>A wiry perennial grass with creeping stolons and rhizomes. Foliage is gray-green to bluish green and forms dense mats. Bermudagrass when present in cool season lawns can be one of the most aggressive and challenging weeds to address.</p> <p>Other Common names: Devil grass, wiregrass</p>	
LIFE CYCLE	Perennial, warm season grass; also called wiregrass
SEASONS OF GROWTH	Plants grow during summer and produce seed heads through mid to late summer. Grows up to 2 ft. tall; goes dormant in winter and turns brown
LEAF SHEATHS	Leaves are gray-green to blue-green short (2 to 8 in long) and narrow (1/8" to 1/4" wide).
FLOWERS / SEEDHEAD	Seed heads branched and spike are produced in mid to late summer and consist of 3 to 7 finger-like spikes that radiate from a central point on short, slender, ascending stems
LEAF BLADES	Leaf blades are approximately 2 to 8 inches long by 1/8" to 1/4" wide and smooth to only sparsely hairy above but usually only with a few hairs near the leaf base.
LEAF VERNATION	Vernation is folded
LIGULE	ligule is a tuft of hairs
AURICLE	Auricle - None
ROOTS	Creeping stolons and rhizomes. Rhizomes are scaly and often form an almost impenetrable mat. Stolons are flat, smooth, usually bent and root at the nodes.
ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING TRAITS	Several varieties of bermudagrass are cultivated for use as sports fields, commercial properties, and pasture grasses.



TYPICAL GRASSY WEED

TYPE OF SOIL CONDITIONS OR PRACTICES FAVORING GROWTH	Bermudagrass is a warm season perennial species adapted to tropical and subtropical climates. It grows best under extended periods of high temperatures, mild winters and moderate to high rainfall
KEY MESSAGE TO HOMEOWNER	Proper cutting height and prudent fertilization will increase turfgrass vigor and reduce Bermudagrass production.
CULTURAL CONTROL	Maintain healthy, dense turf that can compete and prevent Bermudagrass establishment
MECHANICAL CONTROL	Proper mowing is the primary and most effective mechanical control in preventing Bermudagrass in your lawn. Hand pulling or using an appropriate weeding tool is another primary mean of mechanical Bermudagrass control in lawns. This is a viable option only at the beginning of an infestation and on young Bermudagrass. Hand pulling when the soil is moist makes the task easier. Once established Bermuda grass is exceedingly difficult to control and remove except by chemical means
CHEMICAL CONTROL	For large areas of invasion, a postemergence herbicide may be needed with the active ingredient fenoxaprop or fluazifop-p-butyl. Other consumer products that contain fluazifop, mesotrione, and topramezone can be used as recommended to control bermudagrass. Selective bermudagrass control requires four to eight treatments per year depending on rate. These chemical controls can be applied in the late spring when bermudagrass produces shoots and leaves. It is important to note that lawn grasses may be temporarily injured when you are targeting bermudagrass with these herbicides; therefore, treat only in spring and fall, and discontinue treatments during midsummer

SOURCES OF INFORMATION	<p>Fairfax Gardening; https://fairfaxgardening.org/top-5-summer-weeds/</p> <p>University of Maryland; https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/bermudagrass</p> <p>Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/189</p> <p>Oregon State University Nomenclature of Vegetative and Floral Structures https://forages.oregonstate.edu/regrowth/how-does-grass-grow/grass-structures</p> <p>VCE 2020 Pest Management Guide; https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-336E.pdf</p> <p>Photos Credits: Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/189</p> <p>University of Maryland; https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/bermudagrass</p>
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