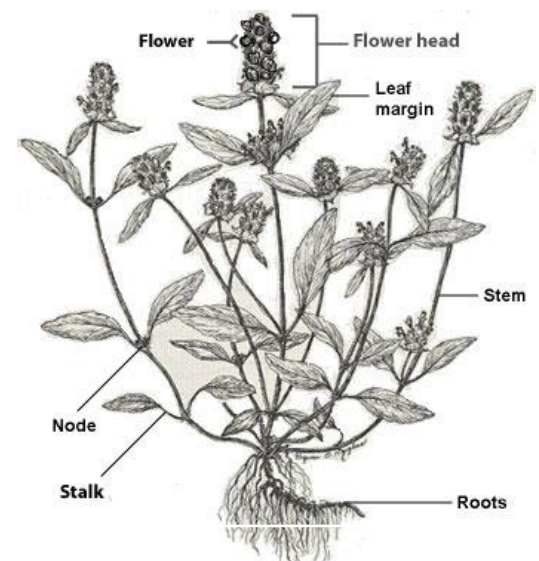


# BROADLEAF WEEDS

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>SPOTTED SPURGE</b>
<b>LATIN NAME:</b>	<i>Euphorbia maculate</i> (also called <i>Chamaesyce maculate</i> )
<b>FAMILY:</b>	Euphorbiaceae
<b>OVERALL DESCRIPTION:</b>	
A low-growing plant native to Eastern North America. Will grow in almost any open area (thin lawns, ornamental & garden beds, sidewalk cracks). Other common names include spotted euphorbia, spotted sand mat, milk purslane, and prostrate spurge.	
<b>LIFE CYCLE</b>	Summer Annual
<b>SEASONS OF GROWTH</b>	Late Spring to early Fall. Plants are killed by frost.
<b>FLOWERS / SEEDHEAD</b>	Small, pink, & grow from leaf axils Often go unnoticed.
<b>LEAF SHAPE</b>	Oblong
<b>LEAF EDGES</b>	Serrated (very finely toothed)
<b>LEAF ARRANGEMENT</b>	Opposite
<b>GROWTH HABIT</b>	Prostrate; mat-like. Can grow up to two feet long.
<b>FULL LEAF SIZE</b>	Small – approx. ¼ inch
<b>STEM CHARACTERISTICS</b>	Round, oval. Pink to maroon in color. Hairy. Contains milky sap that oozes when broken.
<b>ROOT</b>	Deep taproot
<b>ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING TRAITS</b>	Little reddish dot in middle of leaf.



Common Typical Broadleaf Weed Structure

<b>TYPE OF SOIL CONDITIONS OR PRACTICES FAVORING GROWTH</b>	Poor, compacted soil. Likes sunny conditions.
<b>KEY MESSAGE TO HOMEOWNER</b>	A common summer weed that is slow-growing and usually not noticed till mid to late summer. Often chokes out desirable turfgrasses. Can survive close mowing because of prostrate habit.
<b>CULTURAL CONTROL</b>	Maintain healthy dense turf that can compete and prevent weed establishment. Do not mow low.
<b>MECHANICAL CONTROL</b>	Hand pulling or using an appropriate weeding tool are the primary means of mechanical weed control in lawns. This is a viable option at the beginning of an infestation and on young weeds. Handpulling when the soil is moist makes the task easier.
<b>CHEMICAL CONTROL</b>	Herbicides should be used as a last resort. Table 5.5, PMG: Products containing Dicamba, 2,4-DMCPP, & Triclopyr as post-emergent herbicide. Broadleaf pre-emergent is effective in mid-to late March.

<b>SOURCES OF INFORMATION</b>	<p>University of Maryland Extension  <a href="https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/prostrate-spurge">https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/prostrate-spurge</a></p> <p>VCE, 2020 Pest Management Guide  <a href="https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-336.pdf">https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-336.pdf</a></p> <p>North Carolina State Extension  <a href="https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/spotted-spurge">https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/spotted-spurge</a></p> <p>University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Extension  <a href="https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/weeds/euphorbia-maculata">https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/weeds/euphorbia-maculata</a></p>
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