

Controlling Weeds Is Tricky Business, But It Can Be Done

A weed can be simply defined as "a plant out of place."

After all this rainy hot weather, I have a lot of plants-out-of-place in my garden and, from the letters and telephone calls I am receiving, gardeners all over southeastern North Carolina are having the same plant-out-of-place problems.

The environmentally most sound weed removal is to simply pull up the weed, taking the roots, stem and foliage. This method works every time without fail. Weed pulling is great exercise and can be developed into a skill of Olympic proportions. If you have just a few weeds, pull them up.

For larger gardens, the hoe (or similar implement) and a little "elbow grease" will control a great number of weeds. However, all the "elbow grease" in North Carolina will not control a bad bermudagrass infestation in a large flower bed or vegetable garden.

Herbicides are chemicals that kill plants. Some herbicides are called "nonselective" because they kill most or all plants when applied according to label instructions. Nonselective herbicides are most often used to kill undesirable plants (i.e. poison ivy, kill vegetation around buildings, fence rows or parking lots. Roots, stems or foliage of nearby desirable plants, especially trees and shrubs, if contacted by the product, may be killed.

Extreme care must be exercised when using these products because their effects on plants are irreversible. So be sure to follow all label instructions for use.

Examples of nonselective herbicides include Roundup, Finale and Pramitol. Used properly, any of these products will do the job on the targeted weed, but every year I see many cases where homeowners cause damage to their gardens, shrubs or trees by allowing herbicide spray to drift to desirable plants. Improper mixing, poor application technique and failure to read the directions also causes numerous problems to desirable plants.

I repeat—read all the directions before using any herbicide product.

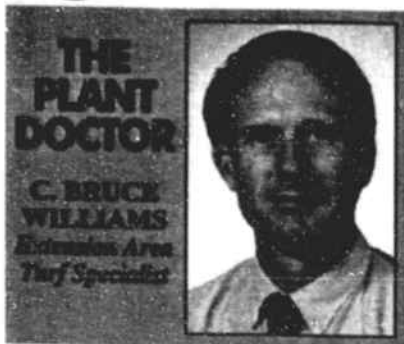
Roundup is a nonselective herbicide that is commonly available and produces excellent nonselective wide-spectrum weed control. Weeds sprayed with Roundup will usually die in 10 to 14 days. Finale is a new nonselective herbicide product that is derived from natural toxins found in bacteria. Finale works to kill plants in much the same way Roundup does, but the effects of Finale application are visible in just two to four days.

Pramitol kills plants by root uptake and is often used for weed control in road construction or parking lots. Improperly used, Pramitol will kill trees and shrubs that happen to grow roots into the treated area.

During the past 30 years research scientists have made fantastic progress in the development of selective herbicides. Selective herbicides will kill only certain species or types of plants. Examples of common selective herbicides include Weed-B-Gone for Southern Lawns, Formula II, 33 Plus, Purge II, Ortho Chickweed and Clover Control, Vantage, Ortho Crabgrass Killer, Image and Ortho Grass-B-Gon.

One of the first and most famous selective herbicides still widely used on home lawns is 2, 4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid or 2,4D. This ingredient is in products like 33 Plus or Weed-B-Gone for Southern Lawns and properly applied will kill many broadleaf weeds (like dandelion or morning glory) but will not harm grasses. It will not control crabgrass, goosegrass, bermudagrass or any other grass. It is selective and will only kill broadleaf weeds.

Tomatoes, peppers, tobacco and several other ornamental plants tend to be very sensitive to 2,4D and some of its chemical relatives, so be very careful to avoid chemical drift when applying 2,4D to your lawn.



Some broadleaf weeds can be controlled with Purge II in centipede and St. Augustinegrass.

Grasses are a major problem in ornamental shrub and flower beds. Vantage and Grass-B-Gone are selective herbicides that kill many grasses but do not harm most ornamental plants. Vantage kills bermudagrass, crabgrass and most other grasses dead without damaging ornamental plants.

Centipede grass is resistant or very tolerant to Vantage. Vantage is labeled for weedy grass control (like crabgrass, sandbur or bermudagrass) in centipede grass. However, be sure you have centipede grass. Every year I see someone's carpet- or bermud-

grass lawn killed because the homeowner did not know the difference between centipede grass and other weedy grasses.

Killing crabgrass, sandbur or other weedy grasses in bermudagrass or zoysiagrass can be difficult. One of the products available to homeowners that will selectively kill most weedy grasses in bermuda- or zoysiagrass is Ortho Crabgrass Killer. Do not use this product on centipede-, St. Augustine- or carpetgrass.

Nutsedge (Cyperus) is a weed problem in many lawns. In home lawns with warm-season grasses

(e.g. bermuda, centipede-, St. Augustine- and zoysiagrass) a new selective herbicide called Image applied according to label instructions will kill most species of nutsedge without damaging the lawn. Image will also control wild garlic in warm-season grass lawns. Ortho Crabgrass Killer will control nutsedge in bermuda and zoysiagrass with repeated use.

When used properly, herbicides are a valuable addition to the tools in the garden shed, but when used improperly, they can cause all sorts of problems. When using herbicides

are a valuable addition to the tools in the garden shed, but when used improperly they can cause all sorts of problems. When using herbicides in your lawn or garden remember to do the following:

■ Contact your county office of the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service for positive weed or plant identification.

■ Read and follow all label instructions, precautions and suggestions!

Send your gardening questions or comments to the Plant Doctor, P.O. Box 109, Bolivia NC 28422.

FRESH SEAFOOD

FARMER'S MARKET

5441 Main St.
Shalotte, NC
754-3636
Fax 754-3673

SUPERMARKET

<p>WHOLE BONE IN Pork Loins</p> <p>1 19 lb.</p>	<p>FAMILY PACK FRESH Fryer Breast</p> <p>99 lb.</p>	<p>TABLERITE QUALITY BEEF! FULL CUT Round Steak</p> <p>1 29 lb.</p>	<p>IGA Bacon</p> <p>79 12 oz. pk.</p>
<p>QUARTER SLICED ASSORTED Pork Loins</p> <p>1 49 lb.</p>	<p>TABLERITE QUALITY BEEF! Top Round or London Broil</p> <p>2 38 lb.</p>	<p>TABLERITE QUALITY BEEF! FAMILY PK. Cube Steak</p> <p>1 98 lb.</p>	
<p>BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP OR RUMP Roastlb. 2.48</p> <p>SUPER-TRU SLICED Cooked Ham ..10 oz. 1.59</p>	<p>GWALTNEY'S Sliced Bacon 10 lb. box 10.95</p> <p>GWALTNEY'S Great Dogs16 oz. 79¢</p>	<p>HILLSHIRE'S Smoked Sausage ..lb. 1.99</p> <p>JIMMY DEAN'S ASSORTED PORK Sausage16 oz. roll 1.79</p>	

**CALIFORNIA WHITE OR RED
Seedless Grapes**

99
lb.

IGA Sugar

1 39
5 lb. bag

limit 1 with a \$10 or more food order!

**WASHINGTON STATE
GRANNY SMITH Apples**lb. **69¢**

REFRESHING
Kiwi Fruit 6/ **1.00**

FRESH, TANGY
Limes 6/ **1.00**

ALL PURPOSE WHITE
Potatoes 5 lb. bag **1.49**

CALIFORNIA
Carrots 2 lb. bag **89¢**

Come See Mello Yello Race Car July 12 & 13

<p>IGA Sandwich Bread</p> <p>2/99 24 oz.</p>	<p>CHARMIN Bath Tissue</p> <p>79¢ 4 pk.</p>	<p>MT. OLIVE Kosher Dills</p> <p>1 39 46 oz.</p>	<p>KC MASTERPIECE BBQ Sauce</p> <p>1 19 18 oz.</p>
<p>FRESH BAKED Raisin Bread 1.49 loaf</p>	<p>MALT-O-MEAL Frosted Flakes</p> <p>1 69 20 oz.</p>	<p>A-1 Steak Sauce 2 49 10 oz.</p>	
<p>8' DOUBLE LAYER Carrot Cake 5.99 ea.</p>	<p>LIPTON Tea Bags</p> <p>2 29 100 ct.</p>	<p>IGA Potato Chips 69¢ 6 oz.</p>	
<p>FRESH GLAZED Donuts 1.69 dozen</p>	<p>Pepsi Cola</p> <p>97¢ 2 liter</p>	<p>SHOESTRING French Fries</p> <p>3/1 00 20 oz. bag</p>	
<p>DELICIOUS Turkey Breast ... 3.99 lb.</p>	<p>NEW YORKER Provolone Cheese 3.99 lb.</p>		
<p>SOUTHERN FRIED Chicken 4.99 9 pc. box</p>	<p>Prices effective July 13 thru 19, 1994. We reserve the right to limit quantities. We gladly accept USDA Food Stamps.</p>		

E. Harvie Hill, D.D.S., M.D.
Pediatric Dentistry
providing care for children and young adults ages 1-21. Also care for the handicapped.
754-3333
MEMBER: AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY.
101 Village Pines, Shalotte

Teleflora Shady Oak Florist
Floral Delivery & Wire Service
1-800-352-5375
(910)579-6715
Hwy. 179 (Between Sunset & Ocean Isle)