

Weeds of Southern Turfgrasses

Golf Courses ■ Lawns ■ Roadsides
Recreational Areas ■ Commercial Sod



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Diagnostic Grass Structures

The primary leaf structures used to identify grass weeds are the ligule, auricle, collar and sheath.

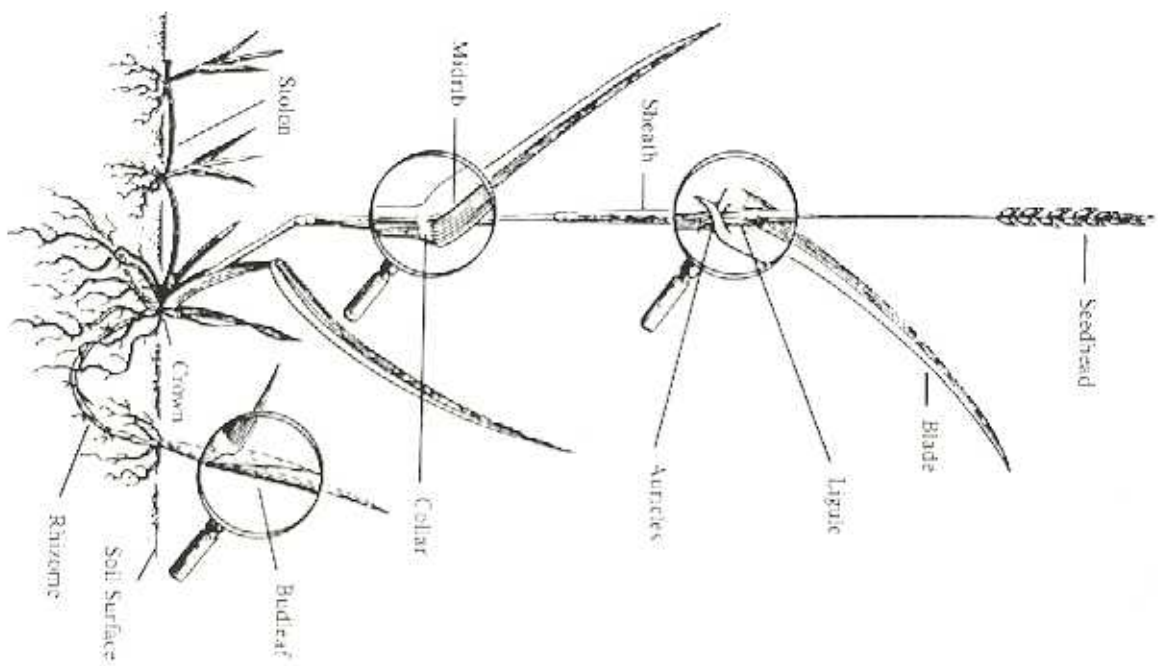


Illustration of the various parts of a grass plant.

Ligule

A projection on the inner side of the junction of the grass leaf blade and sheath. Ligules vary in size and shape; they may be membrane-like, hair-like or may be absent in some species.



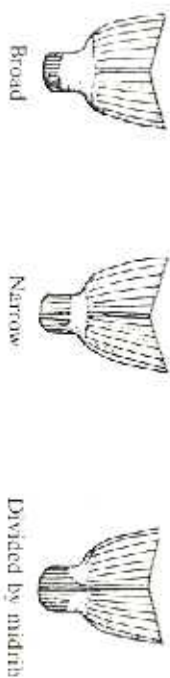
Auricle

An appendage protruding from the side of the grass leaf blade at its junction with the sheath. Auricles may be blunt (rudimentary), large and claw-like, hairy or absent.



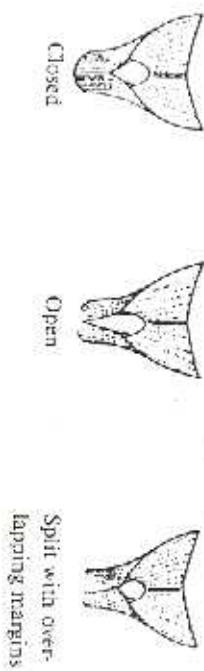
Collar

The outer side of a grass leaf at the junction of the blade and sheath. Collars may be divided by the midrib or continuous. Collars vary in shape from broad to narrow and may have straight or slanted sides.



Sheath

The lower portion of a grass leaf which encircles the stem. Sheath margins may be open, split with overlapping margins or closed.



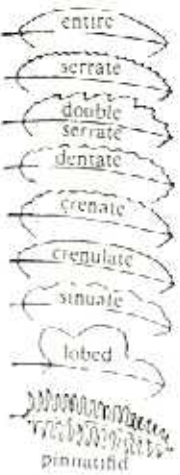
Broadleaf Plant Leaf Characteristics

Useful characteristics to identify broadleaf weeds include the leaf type, leaf margin, leaf shape, leaf attachment and leaf arrangement.

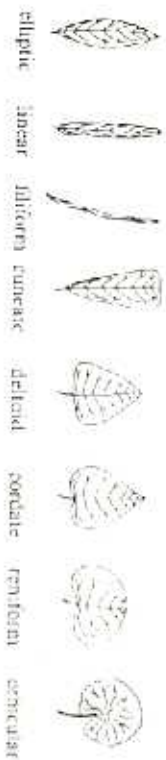
Simple and Compound Leaves



Leaf Margins



Leaf Shapes



Leaf Attachments



Leaf Arrangements



GRASS AND GRASS-LIKE PLANTS

Amnyliaceae

Spring Starflower

Iphæion uniflorum (Lindley) Raf.

Escaped, cultivated cool-season perennial from a central bulb. Leaves flat, linear, somewhat fleshy. Plant emits onion-like odor when crushed. Solitary, fragrant, white to lavender flowers on long stalks. Midribs of petals usually darker colored than petals. Mature fruit not seen. Occurs in North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, panhandle Florida and Texas. Native to Argentina.



Commelinaceae

Spreading Dayflower

Commelina diffusa Burm. f.

Freely-branched, reclining annual with smooth stems. Leaves broadly lance-shaped, with closed sheaths; sheaths short with a few soft hairs on upper margin. Flowers with three blue petals, in leaf-like structure open on the margins, usually solitary. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Found in most moist habitats. Occurs from Massachusetts, Missouri, Indiana, south into Florida and west to Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Tropical Africa, Asia, Taiwan, Japan and Malaysia.



Commelinaceae

Doveweed

Murdannia nudiflora (L.) Brenan;
[*Aneilema nudiflorum* (L.) Kunth]

Annual with fleshy, creeping stems, rooting at nodes. Leaves fleshy, alternate, narrowly lance-shaped. Leaf sheaths with soft hairs on upper margins. Flowers in somewhat open clusters, blue to purple. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in turf areas and moist woods. Found from North Carolina through Florida, west into Texas. Also in Asia.



Cyperaceae

Green Kyllinga (Perennial Kyllinga)

Cyperus brevifolius (Roth.) Hassk.
[*Kyllinga brevifolius* Roth.]

Mat-forming perennial to 6 inches (15 cm) tall from reddish purple rhizomes. Leaves and stems, dark green. Seedhead simple, nearly round or oblong, with usually three short leaves just below. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found in low areas or where moisture is in excess. Of sporadic occurrence from Delaware and Rhode Island south through the Carolinas. Common from Georgia into south Florida, west to Texas and California. Also occurs in Hawaii, Mexico, Central and South America, the West Indies, Africa, Asia, Indonesia, Australia and Europe.



Cyperaceae

Annual Sedge

Cyperus compressus L.

Annual. Seedhead with a few long leaves at the top of a bare stem. Clusters of flat spikes on short to long stalks. Spikes greenish, sometimes glossy, up to 1 inch (2.5 cm) long. Reproduces by seed. Found in sandy, moist, disturbed areas. Occurs from Minnesota, Ohio and New York south through Florida and west to Texas. Also found in Bolivia, Ecuador and Brazil.



Cyperaceae

Yellow Nutsedge
(Yellow Nutgrass)

Cyperus esculentus L.

Rapidly spreading, perennial with three-ranked basal leaves. Leaves flat or slightly corrugated, usually as long or longer than flowering stem, with long attenuated tip. Seedhead yellowish-brown or straw colored, formed at end of triangular stem. Tubers round, lacking hairs and formed at ends of whitish rhizomes. Does not form chains of tubers. Tubers sweet to taste. Reproduces primarily by tubers. Found throughout the United States. Also found in Canada, the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Hawaii.



Cyperaceae

Globe Sedge

Cyperus globulosus Aubl.

Perennial with densely tufted leaves. Leaf blades flat, smooth, bright green. Seedhead branches at top of stem. Seeds in loose globe-like clusters. Reproduces by seed. Occurs commonly in turf and other moist to dry sandy habitats. Found from Virginia south into Florida and west to Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri. Also occurs in the West Indies, Central and South America, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan and China.



Yellow Nutsedge, left;
Purple Nutsedge, right.

Cyperaceae

Purple Sedge
(Saw Sedge)

Cyperus ligularis L.

Tufted, large, coarse perennial, waxy-white to purple in color, with a hard base and triangular stems. Leaf sheaths also waxy-white to purple. Leaf blades waxy, thick, stiff and with sharp, finely toothed margins and midvein. Seedhead with five to 12 leaf-like rays and several dense, head-like, usually lobed, oblong spikes. Some spikes on short to long stalks. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed areas, pine-lands, coastal hammocks and swamps in central and southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico south into Brazil and in Tropical Africa.



Cyperaceae

Texas Sedge

Cyperus polystachyos Roth.

Annual with stems of varying heights. Leaf blades reddish-brown to greenish-brown. Seedhead branches tightly clustered to open and diffusely spreading. Seeds in long, very narrow, flattened, reddish-brown spikes. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in occasionally moist to wet sandy soils. Found from Massachusetts to Missouri, south into Florida and west to Texas. Cosmopolitan in the tropics, the West Indies, Central America, Europe, Asia and Hawaii.



Cyperaceae

Cylindric Sedge

Cyperus retrofractus Chapm.

Perennial with densely tufted leaves. Leaf blades flat, smooth, bright green. Seedhead branches at top of stem. Seeds in tight cylindrical clusters. Differs from globe sedge in that the seedheads are usually longer and cylindrically shaped. Reproduces by seed. Occurs commonly in turf and most other sandy habitats from moist to dry. Found from New York to southern Florida, west to Texas and Oklahoma, inland to Arkansas and Tennessee.

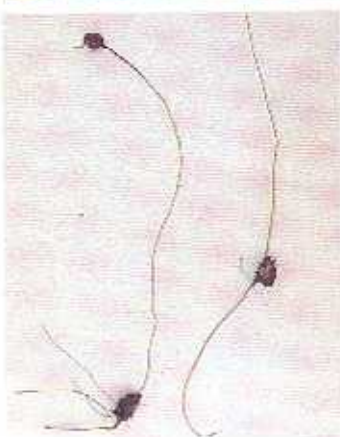


Cyperaceae

Purple Nutsedge

Cyperus rotundus L.

Rapidly-spreading, perennial with three-ranked basal leaves. Leaves flat or slightly corrugated, usually shorter than flowering stem, flat or slightly tapering at tip. Seedhead purple to reddish brown, formed at end of triangular stem. Tubers, oblong, covered with hairs, and found in chains connected by brown, wiry rhizomes. Tubers bitter to taste. Reproduces primarily by tubers. Found in the southern states, north to Kentucky and West Virginia, west to Central Texas and in southern California. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Hawaii.



Cyperaceae

Annual Kyllinga

Cyperus sesquiflorus (Torr.) Matf. & Kuekenh.

Annual. Seedhead with a single elongate-rounded, sometimes lobed head. Head subtended by three or four leaves at the top of a bare stem. Reproduces by seed. Found in moist disturbed areas. Occurs from North Carolina and Arkansas, south to Florida and west to eastern Texas. Also occurs in Mexico, Central America, Uruguay and the West Indies.



Cyperaceae

False Nutsedge

Cyperus strigosus L.

Perennial from short rhizomes. Many large leaves at top of bare triangular stem under the seedhead. Narrow greenish-yellow spikelets massed on short to long stalks in congested to open seedheads. Reproduces by seed. Found in ditches, marshes and other moist to wet areas. Occurs from Maine, Minnesota, South Dakota, south into Florida, west to Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Also found in California, Oregon, Washington and Quebec. Introduced into Italy.



Cyperaceae

Surinam Sedge

Cyperus surinamensis Roth.

Perennial from short rhizomes. A few long leaves at top of the triangular stem under the seedhead. Stem with downward curving prickles, rough to the touch when rubbed upwards. Seedhead with numerous congested clusters of spikes on long stalks. Reproduces by seed. Found in ditches, marshes and other moist to wet sites. Occurs from South Carolina south into Florida and west to Texas. Also found in Central America, Bolivia and Argentina.



Cyperaceae

Hurricanegrass

Fimbristylis spathulacea Roth.

Tufted perennial from a rhizomatous crown. Triangular stems erect, one to several per tuft, unbranched to the seedhead. Leaves very narrow, flat to rolled. Leaves immediately below seedhead, shorter than seedhead. Seedhead a dense cluster of flowers. Scales of flowers brown with a papery margin. Reproduces by seed. Found in brackish areas and dry waste areas. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central America, South America and the Old World Tropics.



Gramineae

Bushy Bluestem
(Bushy Broomgrass,
Bushy Beardgrass)

Andropogon glomeratus (Walt.) BSP.

Perennial with several tall stems from a basal crown. Leaf sheaths flattened and keeled. Flowers green to reddish-purple, becoming straw-colored upon maturity. Seeds with white silky hairs, paired. Reproduces by seed. Differs from broomsedge in that the seedheads are very dense and bushy in a cluster at the top of the stem. Occurs in wet areas of old fields, pastures and roadside ditches. Occurs from Massachusetts to Michigan, throughout the Atlantic coastal and southeastern states and Florida. Also occurs in Ontario, the West Indies, Mexico, Central America and Colombia. Naturalized in California, Hawaii, Japan and Australia.



Gramineae

Broomsedge
(Broomgrass, Sagegrass)

Andropogon virginicus L.

Perennial with several tall stems from a basal crown. Leaf sheaths flattened and keeled. Flowers green to reddish-purple, becoming straw-colored upon maturity. Seeds with white silky hairs, paired. Reproduces by seed. Differs from bushy bluestem in that the seedheads are longer with scattered flowers. Found in old fields, roadsides and pastures. Occurs in the northeastern, southeastern and middle Atlantic states, throughout Florida to Texas, Utah and Nevada. Also found in the West Indies and Central America.



Gramineae

Sweet Vernalgrass

Anthoxanthum odoratum L.

Tufted winter annual or perennial. Leaves smooth or hairy on both surfaces. Leaf sheath with thin marginal membrane. Visible membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Seedheads "spike-like" with awned spikelets. Pleasant, sweet aroma when crushed. Reproduces by seed. Found from Illinois, south throughout the southeastern United States, except Florida. Also found in Arkansas, California, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. Also occurs in Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Gramineae

Carpetgrass

Axonopus affinis Chase

Mat-forming perennial from somewhat flattened, smooth stolons. Leaf blade, smooth on both surfaces, tip rounded; few long hairs present on leaf sheath margin and at base of blade margin. Seedhead resembles that of crabgrass spp., with two to five ascending spikes. Uppermost two branches usually paired. Often seeded as a companion grass to centipedegrass. Common in the Coastal Plain of the Gulf states, north to North Carolina, and west to Arkansas and Oklahoma. Also occurs in Central and South America, India, Australia and southern Africa.



Gramineae

Alexandergrass
(Creeping Signalgrass)

Brachiaria plantaginifera (Link.)
A. S. Hitchc.

Summer annual with prostrate, creeping smooth stems, rooting at nodes. Leaf blades usually smooth, flat and wide. Leaf sheath often with hairs on margin. Seedhead branches spreading like "signal flags" with seeds on underside. Occurring in turf and disturbed habitats. Reproduces by seed. Found in peninsula of Florida, Georgia and isolated places in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Hawaii. Also in Mexico, Central and South America. Native to Tropical America.



Gramineae

Broadleaf Signalgrass

Brachiaria platyphylla (Griseb.) Nash

Spreading, highly-branched summer annual rooting at lower nodes. Leaf blade short and wide, smooth on both surfaces, often partly folded or creased near the tip. Spikelets on underside of two to six ascending branches. Angle of branches resembles a "signal flag." Reproduces by seed. May be common during turfgrass establishment. Found throughout the Southeast from North Carolina into Florida and west to Oklahoma and Texas.



Gramineae

Smallflowered Alexandrigrass *Brachiaria subquadriflora* (Trin.)
A. S. Hitchc.

Perennial from stolons. Leaf blade and sheath hairy. Flowering branches ascending, to 18 inches (45 cm) tall. Seedheads with two to seven branches or "fingers." Seeds located under and appressed to the branch. Angle of branches resembling a "signal flag." Reproduces by seed and stolons. Found in lawns, cultivated fields, disturbed areas and hammocks. Occurs throughout peninsula of Florida. Introduced into Africa, Mexico, Costa Rica and the West Indies. Native to India, Burma, Malaysia, Java, some Pacific Islands and Australia.



Gramineae

Southern Sandbur *Cenchrus echinatus* L.
(Southern Sandspur)

Tufted summer annual, occasionally with some stems bending and rooting at the lower nodes. Stems frequently reddish at base. Leaf blade smooth or slightly sandpapery. Leaf sheath smooth. Seedhead a spike of spiny burs. Spines on bur body flattened. Spines at base of bur a ring of rounded bristles. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed sandy areas. Occurs throughout the South from North Carolina west to New Mexico. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Uruguay, South America, Africa, Oceania, India and Hawaii.



Gramineae

Field Sandbur

(Coast Sandspur, Field Sandspur)

Cenchrus incertus M. A. Curtis

Annual or short-lived perennial with erect or ascending stems. Leaf blades flat to slightly folded, sandpaper-y to the touch. Seedheads in spikes of burs with flat spines. Burs finely hairy with one to three seeds. Reproduces by seed. Found in open sandy sites. Occurs from Virginia along the coast to California, inland to Oklahoma and Arkansas. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico to coastal Central and South America, South Africa and the Philippines.



Gramineae

Orchardgrass

Dactylis glomerata L.

Tufted perennial. Stems bent at base. Leaf blade, V-shaped in cross section near base, prominent midrib on underside, margins rough to the touch. Visible sharp-pointed membranous ligule at base of blade. Seedheads green, densely clustered. Reproduces by seed. An introduced cool-season forage grass found throughout most of North America, except peninsula of Florida. Also found in Europe, Asia, Australia, South America and Hawaii. Native to the Old World.



Gramineae

Crowfootgrass

Dactyloctenium aegyptium (L.) Willd.

Tufted summer annual with upwardly bent stems. Leaves with row of hairs extending outward from the margin at the base of blade. Spikelets arranged on two to five "fingers" at tip of the stem. Outer tips of fingers extended giving seedhead a "crowfoot" appearance. Reproduces by seed. Fairly common in low maintenance areas in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont regions of the southern states, north to New York and west to California. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Australia, Europe, Asia, Tropical Africa and Hawaii.



Gramineae

Tropical Crabgrass

Digitaria bicornis (Lam.) Roem. & Schult. ex Loud.

Annual bending and rooting at lower nodes. Leaf sheaths and blades hairy. Blades usually over 2 inches (6 cm) long. Visible membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Differs from large and southern crabgrass in that seedhead branches all join stem at same point. Reproduces by seed. Found in the Gulf Coastal Plain from Texas throughout Florida. Thought to be introduced from the Old World.



Gramineae

Smooth Crabgrass

Digitaria ischaemum (Schreb. ex Schweig.) Schreb. ex Muhl.

Tufted or prostrate, spreading summer annual. Leaves smooth on both surfaces. Leaf sheath smooth, few long hairs at collar. Visible membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Seedhead with two to six "finger-like" branches. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States and in Europe.



Gramineae

India Crabgrass

Digitaria longiflora (Retz.) Pers.

Mat-forming annual or perennial, with creeping stolons. Flowering stems ascending. Leaves crowded on creeping stems, blades very short, usually about 1 inch (2 to 2.5 cm) long. Visible membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Differs from blanket crabgrass in that the sheaths and blades are smooth. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Common in dry, sandy, disturbed areas and turf. Found in panhandle and peninsula of Florida. Also found in Hawaii, the West Indies and Costa Rica. Native to the Old World Tropics.



Gramineae

Large Crabgrass and

Southern Crabgrass

Digitaria sanguinalis (L.) Scop.

Digitaria ciliaris (Retz.) Koel.

Tufted or prostrate to spreading summer annual with branched stems that root at the nodes. Leaf blade, longer than 2 inches (5 cm), usually hairy on both surfaces, visible toothed, membranous ligule at base of leaf. Leaf sheath with dense hairs. Spikelets in two to nine finger-like branches. Southern crabgrass is distinguished from large crabgrass on the basis of the length of the second glume (a bract at the base of a spikelet). These species differ from tropical crabgrass in that the seedhead branches arise from different points of attachment along the stalk. Both species reproduce by seed. Southern crabgrass occurs common southward east of the Appalachian region, throughout Florida, extending west into Texas and north into Kansas and Nebraska. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America. Large crabgrass is found throughout North America, except Florida, and the warm temperate regions of the world. Both species thought to be introduced from the Old World.



Gramineae

Blanket Crabgrass

Digitaria serotina (Walt.) Michx.

Mat-forming annual with creeping stolons. Flowering stems ascending or erect. Leaves crowded on the creeping stems, blades very short, about 1 inch (2 to 2.5 cm) long. Visible membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Differs from India crabgrass in that the sheaths and blades are hairy. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Found in pastures, moist disturbed areas, lawns and low wet places. Found from Pennsylvania south throughout Florida, and west to Texas. Also found in Cuba.



Gramineae

Junglerice

Echinochloa colomum (L.) Link

Summer annual with erect or ascending smooth stems. Leaf blades smooth, no membrane or hairs at base of blade. Leaf sheaths smooth. Seedhead with appressed to spreading branches. Branches usually less than 1 inch (< 2 cm) long. Seeds small, in four rows, covered with stiff short hairs. Reproduces by seed. Found in ditches and moist disturbed areas. Found from New Jersey, Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri and Oklahoma south to Florida and west to Texas, California and Oregon. Cosmopolitan in warm climates.



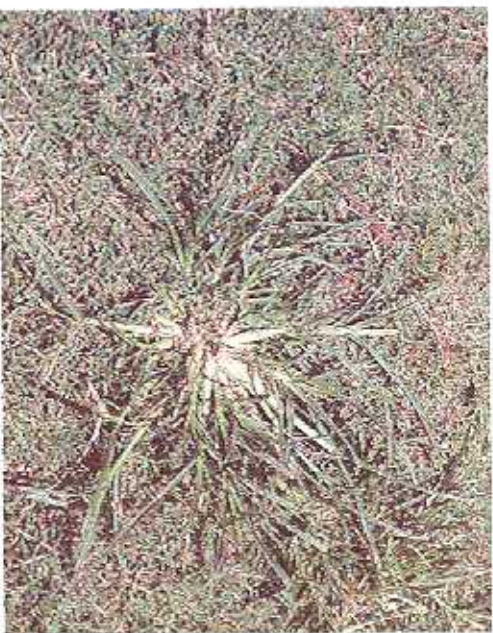
Gramineae

Goosegrass

(Crowfoot, Silver Crabgrass)

Eleusine indica (L.) Gaertn.

Tough, clumped summer annual, generally with a "whitish to silvery" coloration at the center of the plant. Leaf blade smooth on both surfaces, occasionally a few hairs near the base. Visible, short-toothed, membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Spikelets in two rows on two to 13 fingers. Frequently a single finger below the terminal cluster of fingers. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the temperate and warm parts of the United States and throughout the warm temperate, subtropical and tropical areas of the world.



Gramineae

Gophertail Lovegrass

Eragrostis ciliaris (L.) R. Br.

Erect annual with smooth leaves. Leaf sheath with hairs on upper margins. Ligule a short fringe of hairs. Seedhead narrow, elongated, dense and fuzzy. Individual flowers with long stiff hairs on the margins. Reproduces by seed. Found in cultivated areas, roadsides, lawns, waste places and pine woods. Occurs from New Jersey south into Florida and west to Texas. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, India and Tropical Africa.



Gramineae

Rock Fingergrass

Eustachys petraea (Sw.) Desv.
[*Chloris petraea* Sw.]

Annual with tufted or creeping flattened, smooth stems, rooting at nodes. Blades flat or sometimes folded, smooth, light green to blue-green in color. Leaf sheaths smooth, keeled (flattened and joined along midrib). Seedheads usually with two to eight or occasionally to 10 spreading branches. Seeds dark to golden brown, on lower side of branch. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Occurring in poor sandy or limestone soils in turf and in most native and disturbed habitats. Found from Coastal Plain North Carolina into Florida, and west to Texas. Also found in Central and South America and the West Indies.



Gramineae

Little Barley

Hordeum pusillum Nutt.

Erect, tufted or clumped, winter annual. Leaf blade smooth to hairy. Ligule membranous. Sheath smooth to hairy. Spikelets with long bristles formed in long, narrow foxtail-like seedheads. Reproduces by seed. Found in most of the United States, except for the northeastern and northern most central states. Also occurs in South America.



Gramineae

Cogongrass

(Japgrass)

Imperata cylindrica (L.) Beauv.

Dense erect, spreading perennial from seed or scaly white rhizomes. Newly emerging shoots sharp and stiff to touch. Stems upright. Leaves very stiff or rigid, smooth except for tufts of hair on upper surface at base of blade. Base of blade often narrow and petiole-like. Midvein is not in the center of the leaf blade. Sheath smooth to hairy. Seedhead a plume-like panicle. Spikelets numerous, each surrounded by long, silky hairs at base. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found only in the Gulf Coast region of the southeast United States. Also occurs in Tropical Africa, Europe, Australia, Asia and Hawaii.



Gramineae

Sprangletop

Leptochloa spp.

Tufted annuals or perennials with leafy stems. Leaf blades flat. Ligule papery. Seedhead of many spreading branches with many spikelets, each with two to 12 flowers. Spikelets on the lower side of the branch. Flowers often with hairs on the nerves. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in disturbed and waste areas and low, moist to wet sites, ditches and fields. Found from New Hampshire to Indiana to North Dakota south into Florida, and west into Texas, Arizona, California and Oregon. Also found in Mexico, Central and South America, and the West Indies.



Gramineae

Annual Jewgrass

Microstegium vinineum (Trin.) A. Camus

Prostrate to somewhat erect, freely-branched summer annual. Leaf blade sparsely hairy on upper and lower surfaces. Spikelets in one to three terminal upright fingers. Reproduces by seed. Usually found in shaded areas in the mountain and Piedmont regions of the southern states, from Ohio and Virginia into Alabama. Native to Asia.



Gramineae

Nimblewill

Muhlenbergia schreberi J. E. Sm.

Delicate perennial with a reclining growth habit. Leaves very narrow, short, and hairless. Leaf collars hairy. Ligule a short, jagged membrane. Sheaths smooth. Panicle narrow, with ascending branches. Reproduces by seed. Thrives in moist, shady sites. Often confused with bermudagrass. Found in the northeast, southeast and midwest United States. Also found in Canada and Mexico.



Gramineae

Broadleaf Panicum

(Tropic Panicum,
Dominican Panicum)

Panicum adspersum Trin.;
[*Brachiaria adspersa* (Trin.) Parodi]

Annual which sometimes bends and roots at the lower nodes. Stems leafy, erect to ascending. Leaf blades broad, flat, often covered with fine hairs. Leaf sheaths entirely hairy or hairy in lines along the margins. Seedheads with ascending branches. Flowers purple to greenish-yellow, with obscure rectangular lines. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed and open areas, turf, fields. Occurs only in peninsula of Florida from Volusia County southwards. Also found in the West Indies. Has been found on ballast in Philadelphia, PA; Camden, NJ; and Mobile, AL.



Gramineae

Fall Panicum

Panicum dichotomiflorum Michx.

Sprawling to erect summer annual. Stems bent and branched outward. Leaf blade smooth, occasionally hairy on the upper surface, with a distinct broad, light green midrib. Ligule a fringe of hairs. Seedhead purplish colored at maturity, open and freely branched. Reproduces by seed. Common during turfgrass establishment. Found from Maine, Michigan and Minnesota, south into Florida and west to Texas, Arizona, California and Hawaii. Also found in Europe.



Gramineae

Guineagrass

Panicum maximum Jacq.

Perennial or annual with densely tufted stems. Stems sometimes bending and rooting at nodes, quite variable, smooth to hairy, branched or not branched. Leaf blades flat, large, usually smooth or occasionally hairy. Leaf sheaths usually hairy. Seedheads large, with spreading branches. Seedhead branches at lowest nodes usually whorled. Flowers somewhat blunt at tip. Seeds with fine wrinkles. Reproduces by seed and rarely by stolons. Occurring in fields, wet prairies, roadsides and most disturbed areas. Found in peninsula of Florida and southern Texas. Native to Africa. Cosmopolitan in warm climates.



Gramineae

Torpedograss

Panicum repens L.

Perennial with robust, creeping, sharply pointed rhizomes. Stems stiff and erect. Leaves folded or flat and sparsely hairy on upper surface. Seedheads with stiff, ascending or appressed branches. Reproduces primarily by rhizomes. Found in the Gulf Coast region of the southeast United States from Florida west into Texas. Also occurs in Tropical Africa, Tropical Asia, Europe and Hawaii.

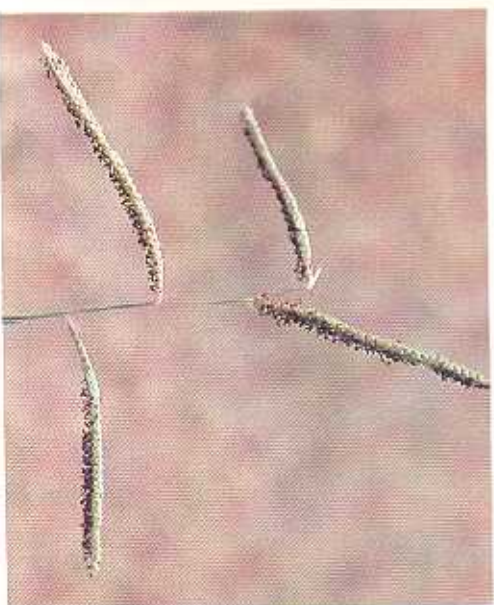


Gramineae

Dallisgrass

Paspalum dilatatum Poir.

Clumped perennial from short thick rhizomes. Leaf sheaths at base of plant sometimes rough hairy. Leaf blade, smooth on both surfaces, with a few long hairs at leaf base and behind ligule at base of leaf blade. Ligule tall, membranous, either sharply or bluntly tipped. Spikelets arranged in four rows on three to seven alternate branches. Reproduces by seed and very short rhizomes. Common throughout the southeastern states, north to Virginia, west to Arizona, California and the Pacific Northwest. Also occurs in the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe and Hawaii.



Gramineae

Field Paspalum

Paspalum laeve Michx.

Tufted perennial from short, scaly rhizomes. Stems erect. Leaf sheaths and blades hairy to smooth. Ligule membranous. Seedhead with one to five ascending branches. Flowers and seeds on undersides of narrowly winged branches. Flowers smooth, elliptic to round, single. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found in moist to wet turf, roadsides, low fields and pinewoods, around ponds. Occurs from Massachusetts south into Florida and west to Kansas and Texas.

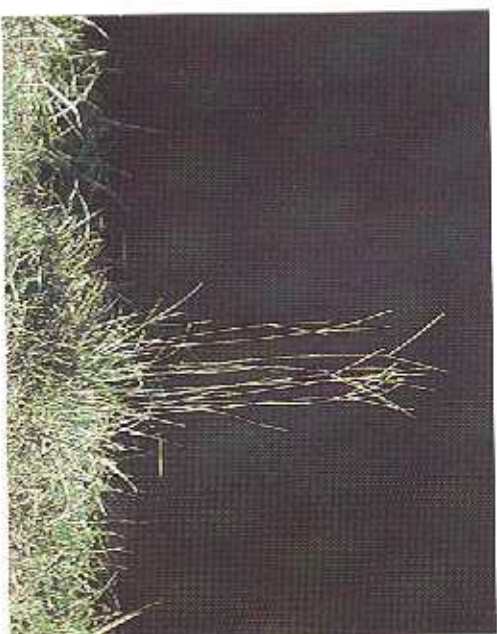


Gramineae

Bahiagrass

Paspalum notatum Fluegge

Aggressive, mat-forming, warm-season perennial with shallow, often-exposed reddish to purple colored rhizomes. Leaves, primarily basal, somewhat folded, smooth on both surfaces or often hairy only at the collar. Ligule short, membranous. Seedheads with usually two or occasionally three branches. Seedhead branches usually paired. Spikelets in two rows on lower sides. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Common primarily in the Gulf States, north to North Carolina and west to Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Central America and Hawaii. Native to South America.



Gramineae

Thin Paspalum (Bull Paspalum)

Paspalum setaceum Michx.

Perennial with stems leaning out from center forming a large, flat clump. Leaf sheaths hairy. Leaf blades flat, hairy to almost smooth, always at least a fringe of stiff hairs along margins. Seedhead branches one to six on slender stalks, spreading. Seeds in pairs on lower side of branch. Reproduces by seed and fragmentation of larger clumps. Common in sandy soils. Throughout the Coastal Plain from Long Island to Florida, west to New Mexico and Colorado, north through Nebraska and Ohio to Tennessee. Also found in the West Indies, Panama and Mexico.



Gramineae

Vaseygrass

Paspalum urvillei Steud.

Perennial with densely tufted stems. Leaf sheaths usually rough, hairy. Leaf blades flat, smooth except for hairs at base of blade on upper surface. Ligule membranous, tall. Seedheads with four to 30 spreading branches. Branches with paired, hairy flowers in lines on the lower side. Reproduces by seed. Occurring in ditches, fields, pastures, disturbed areas and pinelands usually where the soil is moist to wet. Found from Virginia into Florida, west into Texas and southern California. Also found throughout the warm and tropical areas of the world and Europe. Native to South America.



Gramineae

Annual Bluegrass

Poa annua L.

Small tufted to clumped winter annual. Leaf blade, smooth on both surfaces, with two distinct, clear lines, one on each side of the midrib. Leaf tip keeled or boat-shaped. Ligule membranous. Light green to whitish spikelets that lack collary hairs, are arranged on branches, one to two per node, in dense to open flower clusters. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the world.



Gramineae

Knoutroot Foxtail

Setaria geniculata (Lam.) Beauv.

Spreading, perennial from short knotty rhizomes. Leaves smooth, occasionally hairy at base of blade. Leaf sheath smooth. Seedhead a dense spike resembling a fox's tail, yellow to purple. Spikelets surrounded by four to 12 bristles. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Hawaii and Europe. Yellow foxtail [*Setaria glauca* (L.) Beauv.] is similar but lacks short rhizomes. Green foxtail [*Setaria viridis* (L.) Beauv.] is also similar, but lacks short rhizomes, has hairs at the top of the leaf sheath, and has zero to three bristles per spikelet.



Gramineae

Johnsongrass

Sorghum halepense (L.) Pers.

Coarse perennial from long, thick, scaly, sharp pointed rhizomes. Stems erect, forming dense stands to 6 feet (2 m) tall. Leaf blade with prominent white midvein and hairs at base of upper surface. Prominent membranous ligule at base of leaf blade. Large, open seedhead often purple in color. Seeds hairy. Does not persist under close frequent mowing. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found from Massachusetts to Iowa, south into Florida, and west into Texas, Arizona and California. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Hawaii, Europe, Africa, India and Australia. Native from southern Eurasia east to India. Introduced into the warmer regions of the world.



Gramineae

Coral Dropseed

Sporobolus domingensis (Trin.) Kunth

Tufted, erect perennial. Leaf blade sandpaperly on the upper surface. Leaf sheath often with hairs along upper margins. Seedhead branches ascending to appressed. Flowers, gray to purplish. Seedheads narrow, densely flowered. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed areas, ditches, sandy turf, beaches and hammocks. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida and the West Indies.



Gramineae

Smutgrass

Sporobolus indicus (L.) R. Br.
[*Sporobolus poiretii* (Roem.
& Schult.) Hitchc.]

Tufted perennial with erect stems. Leaf blades flat to usually folded at base of plant becoming rounded toward tip. Seedhead very narrow or with spreading branches. Seeds infected with a black fungus (smut) or unaffected and brown. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in turf, pastures and roadsides. Found throughout the southeast United States, from Virginia into Florida and Texas, inland to Oklahoma and Missouri. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Japan and the Philippines. Native to Tropical America.



Iridaceae

Annual Blue-eyed-grass

Sisyrinchium rosulatum Bickn.

Winter annual, often mistaken as goosegrass, with usually zigzag stems. Leaves flat, light green, all clustered at the base. Flowers pale purple to white with a rose-purple eye ring. Reproduces by seed. Found on moist sites in lawns, roadsides, and pastures. Occurs from North Carolina, south into central peninsula Florida and west to Texas and Arkansas. Native to South America. Several perennial species of *Sisyrinchium*, which generally resemble annual blue-eyed-grass, also occur on turfgrass sites.

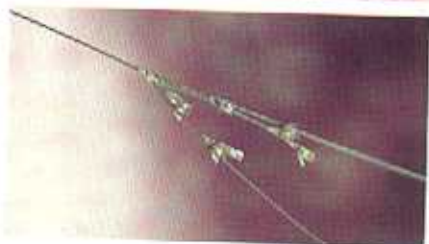
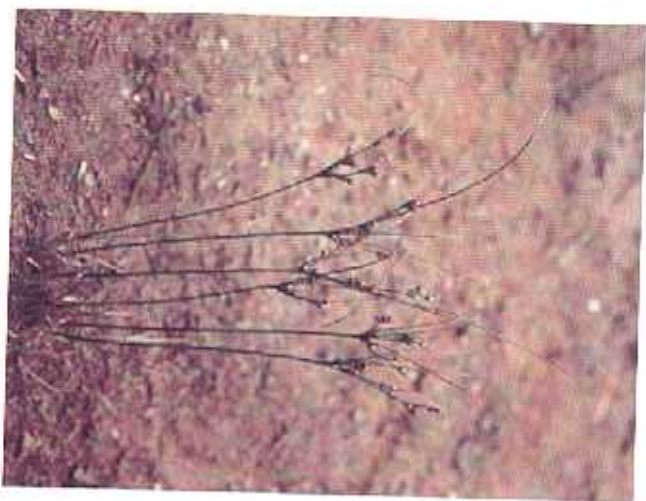


Juncaceae

Slender Rush (Path Rush)

Juncus tenuis Willd.

Perennial with tufted stems. Leaf blades flat, basal, shorter than stem. Leaf sheaths with conspicuous papery margins. Seedhead branches ascending, flowers separated. Leaves at top of stem longer than seedhead. Reproduces by seed. Occurs on moist roadsides, compacted sites and shaded areas. Found throughout the United States. Also found worldwide.



Liliaceae

Wild Garlic

Allium vineale L.

Cool-season perennial with slender, hollow cylindrical leaves. Leaves occur on the flowering stem up to half the height of the plant. Underground bulb bears offset bulblets that are flattened on one side and enclosed by a membrane. Flowers, greenish-white, small, on short stems above aerial bulbils. Plant with distinctive garlic odor when crushed. Reproduces by seed, aerial bulbils and underground bulblets. Found throughout most of the eastern and southern United States, west to Missouri and Arkansas. Also found in Canada, North Africa and Europe. Wild onion (*Allium canadense* L.) is often found on same sites as wild garlic. Wild onion can be distinguished from wild garlic by presence of a fibrous coat on the central bulb, no offset bulblets and leaves that arise near the base of a solid flowering stem.



Liliaceae

Star-of-Bethlehem

Ornithogalum umbellatum L.

Cool-season perennial from a central bulb. Leaves narrow, linear, with a conspicuous pale-green to white channeled midrib. Flowers, white, petals six, with a characteristic green stripe on underside. Reproduces by seed and underground bulbs. Found primarily in the Piedmont regions of the southern states. Also occurs in Canada, western Asia, North Africa, Europe and Hawaii.



BROADLEAF PLANTS

Aizoaceae

Carpetweed

Mollugo verticillata L.

Prostrate summer annual with numerous smooth, branched stems. Leaves light green in color, smooth, spoon-shaped and arranged in whorls of five to six at each node. Flowers, white, arranged in clusters of two to five on slender stalks from leaf axils, petals five. Reproduces by tiny, reddish seed. Usually a problem only during turfgrass establishment. Found throughout most of the United States. Also found in Canada, through Mexico into Central and South America, Africa and Asia.



Alternanthera flavescens HBK.
[*Alternanthera ramosissima* (Mart.)
Chod.; *Achyranthes ramosissima*
(Mart.) Standl.]

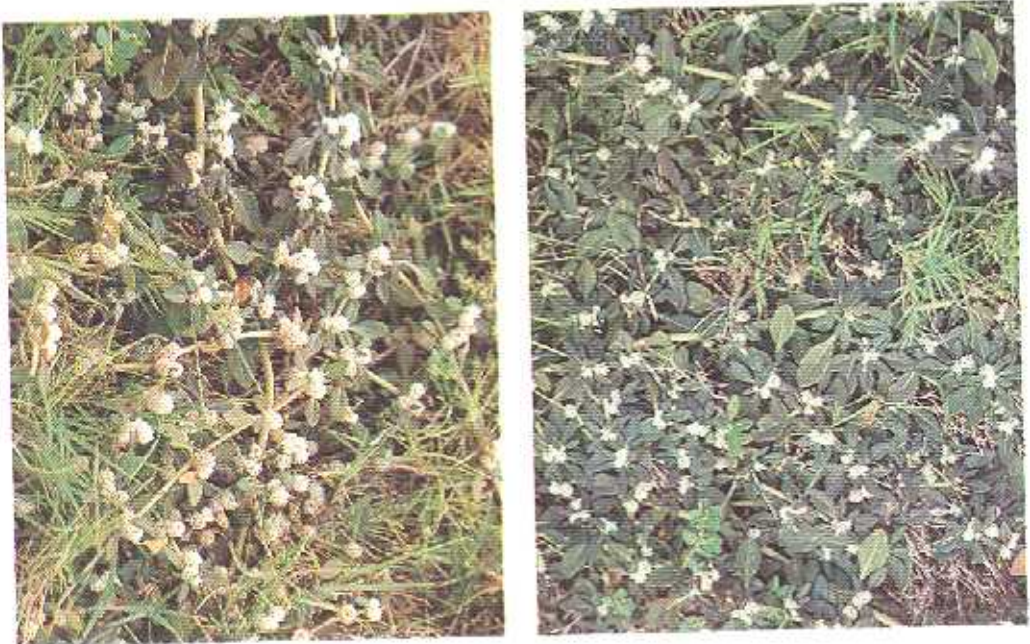
Much branched, spreading, hairy perennial often sprawling over low vegetation. Leaves elliptic, thin, sharp-pointed, opposite, with short petioles. Flowers in papery, white, round to oblong heads on long stalks. Reproduces by seed. Found in sandy, open, disturbed areas and woods. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America.



Smooth Chaff-flower
(Chaff-flower, Willow-wort)

Alternanthera paronychioides St. Hil.

Creeping perennial, usually with hairy stems. Leaves opposite, elliptic to spatulate, pointed to round tip. Flowers in white, papery, round to oblong sessile heads in leaf axils. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Found in open, sandy, disturbed areas and sandy lawns. Occurs from North Carolina south into Florida and west into Texas. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America.



Amaranthaceae

Khakiweed

Amaranthus purgens H.B.K.

Prostrate annual or perennial from a thick tap root. Stems hairy. Leaves opposite, broadest at the rounded tip, tapering to the petiole. Leaf margins smooth. Flowers white, in stiff-bracted, almost spiny heads. Heads sessile, solitary or two or three clustered at the nodes. Reproduces by seed. Found in turf, pastures and along roadsides in sandy soils. Occurs in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Texas and California. Also found in Cuba, Jamaica, eastern Mexico, Java, India, Kenya, South Africa and Australia. Native to South America.



Amaranthaceae

Livid Amaranth

Amaranthus blitum L.
[*Amaranthus lividus* L.]

Annual with prostrate, ascending or erect, smooth stems. Leaves with long petioles. Leaf blades usually oval, sometimes slightly broader above the middle. Leaf tips, at least some, with a notch. Flowers above the middle. Leaf tips, at least some, with a notch. Flowers green, in dense clusters in leaf axils or at tips of stems. Male and female flowers separate but mixed in the clusters. Reproduces by seed. Found in lawns, pastures, gardens and row crops. Occurs from Massachusetts south into Florida. Also found in Ontario, Quebec, the West Indies, South America, Europe, Africa, Middle East to Asia, and Hawaii.



Amaranthaceae

Smooth Pigweed (Common Pigweed)

Amaranthus hybridus L.

Tall annual with erect, smooth to hairy stems. Petioles long. Leaf blades oval with a sharp tip. Male and female flowers mixed in clusters in leaf axils and in large terminal panicles. Reproduces by seed. Found in fields, moist areas, roadsides and disturbed areas. Occurs from Massachusetts, Michigan to Iowa, south to Florida, west to Arizona and California. Also found in Ontario, Quebec, the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia.



Amaranthaceae

Slender Amaranth

Amaranthus viridis L.
[*Amaranthus gracilis* Desf.]

Prostrate to erect summer annual with broadly egg-shaped, simple, alternate leaves. Seedheads terminal and axillary, spike-like. Reproduces from tiny, dark brown to black seeds. Usually a problem only during turfgrass establishment. Found from North Carolina south into Florida, and west into Arizona. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Tropical Africa, Asia, Europe and Hawaii.



Cactaceae

Spreading Pricklypear (Pricklypear Cactus)

Opuntia humifusa (Raf.) Raf

Flat, thick, succulent-leaved, low-growing perennial. Leaves with sharp spines, hence the name. Spines brown, gray or white. Flowers yellow. Fruits spiny, purplish-red when ripe. Reproduces by seed and fragmentation of pads (leaves). Found in low maintenance turfgrass areas, especially in sandy soils. Occurs from Massachusetts, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, South Dakota and Montana south into Florida and west to Texas. Also found in southern Ontario and Mexico.



Campanulaceae

Florida Bellflower

Campanula floridana S. Wats.

Perennial with sprawling to nearly erect stems, often rooting at the nodes. Leaves elliptic to linear. Flowers purple, stalked, petals five, tapering to a long, sharp point. Reproduces by seed. Found in moist lawns, roadsides, marshes and swamps. Occurs in panhandle and peninsula of Florida.

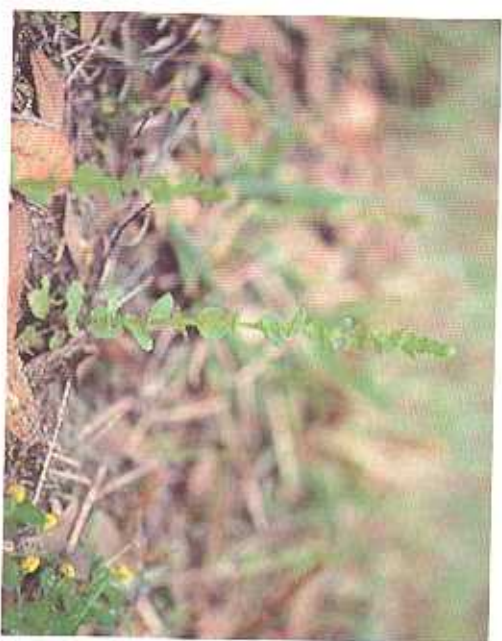


Campanulaceae

Common Venuslookingglass

Triodanis perfoliata (L.) Nieuwl.
[*Spectularia perfoliata* (L.) A. DC.]

Winter annual or perennial with erect to ascending stems. Stems usually freely branched at base. Leaves alternate, ovate to heart-shaped and clasp the stem. Leaf margins with fine teeth. Bluish-violet tubular flowers with five petals are borne in the leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States except for the Rocky Mountains. Also found in the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec, south to Mexico, Central and South America.



Caryophyllaceae

Sticky Chickweed

(Sticky Cerasium)

Cerasium glomeratum Thail.

Mat-forming, branched winter annual. Leaves opposite, densely hairy, oval to elliptic in shape. Stems slender, covered with dense hairs. Flowers white, arranged in clusters at ends of stems, five slightly notched petals. Reproduces by seed. Common in the southeastern states, west to Texas, California and Alaska. Also found in Asia, Europe and the Canadian Yukon. Mouseear chickweed (*Cerastium vulgatum* L.), a perennial that often roots at the lower nodes is similar in appearance.



Caryophyllaceae

Hearleaf Drymary
(West Indian Chickweed)

Drymaria cordata (L.) Willd. ex
Roem. & Schult.

Weak-stemmed, spreading annual. Leaves opposite, kidney-shaped, bright green. Flowers greenish, small, in long, wide, spreading clusters with thin, easily broken branches. Flowers and fruits stick to clothing and/or hair. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Occurs in moist to wet woods and disturbed sites. Occurs in Georgia, Louisiana and Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Tropical Africa, Tropical Asia and Hawaii.



Caryophyllaceae

Knawel

Scleranthus annuus L.

Freely-branched winter annual with a prostrate habit. Leaves, opposite, very narrow, linear in shape, sharply pointed and generally bent downward. Small green flowers, that lack petals, found in clusters in the leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Found in the Eastern half of the United States, north to Canada, west to California and Pacific Coast, and Europe.



Caryophyllaceae

Common Chickweed

Stellaria media (L.) Cyrillo

Mat-forming winter annual with numerous branched stems. Leaves opposite, smooth, oval to broadly elliptic in shape. Upper leaves without petiole; lower leaves with sparsely hairy long petiole. Stems with vertical lines of hairs. Flowers in small clusters at ends of stems, white, with five deeply notched petals. Reproduces by seed. Located throughout North America except for the Rocky Mountains. Also found in Mexico, Central and South America, Hawaii, Asia, Africa and Europe.

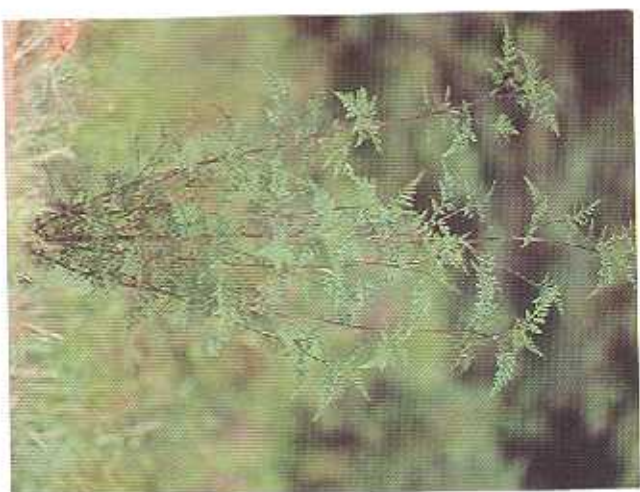


Compositae

Common Ragweed

Ambrosia artemisiifolia L.

Taprooted summer annual with branched stems. Leaves hairy, deeply twice dissected. Male and female flowers separate, green. Reproduces by seed. Fields, pastures, roadsides and waste places. Occurs in the northwestern and southeastern United States. Also found in Canada, Central and South America, the West Indies, South Pacific and Australia. Native to the United States.



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Compositae

Mugwort

Artemisia vulgaris L.

Creeping perennial from long rhizomes. Stems hairy; round in cross section. Leaves alternate, dissected, each segment linear to elliptic in shape. Upper leaf surface dark green, smooth to slightly hairy; lower leaf surface whitish to grayish, densely woolly. Reproduces by rhizomes, not believed to produce viable seed. Vegetatively resembles and has same characteristic odor of the garden chrysanthemum. Found in the eastern half of the United States, west to Texas. Occurs also in the West Indies, Canada, Europe, Asia and Hawaii.



Compositae

Bushy Aster

Aster dumosus L.

Low to tall bushy perennial with extensive rhizomes. First leaves are elongate and broad at the tip with scattered teeth. Mature leaves are narrow, elongated and have smooth margins. Flowering occurs mostly in fall with limited production in spring. Flowers, blue, but not seen under frequent mowing. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found from Michigan and Massachusetts to south Florida, west to Louisiana and Arkansas.



Compositae

Common Beggaricks (Hairy Beggaricks)

Bidens alba (L.) DC.
[*Bidens pilosa* L.]

Annual with smooth, erect to spreading stems often rooting at lower nodes. First true leaves on seedlings simple and long-stalked. Other leaves opposite, stalked, with three to nine leaflets. Leaflets with teeth on margins. Flowers with white rays, and yellow centers, in stalked heads. Fruits 0.4 inch (1 cm) long with two or three barbed awns at the top. Reproduces by seed. Found in virtually all disturbed areas. Occurs from North Carolina to south Florida and west to California. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, Africa and Europe.



Compositae

Sprawling Horseweed

Calypocarpus vialis Less.

Spreading hairy annual rooting at the nodes. Leaves oval, toothed, the petiole-like bases shorter than the blade. Flowers yellow, inconspicuous, in heads on elongated stalks. Seed with roughened surface and two smooth awns at the tip. Reproduces by seed. Found in lawns and sandy open, disturbed areas. Occurs in Florida and west into Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central America and Java.



Compositae

Musk Thistle (Nodding Thistle)

Carduus nutans L.

Winter annual or biennial with erect, robust stems from a fleshy taproot. Leaves alternate, smooth, dark green with a light green midrib and a whitish margin. Leaves deeply dissected, each lobe having one to five spines at the tip. Flowers with spine-tipped bracts, deep pink to purple, rarely white, and arranged in nodding heads. Reproduces by seed. Occurs from North Carolina to Louisiana excluding Florida. Also in India and Africa. Native to Eurasia.



Compositae

Chicory

Cichorium intybus L.

Freely-branched taprooted perennial, initially from a rosette. Leaves coarsely toothed, upper surface "rough" to the touch. Basal leaves usually absent at flowering. Stem leaves alternate, clasping and hairy. Stems smooth, with a "milky" juice. Flowers bright blue. Scattered throughout the United States with the exception of Florida. Native to North Africa, Europe and Western Asia.



Compositae

Yellow Thistle
(Horrible Thistle)

Cirsium horridulum Michx.
[*Carduus spinosissimus* Walt.]

Erect, stout, spiny winter annual. Leaves with shallow, spiny lobes. Flowers purple, occasionally yellow, in large terminal, spiny head. Seeds with tuft of soft, white hairs at the tip. Reproduces by seed. Found in open, sandy areas. Occurs from Maine and Pennsylvania, south into Florida and west to Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico and Central America.



Compositae

Horseweed
(Marestail)

Conyza canadensis (L.) Cronq.

Tall-growing summer or winter annual with bristly hairy stems. Leaves alternate, lack petioles, linear to oblanceolate. Leaf margins often toothed; lower margins with long hairs. Flowers with white to lavender rays and yellow centers, in numerous, small heads on branches in the upper portion of the plant. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States. Also occurs in Quebec, Ontario, Mexico, Central and South America and Europe.



Compositae

Eclipta

Eclipta prostrata (L.) L.;
[*Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk.]

Annual with prostrate to erect stems, rooting at the nodes. Leaves opposite, narrow, rough hairy with either smooth or toothed margins. Flowers white, in long-stalked heads. Reproduces by seed. Found in moist disturbed areas. Occurs in Massachusetts, New York, Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois and Nebraska, south to Florida and west to Texas, Arizona, California and Hawaii. Also occurs in Ontario, Mexico, the West Indies, Central and South America, Tropical Africa and Tropical Asia.



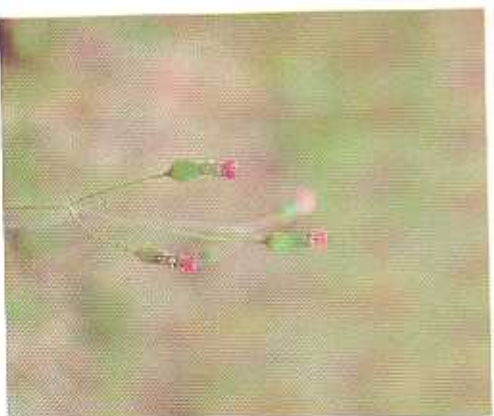
Compositae

Cupid's-Shaving-Brush

(Tassel-flower)

Emilia fosbergii Nicols.;
[*Emilia coccinea* of authors;
Emilia sonchifolia of Britton & Millsp.]

Annual with branched erect stems. Stems smooth near the top, hairy at the base. All leaves with toothed margins. Leaves at base with broad tip and winged petiole. Leaves at top with no petiole and clasp the stem. Flowers crimson or bright scarlet, in heads on long stalks. Reproduces by seed. Found in open weedy areas, lawns and other moist disturbed areas. Occurs in Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central America south into Brazil, western Pacific Islands, Java and Tropical Africa.



Compositae

American Burnweed
(Fireweed)

Erechtites hieracifolia (L.) Raf. ex DC.

Robust annual with solid, erect, smooth to hairy stems. Leaves elliptic to lance-shaped with narrow, sharp-pointed bases on lower part of stem and clasping bases on upper part of stem. Leaf margins lobed or unlobed, always very unevenly toothed. Flowers white, in elongate heads. Seeds with many white hairs at the top. Reproduces by seed. Found in almost any disturbed area such as pastures and roadsides. Occurs from Maine, Minnesota and South Dakota south throughout the eastern, central and southern states, and Oregon and Hawaii. Also in Newfoundland, Québec, the West Indies, Mexico south through Central and South America and Asia.



Compositae

Southern Fleabane

Erigeron quercifolius Lam.

Short-lived perennial from rhizomes. Stems hairy, one to several from a basal rosette. Basal leaves hairy, broader at the tip, usually with several rounded lobes. Stem leaves few and clasping. Flowers white, in numerous heads. Seeds tiny, with many hairs at top. Reproduces by seed. Found in moist turf areas, pinelands and open woods from Virginia south throughout Florida and west to Louisiana. Also found in the West Indies.



Compositae

Rough Fleabane *Erigeron strigosus* Muhl. ex. Willd.
(Daisy Fleabane, White-tops)

Erect annual or biennial with sparse stem leaves and few hairs. Leaves elliptic. Basal leaves with a few teeth or entire, usually absent at flowering. Stem leaves usually entire or rarely toothed. Flowers white, in sparsely arranged heads. Reproduces by seed. Found in pastures, roadsides, old fields and other open disturbed areas. Occurs throughout the United States except for Arizona and in Canada.



Compositae

Dogfennel *Eupatorium capillifolium* (Lam.) Small
(Summer Cedar)

Tall-growing perennial with one to several densely, hairy stems from a woody crown. Leaves deeply cut into linear segments. Lower leaves opposite, upper leaves alternate. Leaves strongly aromatic when crushed. Reproduces by seed and regrowth from woody base. Found from New Jersey to south Florida, and west to Texas and Arkansas. Also occurs in the West Indies and Guatemala.



Compositae

Yellowtop

Flaveria linearis Lag

Erect annual with smooth branched stems. Leaves opposite, narrow with usually smooth margins. Flowers yellow, very small, with only a few arranged in individual heads. Heads in flat-topped clusters, showy. Seeds tiny, usually lacking tiny papery scales at the top. Reproduces by seed. Found in pastures, roadsides, open hammocks, pinewoods and marshes. Occurs in central and southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies and Mexico.



Compositae

Gaillardia

(Blanket-flower, Bandana Daisy)

Rose-ring Gaillardia, Indian Blanket)

Gaillardia pulchella Foug.

Annual or short-lived, erect perennial from a taproot. Leaves hairy, often blue-green in color. Leaves on the lower part of stem usually broader in the upper half, stalkless or almost so, usually irregularly lobed and toothed. Leaves on the upper part of the stem tending to be narrowly lance-shaped, stalkless, smooth margined or with occasional, irregular teeth. Flowers dark purple, dark purple margined or with occasional, yellow, on long stalks, in heads. Fruit small, hairy, tipped with papery scales. Reproduces by seed. Found in sandy open areas such as roadsides and pastures, especially along the coastal beaches. Occurs from North Carolina south throughout Florida, west to South Dakota, Nebraska, Arizona, Colorado and California. Also occurs in Mexico, Central America and the West Indies.



Compositae

Narrowleaf Cudweed

Gnaphalium falcatum Lam

Annual with basal rosette of leaves. Stems covered with dense, white hairs. Branches none to many. Leaves narrow, often broader towards the tip, densely white hairy on both surfaces. Flowers in brown to green heads. Heads usually dense in an elongate inflorescence. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed areas, roadsides, fields and open woods and pinelands. Occurs from Virginia south to Florida and west to Texas. Also found in Central and South America.



Compositae

Wandering Cudweed

Gnaphalium pensylvanicum Willd.

Annual or biennial initially from a basal rosette of leaves. All stem leaves of similar size. Stem and all leaves covered by soft hairs. Leaf undersides densely white hairy. Upper leaf surface dull green. Flowers mostly purple to pink. Reproduces by seed. Found from Pennsylvania, south into Florida, west to Texas and in southern California. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America.



Compositae

Purple Cudweed

Gnaphalium purpureum L.

Annual or biennial developing a basal rosette of leaves. Stems highly branched from base of plant. Stem and underside of leaves with soft velvet-like hairs. Upper leaf surface dull green. Rosette and lower stem leaves spatula-shaped with blunt tips, upper leaves reduced in size. Flowers lamina-shaped in clusters at upper leaf axils. Bracts surrounding flower clusters pink or purple in color. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States except for North and South Dakota. Also found in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Europe.



Compositae

Shiny Cudweed

Gnaphalium speciosum Lam.

Erect annual or biennial with a prominent rosette of basal leaves. Leaves bright shiny green on upper surface, densely white hairy beneath. Basal leaves very broad. All stem leaves of similar size. Flower heads brown to purple. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in dry, open, sandy, disturbed areas. Found from southern Florida throughout the Southeast, north to New York, west to Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Kansas and Texas. Also found in Oregon.



Compositae

Bitter Sneezeweed

Helenium amarum (Raf.) H. Rock

Summer annual with upright growth habit and strong taproot. Stem purple, freely branched toward the middle. Leaves numerous, small, thread-like. Basal stem leaves usually absent at flowering. Numerous flowers arranged in heads. Flowers yellow. Central disk dome-shaped. Reproduces by seed. Plant with pungent odor and bitter taste. Found throughout the continental United States, north to Massachusetts, west to Texas and California. Not found in the High Plains, Pacific Northwest and Southwest states.



Compositae

Catscar Dandelion

Hypochaeris radicata L.

Perennial with densely hairy leaves arranged in a basal rosette. Leaf margins, coarsely toothed, divisions or lobes with blunt to slightly pointed tips. Flower stalk with two to seven flowers, bright yellow, similar in appearance to dandelion flowers. Leaves and flower stalks exude a milky juice when broken. Reproduces by seed. Found from New Jersey south into panhandle Florida and west to Mississippi. Also found in Ontario and North Africa. Native to Eurasia.



Compositae

Virginia Dwarf dandelion
(*Krigia Dandelion*)

Krigia virginica (L.) Willd.

Stemless perennial with a basal rosette of leaves. Leaf margins notched or lobed, tapered at base. Flowers yellow, in single heads at end of leafless stalk. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States except for the states in the High Plains, Pacific Northwest, Southwest and California. Also found in Ontario,



Compositae

Tall Lettuce
(Wild Lettuce)

Lactuca canadensis L.

Tall biennial with essentially no hairs. Leaves alternate, large, sessile or clasping. Leaf margins entire or with small teeth and/or lobed. Flowers yellow-orange, turning purple with age, in heads at tips of stems. Forms a large taproot with a rosette of leaves in first year of growth. In the second year, a long, erect leafy stem which contains a bitter, milky juice is formed. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in disturbed areas, roadsides, pastures and open woods. Found throughout the United States except for Arizona, New Mexico and Wyoming. Also occurs in Canada and the West Indies.



Compositae

Stalked Chickenweed

Pectis glaucescens (Cass.) Kell.
[*Pectis leptocephalus* (Cass.) Urban]

Annual or short-lived perennial with freely branched stems. Leaves opposite, narrow, with two rows of oil glands on lower surface. Flowers yellow, in long-stalked heads. Fruits with two to five very small scales at the top. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed areas, lawns, sandy pinelands and beaches. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies.



Compositae

Carolina Falsedandelion *Pyrrhopappus carolinianus* (Walt.) DC.

Winter annual or biennial with erect, branched flowering stems. Leaves alternate, sharply pointed, with entire to deeply-lobed margins. Basal leaves with petioles; stem leaves lack petioles. Bright yellow flowers, similar to dandelion, on ends of erect flowering stems. Seeds brown, with long stalk and a parachute of hairs at top forming a "puff ball." Reproduces by seed. Found in the southern United States, west to Texas, north to Delaware and inland to Kansas.



Compositae

Lawn Burweed (Spurweed)

Setiva pterosperma (Juss.) Less.

Low-growing, freely branched winter annual. Leaves opposite, sparsely hairy and twice divided into narrow segments or lobes. Flowers small and inconspicuous. Fruits clustered in leaf axils having sharp spines that can cause injury to humans. Reproduces by seed. Generally found in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont Regions of most southern states, North Carolina south into Florida, and west to Texas. Also occurs in South America and Europe.



Compositae

Spiny Sowthistle

Sonchus asper (L.) Hill

Winter annual. Leaves, alternate, deeply lobed with spiny margins. Leaf base rounded and clasps the stem. Stems smooth on the lower portion but with stalked, glandular hairs on the upper portion. Yellow flowers in clusters at top of plant. Leaves and stems exude a "milky" juice when broken. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States, north into Alaska and the Yukon. Also found in the West Indies, South America, Eurasia, Africa and Hawaii. Annual sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus* L.) is similar but with sharply-pointed, clasping leaf base.



Compositae

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale Weber

Deeply taprooted, stemless perennial. Leaves, basal, slightly to deeply cut, with lobes that point back towards base. Single yellow flowers at end of each long, smooth hollow stalk. Leaves and flower stalks exude a "milky" juice when broken. Seeds brown, long stalked with a parachute of hairs forming a "globe." Reproduces by seed and can form new plants from fragments of broken taproots. Found throughout the United States, Alaska and Hawaii. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia.



Compositae

Coat Buttons (Mexican Daisy)

Tridax procumbens L.

Hairy perennial from a taproot. Stems ascending or usually prostrate. Leaves opposite, hairy, with short petioles. Leaf margins irregular with large, rough teeth and small lobes. Flowers white or yellowish, in heads on long stalks at the tips of stems and branches. Seeds with many hairs at tip. Reproduces by seed. Found in turf, open pinewoods and disturbed areas. Occurs in central and southern peninsula of Florida and Hawaii. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Tropical Africa, Tropical Asia, New Guinea, the Philippines, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand and Oceania.



Compositae

Medelia
(Creeping Oxeye)

Medelia trilobata (L.) A. S.
Hitche.

Creeping perennial, rooting at the nodes or sometimes with shallow rhizomes. Flowering branches erect, simple. Leaves opposite, three-nerved, lance-shaped to rhombic to oval, tapering at both ends, with very short petioles. Leaf margins with large teeth and often with a pair of lobes near the middle of the blade. Flowers yellow, in heads on long stalks from axils of leaves near the tip of the branch. Seeds bumpy and with a crown of scales at the tip. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Found in disturbed areas, especially in lawns and gardens, occasionally in pinelands. Occurs in peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America and Tropical Africa.



Compositae

Asiatic Hawksbeard

Yonigia japonica (L.) DC.

Annual, from short taproot, often surviving winter. Leaves, mostly basal, with slightly lobed divisions. Flowering stalks usually branched in the uppermost part of the plant. Flowers yellow to orange-yellow with five tiny teeth at end of outermost petals. Reproduces by seed. Found from Pennsylvania south through Florida and west into Louisiana. Also found in the West Indies. Native to Southeast Asia.



Convolvulaceae

Dichondra (Carolina Dichondra, Ponyfoot)

Dichondra carolinensis Michx.

Creeping, prostrate perennial that roots at the nodes. Leaves alternate, sparsely-hairy, kidney-shaped to nearly round resembling a pony's foot. Flowers inconspicuous, white. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Used in southern California as a lawn ground cover. Found from Virginia to Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Hawaii.



Cruciferae

Shepherdspurse

Capsella bursa-pastoris (L.) Medik.

Winter annual from a rosette of variously toothed or lobed leaves. Stem leaves few in number, arrow-shaped with the basal lobes extending past the stem. Flowers white, in clusters at end of stems, petals four, small. Fruit triangular or wedge-shaped. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout North America except Arizona. Also found in Hawaii, South America, Europe, North Africa and Asia.



Cruciferae

Hairy Bittercress

Cardamine hirsuta L.

Winter annual from a rosette of dark green, dissected leaves. Leaf segments rounded to wedge-shaped, lower petioles hairy near the base. Flowers white, in dense clusters at end of stems, petals four. Fruit a flattened capsule, more than 10 times longer than broad. Reproduces by seed. Found from Maine into Florida and west to Nebraska, Texas and Washington. Also found in Hawaii, Canada, Europe, Asia, North Africa and Australia.



Cruciferae

Swinecress

Coronopus didymus (L.) Sm.

Freely-branched, prostrate winter annual. Leaves, alternate, divided into numerous small segments. Stems usually partly angular or grooved. Tiny, white flowers arranged in clusters at ends of stems and leaf axils, petals four. Fruit with two inflated rounded sections. Foliage strongly pungent when crushed. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the eastern half of the United States as far west as Texas and California. Also found in southern Canada, the West Indies, South America, Europe and North Africa.



Cruciferae

Pinnate Tansymustard

Descurainia pinnata (Walt.) Britt

Winter annual with one to several densely hairy stems. Basal leaves divided twice into small segments, densely hairy; stem leaves divided into small segments once, densely hairy. Flowers bright yellow to almost white. Fruit long-stalked, elongated but short, several seeded. Reproduces from dark red seeds. Occurs in sandy soils in turf, fields and disturbed areas. Found from Virginia, south into Florida, west to Wyoming, Colorado and California and inland up through Montana. Also found in southern Canada.



Cruciferae

Virginia Pepperweed

Lepidium virginicum L.

Winter annual from a rosette of leaves. Stems smooth, erect, and freely branched. Basal and stem leaves serrated, lobed or deeply notched. Basal leaves lacking on mature plants. Stem leaves reduced in size, more serrated and lobed toward the apex of the plant. Produces spike-like clusters of tiny white flowers at end of branches. Seedpod round, flat with notch at tip. Fruit with distinctive mustard taste. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States except for Arizona and New Mexico. Also occurs in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.



Cruciferae

Sibara

Sibara virginica (L.) Rollins

Winter annual from a rosette of deeply dissected leaves. Leaves slightly hairy near base of plant. Leaf segments narrow, the terminal segment somewhat broader. Flowers, white, with four small petals. Fruit stalked, long, very narrow, many seeded, flat. Reproduces by seed. Distinguished from hairy bittercress by larger fruit and narrow leaf segments. Found from West Virginia, south into northern Florida, west to Texas and California and inland through Missouri into Kansas and Illinois. Also found in Mexico.



Euphorbiaceae

Roundleaf Spurge

Chamaesyce cordifolia (Ell.) Small:
[*Euphorbia cordifolia* Ell.]

Mat-forming annual with much-branched, smooth stems not rooting at the nodes. Stems with "milky sap." Leaves round, or nearly so, with smooth margins and lobed bases. Capsule smooth, three-lobed and three-seeded. Reproduces by seed. Found in sandy areas. Occurs from North Carolina, south through Florida and west into Texas.



Euphorbiaceae

Sand-dune Spurge

Chamaesyce cuneifolia Small

Mat-forming annual or perennial with much-branched, smooth stems not rooting at the nodes. Stems with "milky sap." Leaves elliptic, with smooth margins and lopsided bases, nearly all the same size on a single plant. Capsule smooth, three-lobed and three-seeded. Reproduces by seed. Found inland on dune-like sandhills and near the beach on dunes. Occurs in central and south peninsula of Florida.



Euphorbiaceae

Garden Spurge

Chamaesyce hirta (L.) Millsp.;
[*Euphorbia hirta* L.]

Taprooted annual with erect to sprawling, very hairy, branched stems. Leaves with an unequal base, teeth on margins, hairy. Flowers tiny in clusters at stem tip and from bases of leaves, hairy. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in disturbed and waste areas. Found from South Carolina south throughout Florida and west into Alabama. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America.



Euphorbiaceae

Hyssop Spurge

Chamaesyce hyssopifolia L. Small:
[*Euphorbia hyssopifolia* L.]

Erect or ascending annual. Stems smooth, branched at upper nodes and with "milky sap." Leaves oblong to almost linear, with toothed margins and lopsided bases. Capsules in clusters, smooth, three-lobed and three-seeded. Reproduces by seed. Found in lawns and disturbed areas. Occurs from South Carolina into Florida and west into Texas, New Mexico and California. Also occurs in the West Indies, South America and Java.



Euphorbiaceae

Spotted Spurge (Prostrate Spurge)

Chamaesyce maculata (L.) Small:
[*Euphorbia maculata* L.]

Summer annual with freely branched prostrate stems that do not root at the nodes. Stems smooth or hairy, with "milky" sap. Leaves opposite, usually with a reddish spot, not symmetrical. Occurring in any disturbed area. Found in the eastern United States, west to North Dakota and Texas and into California and Oregon. Also occurs in Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America, Japan, New Zealand and Lebanon. Prostrate spurge [*Chamaesyce humistrata* (Engelm. ex Gray)] is similar but roots at the nodes. Both species reproduce by seed.



Euphorbiaceae

Longstalked *Phyllanthus*

Phyllanthus tenellus Roxb.

Erect perennial with smooth leaves and stems. Leaves thin, smooth margined, oval, arranged in two rows on the branchlets or singly in spirals on the main stem. Flowers inconspicuous. Fruit green, smooth, round on long stalks from the leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Found in Alabama, Georgia and throughout Florida. Also found in Australia and Hawaii. Native to Africa and the Mascarene Islands.



Euphorbiaceae

Chamberbitter

(Niruri, Gripweed, Leallower)

Phyllanthus urinaria L.

Small erect summer annual with angled or grooved stems. Leaves thin, smooth-margined, oblong, arranged in two rows on the branchlets. Flowers inconspicuous. Fruit green, warty without a stalk, singly attached to underside of branch. Reproduces by seed. Found in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Texas. Native to Asia. Found throughout the tropics.



Geraniaceae

Redstem Filaree

Erodium cicutarium (L.) L'Her. ex Ait.

Prostrate to semi-erect winter annual with numerous branches that radiate from the crown. Leaves hairy, dissected into numerous segments, opposite on upper portion of stem, alternate below. Flowers pinkish-purple, in clusters of six to nine on long stalks. Fruit a five-parted capsule that forms a characteristic "stork's bill" up to 2 inches (5 cm) long. Reproduces by seed. Found in most of the United States, Alaska and Hawaii. Also occurs in Canada, Greenland, Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, South Africa and Australia.



Geraniaceae

Carolina Geranium

(Wild Geranium, Crane's-bill, Stork's-bill)

Geranium carolinianum L.

Diffusely-branched semi-erect winter annual. Stems greenish-pink to red, densely hairy. Leaves with long petioles, hairy, dissected into variously divided segments, margins blunt toothed. Flowers pink to purplish with five petals. Fruit a five-parted capsule that forms a "stork's bill" up to 0.5 inch (1.2 cm) long. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii. Also occurs in Canada, the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, and Australia.



Ground Ivy

Glechoma hederacea L.

Prostrate, creeping perennial with four-sided, hairy stems. Leaves, opposite, kidney-shaped to rounded, prominently veined and with scalloped margins. Readily roots at stem nodes. Flowers, bluish to purplish with red speckles, arranged in groups of three to seven at stem ends or leaf axils. Reproduces from seed and creeping stems. More common in shaded than full sunlight areas. Found in the eastern United States; Florida to Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, California, the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. Also occurs in Canada, Europe and Asia.



Henbit

Lamium amplexicaule L.

Sparsely-hairy, winter annual with greenish to purplish, tender, four-sided stems. Similar in appearance to purple deadnettle but upper leaves lack petioles. Leaves opposite, broadly egg-shaped with bluntly toothed margins and prominent veins on underside. Flowers, reddish-purple with darker coloring in spots on lower petal, arranged in whorls. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout most of North America. Also occurs in the West Indies, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia.



Labiatae

Purple Deadnettle

Lamium purpureum L.

Sparsely-hairy winter annual with greenish to purplish, tender, four-sided stems. Leaves opposite, broadly egg-shaped with bluntly toothed margins. Lower leaves on long petioles, upper leaves on short petioles (as opposed to no petioles on upper leaves of henbit). Leaves often reddish or purplish tinged. Flowers, reddish purple with darker coloring in spots on lower petal, arranged in whorls. Reproduces by seed. Found in most of the United States except for the Rocky Mountains. Also found in Canada, Greenland, Europe and Asia.



Labiatae

Heathall

Prunella vulgaris L.

Perennial branched herb with upright to reclining growth habit. Numerous, opposite elliptic to lance-shaped leaves on square stems. Leaves and stems hairy. Lower leaves with long petioles, upper leaves sessile. Dense clusters of pale violet to purple trumpet-shaped flowers at the end of branches. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States and Hawaii. Also found in Canada, Central America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Labiatae

Florida Betony
(Rattlesnake Weed)

Stachys floridana Shuttlew.

Smooth or hairy, delicate, freely branched perennial, from slender underground stems with segmented white tubers resembling a "rattlesnake's rattle". Leaves opposite, longstalked, lance-shaped, usually with a nearly flat base. Stems square, lance-shaped, with purple spots. Reproduces primarily by tubers. Found in turf, roadsides, thickets and shrub borders. Native to Florida until it escaped in the 1940s or 1950s. Now found from North Carolina to Texas. Thought to be moved with nursery stock and ornamental plants.



Leguminosae

Alfalfa
(Onleaf Clover)

Medicago sativa (L.) DC.

Perennial with trailing or ascending, smooth stems. Leaves single, round to narrow-shaped, with petioles. Lanceolate stipules at each node. Flowers purple, pink or orange, in racemes. Fruit a jointed pod (loment) which does not break apart when ripe. Reproduces by seed. Found in most disturbed areas and low open woods. Occurs throughout Florida into Georgia and west to Louisiana. Also occurs in the West Indies, South America, Tropical Africa and Tropical Asia.



Creeping Beggarweed

Desmodium incanum DC.: [Desmodium
canum (J. F. Gmel.) Schinz & Thellung]

Perennial from a large taproot with many long, extensively branched runners which root at nodes. Leaves with three leaflets; leaflets quite variable as to size, elliptic, pointed at tip, rounded at base, hairy. Stems ascending to erect, hairy. Flowers pink to rose. Fruit with six to eight rounded segments which are straight across the back when hooked together. Segments break apart easily when ripe and attach to clothing or hair. Reproduces by seed, stolons and broken taproots. Occurs in turf, open woods and disturbed areas. Found throughout Florida and in southern Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Galapagos Islands and Tropical Africa.



Threeflower Beggarweed

Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC.
(Sagotia Beggarweed)

Perennial with prostrate hairy stems that root at nodes. Leaves with three very small heart-shaped leaflets. Flowers blue or purplish-pink. Fruits quite small, usually with two to four rounded segments which are straight across the back when hooked together. Segments break apart easily when ripe and attach to clothing or hair. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Occurs in turf and in open pinewoods. Found in peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Indo-China, Pacific Islands, Australia and Africa.



Creeping Beggarweed

Desmodium incanum DC.: [*Desmodium canum* (J. F. Gmel.) Schinz & Thellung]

Perennial from a large taproot with many long, extensively branched runners which root at nodes. Leaves with three leaflets; leaflets quite variable as to size, elliptic, pointed at tip, rounded at base, hairy. Stems ascending to erect, hairy. Flowers pink to rose. Fruit with six to eight rounded segments which are straight across the back when hooked together. Segments break apart easily when ripe and attach to clothing or hair. Reproduces by seed, stolons and broken taproots. Occurs in turf, open woods and disturbed areas. Found throughout Florida and in southern Texas. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Galapagos Islands and Tropical Africa.



Threeflower Beggarweed

Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC.
(Sagolia Beggarweed)

Perennial with prostrate hairy stems that root at nodes. Leaves with three very small heart-shaped leaflets. Flowers blue or purplish-pink. Fruits quite small, usually with two to four rounded segments which are straight across the back when hooked together. Segments break apart easily when ripe and attach to clothing or hair. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Occurs in turf and in open pinewoods. Found in peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Indo-China, Pacific Islands, Australia and Africa.



Leguminosae

Creeping Indigo

Indigofera spicata Forsk.

Perennial with hairy creeping stems. Leaves with seven to nine leaflets, hairy. Numerous pink flowers on spikes from the bases of the leaves. Fruits linear, pointed downward, tightly clustered. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in almost all habitats except very dry; common in turf. Found in peninsula of Florida. Also occurs in Madagascar, the Mascarene Islands, Yemen, India, Sri Lanka and southeast Asia. Native to Africa.



Leguminosae

Common Lespedeza (Annual Lespedeza, Japanese Clover)

Lespedeza striata (Thunb.) H. & A.

Wiry, prostrate, freely-branched summer annual. Leaves with three obovate to oblong, smooth leaflets. Leaflets with prominent midvein and many parallel veins that are nearly perpendicular to the midvein. Single flowers, pink to purple, in leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Common in the southern United States, north to Pennsylvania, west to Texas, Kansas and Missouri.



Leguminosae

Spotted Burclover

Medicago arabica (L.) Huds.

Annual with smooth, prostrate stems. Leaves alternate, each composed of three leaflets. Leaflets wedge-shaped, as long as broad, and toothed from mid-blade to tip. Leaflets with conspicuous reddish-purple spot in center. Stipules broad and coarsely toothed. Small, bright yellow flowers (two to five) borne in a cluster. Seed pods spirally twisted and covered with spines. Reproduces by seed. Found in the states of the Northwest, Southeast, Midwest, Pacific Northwest, and in California. Also found in Canada, Central and South America, Europe and Asia.



Leguminosae

Black Medic

Medicago lupulina L.

Dark green taprooted annual with a spreading, prostrate growth habit. Leaves alternate, composed of three leaflets on square stems. Leaflets obovate to elliptic, toothed near tip, and with a small spur at tip. Produces tight, compressed cluster of bright yellow flowers (10 to 50) at the leaf axils. At maturity, each flower forms a tightly coiled black seed pod. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii. Also occurs in Canada, the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Leguminosae

Mimosa Vine
(Sensitive Vine)

Mimosa strigillosa Torr. & Gray

Perennial herb with prostrate, creeping stems. Stems with many stiff, somewhat appressed hairs. Leaves twice divided with four to six pairs of branches (pinnae) each with 10 to 15 pairs of leaflets. Flowers pink, in ball-shaped heads at the tip of long stalks. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Occurs in turf, along streams and in hammocks. Found from Georgia and Florida west to Oklahoma and Texas. Also found in Mexico and South America.



Leguminosae

Hemp Sesbania

Sesbania exaltata (Raf.) Cory
= *S. macrocarpa* Muhl.

Tall summer annual with smooth stems. Leaves compound, to 1 foot (30 cm) long. Leaflets even numbered, 20 to 70 per leaf. Young leaves clustered at tip of main stem nearly hairless. Flowers, yellow, often with purple spots. Fruit a long narrow pod. Reproduces by seed. Found along roadsides, pastures, fields and other moist disturbed areas. Occurs from Massachusetts south through Florida, and west to Texas, South Dakota, Arizona and California. Also found in northern Mexico.



Leguminosae

Southern Pencil-flower

Strydomthes hamata (L.) Taub.

Perennial from a deep tough rootstock, with many trailing prostrate stems. Leaves with three leaflets. Leaves narrowly elliptic, veins, stipules fused to the leaf stalk. Flowers yellow, in dense foliage at the tips of stems and branches. Fruit is a pod with two joints. Upper joint with a tip curved like a hook and with a seed. Lower joint lacking a seed. Reproduces by seed. Found in turf, open pine-lands, open hammocks and roadsides. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida. Also in the West Indies, Mexico, Central America and South America.



Leguminosae

Rabbitfoot Clover

Trifolium arvense L.

Erect, branched winter annual with densely hairy leaves and stems. Leaves with three narrowly oblong leaflets. Leaf margins smooth with minute teeth-like projections at the tip. Flowers small, pale pink to pale purple, in grayish soft-silky cylinder-shaped heads resembling a rabbit's foot. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the southeastern United States to central peninsula of Florida, west to Louisiana and north to Missouri. Also found in Ontario, Quebec, Australia and Hawaii. Native to Eurasia and northern Africa.



Large Hop Clover

Trifolium campestre Schreb.

Winter annual with prostrate, hairy branched stems. Leaves alternate, with three leaflets. Leaflets serrated from mid-blade to tip. Numerous bright yellow flowers (20-30) in loose clusters on long stalks attached at leaf axils. May be confused with low hop clover. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States except for the Southwestern states. Also found in Alaska, Canada and Australia.

Small Hop Clover
(Low Hop Clover)*Trifolium dubium* Sibth.

Prostrate, freely-branched winter annual with hairy, reddish colored stems. Leaves with three leaflets, the terminal leaflet with a short stalk. Leaflets with prominent veins. Flowers, three to 15, bright yellow, in heads. Reproduces by seed. Similar in appearance to large hop clover but with smaller leaves and flower heads. Found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii. Also found in Canada, Europe and Australia.



Leguminosae

White Clover

Trifolium repens L.

Low-growing perennial with creeping stems that root at the nodes. Stems smooth to sparsely covered with hairs. Leaves with three elliptic to oval shaped leaflets. Leaflets with small marginal teeth. Flowers white, often with pink tinge, arranged in round heads. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States and Hawaii. Also found in Canada, Mexico, the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Leguminosae

Sand Vetch

Vicia acutifolia Ell.

Perennial with leaning or climbing smooth stems. Leaves with two or four leaflets and a simple, unbranched tendril at the tip. Flowers blue to purplish, four to 10 per spike. Reproduces by seed. Spikes on stalks as long or longer than the leaves. Found in moist disturbed areas. Occurs from South Carolina south into Florida and west into Alabama. Also found in the West Indies.



Leguminosae

Narrowleaf Vetch
(Common Vetch)

Vicia sativa L. subsp. *nigra* (L.) Ehrh.;
[*Vicia angustifolia* L.]

Annual or short-lived perennial with reclining or climbing stems. Leaves alternate, compound with three to nine pairs of leaflets. Leaflet at the tip modified into a simple or branched tendrill which enables plant to climb. Leaflets very narrowly elliptic to oval, usually longer than broad. Flowers blue, pale lavender or purple. Flowers in leaf axils, stalkless to long-stalked, one to two. Fruit a stalkless or short-stalked, flat pod with six to 12 seeds. Reproduces by seed. Found in turf, pastures, moist to wet woods, waste areas and fields. Occurs throughout the United States. Found worldwide in the temperate regions. Native from Europe into Russia.



Loganiaceae

Rustweed
(Polypremum)

Polypremum procumbens L.

Perennial with diffusely branched stems from a central crown. Leaves opposite, linear, green becoming rusty in color. Flowers near tip of branch among the leaves, white, four-lobed. Fruit dry, heart-shaped. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in wet bottomlands up into dry sandhills, in virtually all open habitats. Found from Long Island south through Florida, and west to Texas, Missouri and Colorado. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America.



Bristly Mallow

Mollis caroliniana (L.) G. Don

Creeping, prostrate perennial rooting at nodes. Leaves, alternate, with six to seven lobes and irregular toothed margins. Flowers, orange-red to deep purplish-pink, born singly from stem nodes. Fruit composed of a ring of 15 to 25 sections that radiate out from a central point of attachment. Reproduces by seed. Frequently found on the lower Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions of the southern states, Virginia south into Florida, and west to Texas, California and Hawaii. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, South Africa and Australia.



Southern Sida

Sida acuta Burm. f.

Erect annual which may survive winter. Stems seldom to much-branched, smooth to nearly so. Leaves alternate, broadly lance-shaped, margins toothed from base to tip, green underneath. Flowers yellow, solitary from leaf bases. Fruit with two spines on top of each section. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in pinelands, hammocks and disturbed areas. Found from South Carolina south throughout Florida and west into Mississippi. Also occurs in Central America and Africa.



Nyctaginaceae

Red Spiderling

Boerhavia diffusa L.; [*Boerhavia coccinea* Mill.; *Boerhavia repens* L.]

Perennial from a taproot with few to many prostrate stems. Leaves opposite, stalked, irregularly rounded. Flowers reddish, in widely branched, sparse bunches at tips of stems, sticky. Fruit very small, club-shaped, sticky. Reproduces by seed and broken taproots. Occurs in disturbed sandy areas. Found in North Carolina (rare), Florida and from Texas to California. Also occurs in Mexico, Central and South America and the West Indies.



Onagraceae

Cutleaf Eveningprimrose

Oenothera laciniosa Hill

Winter annual from a fibrous root system. Stems hairy, reclining, branched from base. Leaves alternate, elliptic to lance-shaped, margins irregularly notched or lobed. Single five-petaled yellow to reddish tubular flowers borne in leaf axils. Fruit a cylindrical, four-ribbed seed pod. Both flowers and seed pods present at same time. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States except for the Pacific Northwest and Southwest. Also found in Quebec, Ontario, Central and South America and Europe.



Onagraceae

Showy Eveningprimrose

Oenothera speciosa Nutt.

Erect to spreading, usually-branched perennial. Leaves, alternate, elliptic to linear, with irregularly lobed margins. Flowers large, white to pink with four petals. Fruit a capsule. Reproduces by seed. Extremely drought resistant. Found from Florida, west into Texas, and in Kansas, Illinois, Tennessee and Virginia. Also found in Mexico.



Oxalidaceae

Cuban Purple Woodsorrel

Oxalis intermedia A. Rich.

Perennial from clustered bulbs. Leaves deeply three-parted with pronounced, blunt pointed corners, on very long petioles. Leaves folding at night. Flowers purple. Reproduces by seed and bulbs. Found in shady turf, hammocks and woods. Occurs throughout peninsula of Florida. Native to the West Indies.



Oxalidaceae

Yellow Woodsorrel (Oxalis)

Oxalis stricta L.: [*Oxalis dilemmi* Jacq.]

Upright, herbaceous perennial with hairy stems. Leaves, alternate, divided into three partly-folded, deeply cut, heart-shaped lobes. Foliage with sour, acrid taste. Flowers, bright yellow, with five perals on stalks bent below the fruit and attached to a common point. Fruit a narrow "okra-like" capsule. Found in most of the eastern and central United States. Also occurs in Canada, Europe, Africa, Asia, Japan and New Zealand. Creeping woodsorrel, (*Oxalis corniculata* L.) has a more prostrate growth habit than yellow woodsorrel. Stolons readily root at the nodes. Leaves similar to yellow woodsorrel but may be green to reddish purplish. Florida yellow woodsorrel (*Oxalis florida* Salisb.) is similar in appearance to yellow woodsorrel, but has slender stems, leaves that tend to be larger and a smooth to sparingly hairy smaller capsule. All species reproduce by seed.



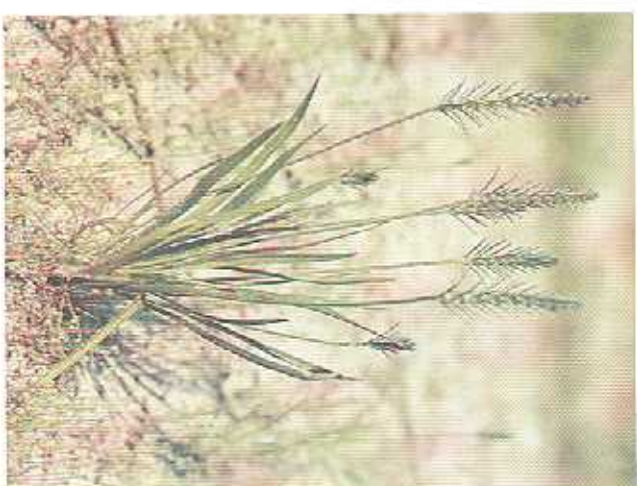
Creeping Woodsorrel

Plantaginaceae

Bracted Plantain

Plantago aristata Michx.

Winter annual with basal leaves from a taproot. Leaves, softly hairy to smooth, linear, with smooth margins. Flowers in dense spike on hairy, leafless stalk. Numerous linear bracts extend outward from the flower spike. Reproduces by seed. Found in low maintenance turfgrasses in most southern states, north to Michigan, west to Texas, California, the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii. Also found in Mexico.



Plantaginaceae

Buckhorn Plantain

Plantago lanceolata L.

Perennial with a distinctive rosette of leaves and a slender, fibrous root system. Leaves narrowly elliptic to lance-shaped, often twisted or curled, with ribbed veins on lower leaf surface. Erect, leafless, hairy stalk terminated by dense, tapered, white to tannish flower spike. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the continental United States. Also found in Canada, the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe and Asia.

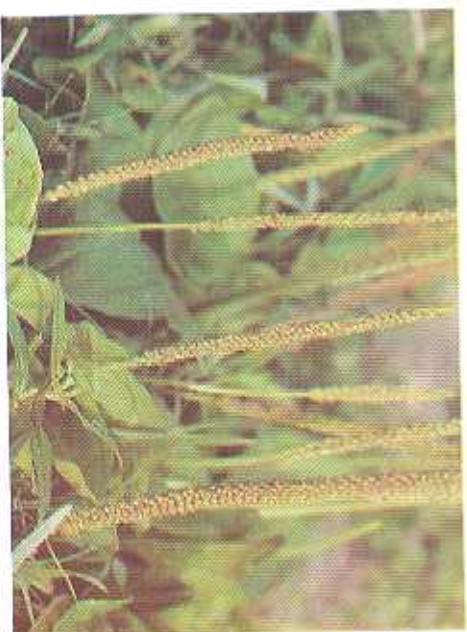


Plantaginaceae

Broadleaf Plantain

Plantago major L.

Perennial with a distinctive rosette of leaves, and slender, fibrous root system. Leaves broad, egg-shaped, with several main veins. Erect, leafless stems terminate in dense, flower spikes. Found in all of North America except the northeastern United States. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Hawaii. Blackseed plantain (*Plantago rugelii* DCne.) is similar except stems and petioles longer and leaves somewhat larger. Both species reproduce by seed.

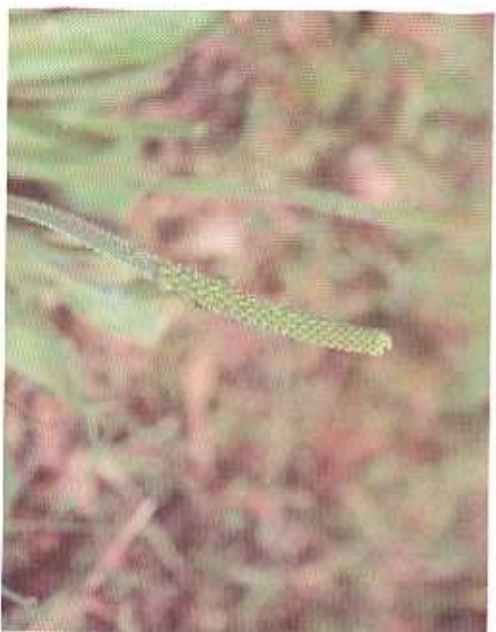


Plantaginaceae

Paleseed Plantain (Southern Plantain)

Plantago virginica L.

Winter annual with basal leaves from a taproot. Leaves, densely-hairy, elliptic in shape with slightly toothed to nearly smooth leaf margins. Flowering stalk leafless, hollow, and terminates in a densely flowered spike without prominent linear bracts. Reproduces by seed. Found from Rhode Island to Florida and west to Texas, California, Oregon and Hawaii. Also found in Canada, Mexico, South America, the West Indies and Japan.



Polygonaceae

Prostrate Knotweed

Polygonum aviculare L.

Prostrate, mat-forming, blue-green colored summer annual. Leaves, alternate, smooth, oblong to linear, short-petioled, joined to stem by a sheathing membrane. Inconspicuous white flowers are formed in the leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Common on infertile and compacted soils. One of the first summer annuals to germinate in the spring. Found throughout the United States. Also in Canada, Central and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Hawaii.



Polygonaceae

Tufted Knotweed
(Smartweed)

Polygonum vesiculosum Blume
var. *longisetum* (DeBruyn) A.N. Stewart

Erect to sprawling summer annual with smooth round stems and swollen nodes. Leaves, alternate, smooth above, sparsely-hairy on veins below, elliptic- to lance-shaped, joined to stem with a sheathing membrane tipped with long hairs. Deep pink to nearly red flowers in spikes at tips of stems. Reproduces by seed. Found from Massachusetts to Illinois, south to north Florida and Louisiana. Native to Asia.



Polygonaceae

Red Sorrel
(Sheep Sorrel, Sourgrass, Indian Cane)

Rumex acetosella L.

Perennial with smooth, erect, four-sided stems. Produces large yellow taproot and spreads from sprouts from numerous rhizomes and roots. Leaves mostly basal, distinctively arrow- or lance-shaped. Flowers borne in clusters at end of stems. Flowers green to red at maturity. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found in the continental United States, except Florida, and in Alaska and Hawaii. Also found in Central and South America, Australia, Indonesia, Iceland, Africa and Asia. Native to Europe. Heartwing sorrel (*Rumex hastatulus* Baldu. ex Ell.), a winter annual, is similar, but lacks rhizomes and produces larger red masses of flowers and fruits at maturity and only reproduces by seed.



Polygonaceae

Curly Dock

Tapered perennial with mostly basal leaves. Stem leaves alternate, with wavy to curled margins, tapered at the base. Leaf petiole joined to stem by a membranous sheath. Greenish flowers on long terminal spikes. Fruit reddish-brown with three wing-like projections. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and the West Indies, Mexico and Central America. Also found in Australia. Broadleaf dock (*Rumex obtusifolius* L.) is similar but has leaves that are wide and heart-shaped at the base and lack wavy margins.

Rumex crispus L.



Broadleaf Dock

Portulacaceae

Broadleaf Pink Purslane

Portulaca amilis Spig.

Prostrate, mat-forming summer annual with fleshy, flat, thick leaves. Leaves broadly oblong and pointed at the tip. Brownish to white hairs in leaf axils. Pink to pink-purple showy flowers in terminal heads. Reproduces by seed. Found from North Carolina south into and throughout Florida. Native to South America.



Portulacaceae

Common Purslane

Portulaca oleracea L.

Prostrate, succulent summer annual. Leaves alternate or nearly opposite, fleshy, somewhat spoon-shaped. Stems smooth, usually purplish-red. Flowers yellow, solitary in leaf axils or clustered on ends of stems. Fruit a round capsule, splitting open around the middle. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States, more common in Northwest United States, less common in the Pacific Northwest. Also found in Canada, the West Indies, Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania and Hawaii.



Ranunculaceae

Smallflower Buttercup

Ranunculus abortivus L.

Winter annual with erect almost hairless stems and leaves. Basal leaves heart-shaped, long petioled, margins serrated. Stem leaves on shorter petioles and divided into three-lobed segments. Yellow flowers singly on stem at leaf axils. Seeds in tight round cluster. Seed round, flattened, with short slightly curved to straight beak. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States and Alaska, except for the Southwest states. Also found throughout Canada.



Ranunculaceae

Hairy Buttercup

Ranunculus repens Crantz

Winter annual with erect, hairy stems and leaves. Basal leaves with long petioles. Leaves pinnately divided and lobed. Yellow flowers singly on stem at leaf axils. Seeds in round clusters. Seed flattened, with curved, hooked, or straight beak. Reproduces by seed. Found in the continental United States except for the states in the High Plains and Southwest. Also occurs in Europe.



Rosaceae

Parsley-piert

Achemilla arvensis (L.) Scop.

Freely-branched, low-growing winter annual. Leaves, alternate, three-lobed with each lobe again three- to four-lobed. Inconspicuous flowers in leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Found from Maryland through Tennessee into Georgia. Also found in Europe, Asia and Australia.



Rosaceae

Indian Mockstrawberry

Duchesnea indica (Andr.) Focke

Low-growing perennial with long stolons. Leaves with three leaflets and toothed margins as opposed to the five leaflets found on Oldfield Cinquefoil. Single flowers, on long petioles, five yellow petals. Fruit red, spongy, round, and "strawberry-like," not poisonous but not palatable. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Common in shaded areas. Found in the southeast United States, west into Oklahoma, Texas, California and the Pacific Northwest, north into Pennsylvania and New York. Also occurs in the West Indies, Central and South America, Asia and Europe.



Rosaceae

Oldfield Cinquefoil

Potentilla simplex Michx.

Low-growing perennial with long stolons. Leaves with long petioles. Leaves with five leaflets (as opposed to the three leaflets of Indian Mockstrawberry) and toothed margins. Single flowers on long petioles, five bright yellow petals. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Found in the eastern United States north into Minnesota, extending south into Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Piedmont region of Georgia. Also found in southern Canada.



Rubiaceae

Poorjoe

Diodia teres Walt.

Freely-branched, spreading to semi-erect summer annual. Stem often reddish-purplish with lines of hairs. Leaves opposite, linear, usually light green in color. Leaf bases joined by membrane with several "hair-like" projections. Flowers tubular, white to pinkish white, in leaf axils. Reproduces by seed. Common on infertile soils in the southeast United States, north to Connecticut, Illinois and Montana, and west to Texas and Arizona. Also found in Mexico, the West Indies, Central America and South America.



Rubiaceae

Virginia Buttonweed

Diodia virginiana L.

Spreading perennial herb with hairy branched stems. Leaves opposite, elliptic to lance-shaped, sessile, joined across stem by membrane. Membrane with a few "hair-like" projections. White tubular flowers with four lobes at each leaf axil along the stem. Flower usually with only two sepals. Fruit green, elliptically shaped, hairy, ridged and at each leaf axil. Reproduces by seed, roots and stem fragments. Favors moist to wet sites. Found from New Jersey west to Missouri, south into the Gulf Coast states.



Catchweed Bedstraw

Galium aparine L.

Mat-forming winter annual with prostrate or trailing angled stems. Stems with stiff bristles that point towards the base. Leaves whorled, six to eight at each node, with small bristles on the margins. Plant easily attaches to clothes, hair, etc. Flowers, white, on long stems from the leaf axils. Fruit a bristly two-sided capsule. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout North America. Also in Europe, Asia and Australia.



Marsh Bedstraw

Galium tinctorium L.

Perennial with spreading or reclining, branched stems. Stems angled, with downwardly pointing sandpapery hairs on the angles. Leaves whorled, four to six at each node, narrow, sometimes enlarged at the tip. Flowers white, small, usually three-lobed, in clusters of two or three at the tips of branches. Fruit black, smooth, nearly round and in pairs. Reproduces by seed. Found in roadside ditches, marshes, swamps and other moist sites. Occurs from Nebraska into the central, eastern and southern United States into Florida, and west to Texas and Arizona. Also occurs in Newfoundland, Ontario and Quebec.



Rubiaceae

Old World Diamond-flower

Hedyotis corymbosa (L.) Lam.;
[*Oldenlandia corymbosa* L.]

Smooth, spreading summer annual with branched stems. Leaves opposite, narrow. Flowers white, usually two or more on long stalks from the tip of a common long stalk. Reproduces by seed. Found in moist turf and in moist disturbed areas. Occurs from South Carolina south throughout Florida and along the Gulf Coast into Texas. Widespread in the tropics throughout the world.



Rubiaceae

Brazil Pusley

Richardia brasiliensis (Moq.) Gomez

Perennial with hairy, many branched stems from a thickened woody rootstock. Leaves opposite, hairy, connected by a thin membrane with hair like projections on top. Flowers white, in clusters. Distinguished from Florida pusley by presence of fruit with short stiff hairs and thickened rootstock. Reproduces by seed and rootstock. Found in lawns, roadsides and disturbed areas. Occurs from Texas to Virginia along the Coastal Plain. Also found in Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia and Hawaii. Native to South America.



Rubiaceae

Largeflower Pusley

Richardia grandiflora (Cham. & Schlecht.) Steud.

Creeping perennial, rooting at the nodes, with hairy branching stems. Leaves opposite, hairy, narrowly elliptical, tapering sharply to points at both ends, with a petiole. Flowers white, blue, pink or violet, about 0.8 inch (2 cm) long, clustered at tips of branches. Reproduces by seed and stem fragments. Found in disturbed sandy areas and turf. Occurs in central and southern peninsula of Florida. Native to South America.



Rubiaceae

Florida Pusley

Richardia scabra L.

Prostrate and spreading summer annual with branched hairy stems. Leaves opposite, oval-shaped, and somewhat thickened. Tubular flowers, white, clustered at the ends of branches. Distinguished from Brazil pusley by presence of fruit with small bump-like projections and lack of thickened rootstock. Reproduces by seed. Found in the southeast, northeast, and midwest United States. Also occurs in Mexico and Central and South America.



Rubiaceae

Field Maddar

Sherardia arvensis L.

Low-growing, mat-forming winter annual with square stems. Leaves whorled, four to six per node, elliptic in shape with sharply-pointed tips. Flowers, lavender to pink, in clusters at ends of stems. Reproduces by seed. Found in the mountains and Piedmont of the southern states, west into East Texas and Arkansas, north into southern Canada, California and the Pacific Northwest. Also found in the West Indies, Central America, Hawaii, Europe and Australia.



Rubiaceae

Bushy Buttonweed

Spermatocoe assurgens Ruiz & Pavon;
[*Borreria laevis* (Lam.) Greisch. of authors]

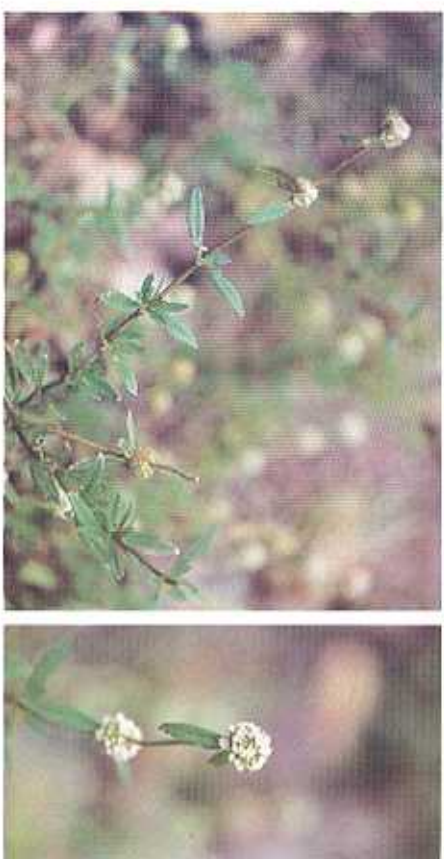
Annual with much-branched stems. Leaves opposite, smooth, elliptic to oval, veiny, tapering to sharp tip and a sharp base, with a short petiole. Flowers white, in clusters at the upper nodes, longer than the four lobes of the calyx. Fruit hairy. Reproduces by seed. Found in disturbed areas, lawns and moist open woods. Occurs throughout Florida and into Louisiana. Also found in the West Indies, Central and South America, Asia, Indonesia, the Philippines, New Guinea and the South Pacific including Hawaii.



Whitehead Broom

Spermacoce verticillata L.;
[*Borreria terminalis* Small;
Borreria verticillata (L.) Meyer]

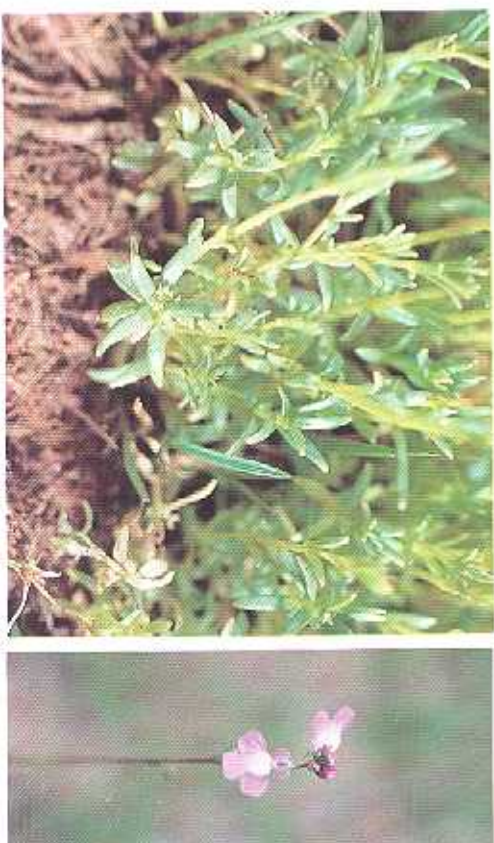
Perennial with much-branched stems, rooting at the nodes. Leaves opposite, smooth, narrowly elliptic to elliptic, veiny, tapering to a sharp tip and a sharp base, with a short petiole. Flowers white, in clusters at the upper nodes, longer than the two lobes of the calyx. Fruit smooth, or with a few hairs. Reproduces by seed. Found in open or disturbed sandy areas, especially turf, also in pineclands. Occurs in southern peninsula of Florida. Also found in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, West Tropical Africa and the South Pacific.



Oldfield Toadflax

Linaria canadensis (L.) Dumont

Winter annual or biennial; when biennial often forming a dense basal cluster of prostrate stems. Leaves, linear, those in the basal cluster opposite or whorled; those of the main erect stem usually alternate. Flowers, blue to purple, with finger-like projection. Occurring in pastures, old fields and along roadsides. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout the United States. Also in southern Canada, Mexico and South America.



Scrophulariaceae

Common Mullein

Verbascum thapsus L.

Densely-hairy or woolly biennial to 6 feet (2 m) tall. Basal leaves in rosette. Stem leaves, alternate, densely-hairy, elliptic in shape, without petioles and with a leaf base that is fused to and extends down the stem. Flowers, yellow, densely-packed in a tall growing cylindrical spike. Only a few flowers open at any one time. Reproduces by seed. Found on roadsides and waste places. Occurs throughout the United States except for the upper Great Plains. Also in Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia and Hawaii.



Scrophulariaceae

Corn Speedwell

Veronica arvensis L.

Low-growing, freely-branched winter annual. Lower leaves round-to egg-shaped, toothed on the margins, with prominent veins. Upper leaves linear in shape. Leaves and stems with fine hairs. Flowers, light blue, nearly stalkless. Seed capsules heart-shaped with a line of hairs on the outer edge. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout most of the United States except for the Rocky Mountains. Also occurs in Central and South America, South Africa, Australia and Hawaii. Native to Europe and Asia.



Scrophulariaceae

Purslane Speedwell (Neckweed)

Veronica peregrina L.

Low-growing, freely-branched winter annual with smooth to somewhat fleshy leaves and stems. Leaves, opposite, longer than broad, coarsely toothed on the margins. Flowers, white, in the upper axils. Fruit a smooth heart-shaped capsule. Reproduces by seed. Found throughout North America. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Solanaceae

Horsenettle

Solanum carolinense L.

Erect to spreading spiny perennial from rhizomes. Leaves, alternate, wavy-edged to coarsely lobed and with spines along midrib. Leaves with small star-shaped hairs with four to eight spreading rays. Flowers, white to pale-violet, clustered. Fruit smooth, round, yellow "tomato-like" berry with many seeds. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found in the eastern half of the United States, west to Kansas, Texas and California. Also occurs in southern Canada and Mexico.



Umbelliferae

Asiatic Pennywort
(*Centella*, Coinwort)

Centella asiatica (L.) Urban

Low-growing, spreading perennial from long rhizomes. Leaves shovel-shaped with toothed, often dark red margins. Leaves on slightly-hairy petioles and generally oriented in an upright or vertical (as opposed to horizontal) fashion. Short-lived, white flowers in clusters on short stalks at the leaf axils. Reproduces by seed and rhizomes. Found on moist, sandy soils from Delaware south to Florida and west to Texas. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, Africa, Hawaii, Australia and New Zealand.



Umbelliferae

Wild Carrot
(Queen Anne's Lace)

Daucus carota L.

Slender, branched biennial with a white fleshy taproot shaped like a carrot. First year, develops only a rosette of finely divided leaves. Mature plant with hollow stems and carrot-like odor. Leaves alternate, pinnately divided into small linear segments. Petiole sheath-like, clasping the stem. Small, white flowers in dense, flat or concave clusters at ends of stems or branches. Center flower in cluster, maroon to black in color. Fruit bristled, in clusters. Reproduces by seed. Found from southern Canada south into northern Florida and west to Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and California. Also found in Mexico, Central and South America, Australia, Europe, Asia and Hawaii.



Umbelliferae

Pennywort (Dollarweed)	<i>Hydrocotyle</i> spp.
Coastal Plain Pennywort	<i>H. bonariensis</i> Comm. ex Lam.
Water Pennywort	<i>H. umbellata</i> L.
Whorled Pennywort	<i>H. verticillata</i> Thunb.

Perennials from rhizomes, occasionally with tubers. Erect long-stalked leaves with scalloped margins. Petiole in center of leaf, "umbrella-like." Flowers in elongated spikes or rounded umbels at top of long stalk. Fruit greenish, rounded and somewhat flattened. Found in moist to wet sites or anywhere moisture is in excess. Reproduces by seed, rhizomes and tubers. Occurs from Maine south into Florida, and west to Minnesota and Texas, Utah, Arizona and California. Also found in Nova Scotia, British Columbia, the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, southern Europe and Tropical Africa.



Pennywort, left; Dichondra, right.

Urticaceae

Florida Pellitory

Parietaria floridana Nutt.

Annual or short-lived perennial with ascending or spreading stems. Leaves on long stalks, ovate, thin, three-veined. Flowers tiny, green, in clusters at base of leaves. Reproduces by seed. Occurs in moist woods and shady sites. Found from New Hampshire south into Florida and west to Texas. Also occurs in Central America and Africa.



Verbenaceae

Mat Lippia
(Matchweed, Match Head) *Phyla nodiflora* (L.) Green: [Lippia
nodiflora (L.) Michx.]

Mat-forming perennial with prostrate hairy stems. Stems freely branched, rooting at nodes. Leaves opposite with a few large teeth toward the tip. Flowers rose-purple or white, in a head at the tip of a long stalk, resembling the head of a match. Reproduces by seed and stolons. Occurring in low moist areas in open woods and turf.

Common along the coastal beaches and marshes, preferring open sandy areas often with limestone outcrops. Occurs from Pennsylvania to Florida, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and in California. Also found in Hawaii, Mexico, Central and South America, the West Indies, Japan and India.



Verbenaceae

Stiff Verbena
(Tuber Verbena, Roadside Verbena)

Verbena rigida Spreng.

Perennial from tubers with erect or ascending four-angled stems.

Leaves opposite, lance-shaped with coarsely-toothed margins. Purple to violet flowers in clusters. Reproduces by seed, tubercous roots and rooted stems. Found in the continental United States, west to Texas.

Also occurs in Canada, the West Indies and South America. A related species, moss vervain [*Glandularia pulchella* (Sweet) Troncoso,

Verbena trauisecta Britq.], has a prostrate growth habit, finely divided leaves and lacks rhizomes.



Violaceae

Violet

Diverse group composed of winter annuals and perennials. Perennials from rhizomes or long stolons. Many with heart-shaped leaves on long petioles. Other species with linear leaves or leaves palmately divided. Flowers range from purple to white to pink to yellow. Reproduces by seed and when produced, by rhizomes. Found throughout the continental states except for the states in the High Plains. Also occurs in Canada, the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia and Hawaii.

Viola spp.



Violaceae

Field Violet

Viola arvensis Murr.

Winter annual with freely-branched stems. Leaves alternate, hairy, at least on veins on underside. Stipules hairy, divided into numerous segments. Stems, hairy, often only on stem angles. Flowers light yellow to purple, stalked. Roots with wintergreen odor when crushed. Reproduces by seed. Found from Alabama and Georgia north to Canada. Also occurs in Europe and Hawaii.



Violaceae

Field Pansy
(Johnny-Jump-Up)

Viola rapunselui Greene
[*Viola bicolor* Pursh]

Winter annual with hairy, erect to spreading branched stems. Leaves alternate, smooth, with toothed margins. Stipules large, "leaf-like," divided into various segments. Flowers blue-violet to yellow, stalked. Reproduces by seed. Found from Alabama and Georgia north to Maine and west to Missouri. Also in Europe and Hawaii.



Zygophyllaceae

Jamaica Feverplant
(Punctureweed, Burnut, Puncturevine)

Tribulus terrestris L.

Prostrate summer annual with several stems radiating out from a single central crown. Leaves opposite, pinnately compound. Leaflets of each leaf even numbered, with some leaflets smaller than others. Stems and leaves with silky hairs. Large, yellow five-petaled flowers on stalks over 0.8 inch (2 cm) in length. Fruit a spiny bur. Reproduces by seed and cut or broken stems. Found in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Texas. Also occurs in the West Indies, Mexico, Central and South America, Hawaii, Guam, Australia, Asia and west Tropical Africa. Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris* L.) is similar but flowers on stalks less than 0.4 inch (1 cm) in length.



Glossary of Taxonomic Terminology

alternate: An arrangement of a single leaf, bud or branch at each node.

annual: A plant which completes its life cycle and dies within one year.

appressed: Closely pressed against.

attenuate: Tapering to a slender point.

awn: A slender or stiff bristle.

biennial: A plant that completes its life cycle and dies in two years.

blade: The expanded, usually flat, portion of a leaf.

bract: A modified, usually reduced leaf associated with a flower or flower cluster.

bristle: A short, coarse, stiff hair-like part.

capsule: A simple, many-seeded, dry fruit, splitting when dry into two or more parts.

clasping: A type of leaf attachment where the leaf base partly or completely encircles the stem.

collar: The outer side of a grass leaf at the junction of the blade and sheath.

compound: A type of leaf composed of several distinct, similar parts called leaflets.

cordate: Heart-shaped with the point at the terminal end.

crenate: A type of leaf margin that is shallowly round-toothed or scalloped.

cuneate: Wedge-shaped.

decurrent: A type of leaf attachment where the leaf base extends down the stem beyond the point of attachment.

deltoide: Triangular-shaped.

dentate: A type of leaf margin

that is toothed, with the teeth perpendicular to the leaf margin.

disc flower: A type of flower with a tubular shaped corolla that is found in a head as all or part of the complete flower of many members of the *Compositae* family.

dissected: Divided into numerous narrow segments or lobes.

divided: Cut to the base or to the midrib.

elliptic: A narrow shape with relatively rounded ends that is widest at the middle.

entire: A type of leaf margin without teeth, lobes or divisions, smooth.

filiform: Thread-like, long and very slender.

glabrous: Smooth, without hairs or bristles.

glandular hair: A small hair terminated in a small pin head-like gland, frequently secreting resin, wax or other substances.

grass-like: Leaves long and narrow, usually more than 10 times as long as broad.

hastate: Arrowhead shape with pointed basal lobes.

head: A dense cluster of stalkless flowers as in dandelion.

inflorescence: The flowering portion of a plant.

internode: The section of stem between two successive nodes.

keel: A ridge.

lanceolate: A shape longer than wide, broadest below the middle, lance-shaped.

leaf axil: A position on a stem between the leaf petiole and the stem.

leaflet: One of the several flat blade portions of a compound leaf.

ligule: Projection at the inside junction of the grass leaf blade and collar, which may be membrane-like or a row of hairs.

linear: A long and narrow shape with parallel margins.

lobe: A segment of a simple leaf cut rather deeply into curved or angular segments.

midrib: The main or central vein or rib of a leaf or leaflet.

node: The point or location on a stem at which one or more leaves are attached.

oblanecolate: Opposite of lanceolate, the terminal half the widest.

oblique: A shape having sides of unequal length or form.

oblong: An elongate shape with approximately parallel sides.

obovate: Inverted oval shape, widest above the middle.

opposite: An arrangement of leaves that are attached directly across from each other at the same node.

orbicular: Circular or round shape.

oval: A shape similar to a hen's egg, widest below the middle.

palmate: A type of leaf where leaflets or lobes originate from a common point, and diverge like the fingers from the palm of the hand.

palmate venation: Three or more nearly equal veins extending out from the petiole like the fingers from the palm of the hand.

palmately compound: A type of leaf arrangement where leaflets arise from petiole-like fingers originating from a common point of attachment.

panicle: An inflorescence composed of several branches and sub-branches.

pedicel: The stalk of a simple flower.

petiote: A type of leaf attachment where the petiole is attached inside the leaf margin.

perennial: A plant that normally lives for more than two years.

petiole: The stalk of a leaf.

pinnate: A type of compound leaf with the leaflets arranged on either side of a central axis.

pinnate venation: Venation resembling a feather with veins branching off from the main vein.

pinnately compound: A compound leaf with the leaflets arranged along a central, common axis.

pinnatifid: Pinnately divided to the middle or beyond (somewhat resembling a feather).

prostrate: Parallel to or lying on the surface of the ground.

raceme: An elongated inflorescence with each flower on a flower stalk.

ray flower: A type of flower with a strap shaped petal found in many members of the *Compositae* family.

reniform: Kidney-shaped.

rhizome: A creeping underground stem, distinguished from a root by the presence of nodes, buds or scale-like leaves.

rhombic: More or less diamond-shaped, having straight margins and being widest in the middle.

rosette: An arrangement of leaves radiating from the center and usually appressed or near the ground level.

scabrous: Rough to the touch.

scurfy: Covered with minute,

membranous scales.

seedhead: Refers to the inflorescence of the grasses, sedges and rushes. A collection of flowers clustered upon a main stem.

sepal: A part of a flower which is usually petal-like in appearance and green in color.

serrate: A type of leaf margin with sharp teeth pointing forward.

sessile: Without a petiole or stalk.

sheath: The portion of a leaf which encircles the stem.

simple: A type of leaf consisting of a blade not divided into individual leaflets.

sinuate: A type of leaf margin that is wavy with regularly spaced indentations.

smooth: Lacking hairs, divisions or teeth.

spatulate: A shape broadest at the rounded end, spoon-shaped.

spike: An elongate flower cluster with the flowers growing together on a common axis.

spikelet: The individual unit of the flower cluster of grasses and some sedges, composed of one or more flowers and their subtending bracts.

stipule: Bract-like appendages at the base of some leaves.

stolon: A creeping, above-ground stem that roots at the nodes.

tendrils: A slender, twisting, thread-like structure of a leaf or stem.

three-ranked: Originating from the stem in three directions, as in the sedge family.

trifoliate: A type of compound leaf composed of three leaflets.

tuber: An enlarged portion of a rhizome or stolon, commonly its terminal end.

umbel: An inflorescence with pedicels arising from a common point of attachment.

verticillate: Arranged in a whorl.

whorled leaves: Three or more leaves attached in a circular arrangement at the same node.

woody: Consisting or composed of wood-like tissue.

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