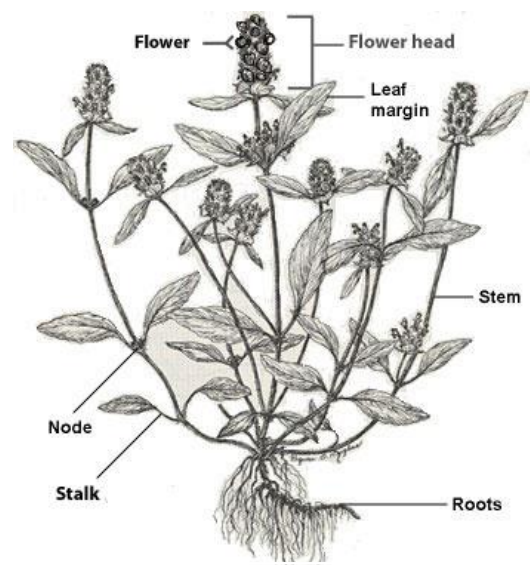


# BROADLEAF WEEDS

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>RED SORRELL, SHEEP SORREL</b>
<b>LATIN NAME:</b>	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>
<b>FAMILY:</b>	<u>Polygonaceae</u>
<b>OVERALL DESCRIPTION:</b>	
Red sorrel ( <i>Rumex acetosella</i> ) is a perennial weed that is easily identified by its red flowers and spade-shaped leaves. The plant produces large quantities of pollen that can contribute to hay fever.	
Common Names: field sorrell, sheep sorrel, red sorrell, dock	
<b>LIFE CYCLE</b>	Perennial
<b>SEASONS OF GROWTH</b>	This perennial flowers from May through September. This plant spreads by seed and horizontal roots, has a woody stem and can grow from 1/2 to 2 feet in height
<b>FLOWERS / SEEDHEAD</b>	Flowers can be red (female) or yellowish green (male). The slender flowering stalks are angular or ridged, terminating in a panicle with spike-like <a href="#">racemes</a> of tiny flowers. A flower produces a single seed, wrapped in the persistent <a href="#">tepals</a> that form a capsule-like structure.
<b>LEAF SHAPE</b>	Lance; round
<b>LEAF EDGES</b>	Toothless, simple
<b>LEAF ARRANGEMENT</b>	Alternate. Leaves generally develop on the basal rosette, with a few growing up on the stem
<b>GROWTH HABIT</b>	Upright and non-woody and can grow from 1/2 to 2 feet in height
<b>FULL LEAF SIZE</b>	1-3 inches in length with no hairs
<b>STEM CHARACTERISTICS</b>	Round or oval, stalk longer than the leaf
<b>ROOT</b>	Fibrous, herbaceous perennial with creeping rhizomes and roots can reach a depth of 5 feet
<b>ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING TRAITS</b>	The weed is edible in small quantities, and some people grow it as a green or an herb. While the plant is safe for humans, it is toxic to livestock if eaten in large quantities



Common Typical Broadleaf Weed Structure

<b>TYPE OF SOIL CONDITIONS OR PRACTICES FAVORING GROWTH</b>	This plant prefers acidic soils but can adapt to other conditions. It is common along roadsides, turf, and areas of poor drainage. Red sorrel is an indicator weed and is tolerant of acidic, nutrient deficient soils. If your landscape is dominated by red sorrel, have your soil analyzed
<b>KEY MESSAGE TO HOMEOWNER</b>	While it is edible by humans, because of the plant's tendency to accumulate soluble oxalates, it can cause fatalities in livestock if eaten in large quantities. It may also be toxic to cats and dogs as well
<b>CULTURAL CONTROL</b>	Proper turf maintenance is the key to control of this weed. First, select adapted turfgrass cultivars for your area and then properly fertilize, mow, and water to encourage dense growth
<b>MECHANICAL CONTROL</b>	The primary means of mechanical weed control in lawns is hand weeding. Hand weeding is often overlooked as a viable option for lawn weed control. Tools are available to help remove weeds from the lawn without bending. A quick internet search will provide more information and vendors for these kinds of tools
<b>CHEMICAL CONTROL</b>	<p>Herbicides should be used as a last resort because of the potential risks to people, animals, and the environment. Be aware of these precautions first.</p> <p>If you chose this option, spot treat weeds with a liquid, selective, post emergent, broadleaf weed killer applied when weeds are actively growing. Look for a product with one or more of the following active ingredients: 2, 4-D, MCPP (mecoprop), Dicamba* or Triclopyr</p> <p>*Do not spray herbicides containing dicamba over the root zone of trees and shrubs. Roots can absorb the product possibly causing plant damage. Refer to the product label for precautions</p>

<b>SOURCES OF INFORMATION</b>	<p>Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; <a href="https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/5">https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/5</a></p> <p>University of Maryland Extension; <a href="https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/red-sorrel-sheep-sorrel">https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/red-sorrel-sheep-sorrel</a></p> <p>Clemson Cooperative Extension; <a href="https://www.clemson.edu/cafls/research/weeds/weed-id-bio/broadleaf-weeds-parent/broadleaf-pages2/red-sorrel.html">https://www.clemson.edu/cafls/research/weeds/weed-id-bio/broadleaf-weeds-parent/broadleaf-pages2/red-sorrel.html</a> <a href="https://hgic.clemson.edu/weed-of-the-month-red-sorrel/">https://hgic.clemson.edu/weed-of-the-month-red-sorrel/</a></p> <p>Midwest Invasive Species Network; <a href="http://www.misin.msu.edu/facts/detail/?project=&amp;id=360">http://www.misin.msu.edu/facts/detail/?project=&amp;id=360</a></p> <p>VCE 2020 Pest Management Guide</p> <p>Photo Credits: NC State Cooperative Extension; <a href="https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/rumex-acetosella/">https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/rumex-acetosella/</a> Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; <a href="https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/5">https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/weeding/5</a></p>
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