

Evening-Primrose, Cutleaf

[*Oenothera laciniata* Hill]

DESCRIPTION

Cutleaf evening-primrose is a herbaceous weed that can grow to 28 inches tall. Often, the plant is upright, but the stems also recline and creep along the ground. The leaves are alternate, and toothed and lobed. The flowers are striking, and are yellow but sometimes have pink tinges to them. The flowers first appear in late spring and continue into early fall. Also unique is the elongated and curved seed pod located on the stems of the plant. Cutleaf evening primrose is found in fields, fencerows and waste areas, and is classified as a biennial, winter annual and sometimes a summer annual.



Characteristic	Description
Growth Season	winter annual weed or biennial weed
Growth Habit	rosette or upright
Leaflet Number	one
Leaf Margin	lobed
Leaf Hairs	upper/lower surface
Leaf/Leaflet Shape	linear/oblong/oval/egg-shaped/elliptical
Leaf Width	
Leaf Venation	pinnate
Leaf Arrangement	alternate; whorled or basal rosette
Root Type	taproot; fibrous



cutleaf evening primrose



cutleaf evening primrose seedpods

Note: Still not sure this is the right weed? [The Turf & Weed Identification Decision Aid](#) may help. Check the TurfFiles [glossary](#) for definitions of unfamiliar terms.

CULTURAL CONTROL

Proper turf management is important for biennial broadleaf weed control. Maintain a dense, actively growing turf through proper mowing, fertilizing, and watering practices. Mow at the proper height for your selected adapted turfgrass. Coring and traffic control reduce compaction and encourage desirable turfgrass competition. It is best to control this biennial broadleaf weed in spring or fall, if actively growing at these times.

CHEMICAL CONTROL

Manor (metsulfuron), Plateau (imazapic), and Spotlight (fluroxypyr) will control this winter annual or biennial weed.

Postemergence herbicides:

Herbicide	Tolerant Turfs ⁽¹⁾	Average Efficacy Rating ⁽²⁾	Range of Trial Efficacy Values, %	Number of Trials	Products ⁽³⁾
glyphosate & imazapyr		E	99 - 100	2	GroundClear Triox
glyphosate & oxyfluorfen		E	98 - 100	2	GroundClear SuperEdger plus Ready to Use
prometon		E	96 - 100	2	Spectracide Total Vegetation Killer
glyphosate		E	100	1	Glyphosate Original, Roundup, Touchdown Pro**

** Not for application to residential lawns.

Footnotes:

(1) *Turfgrass Codes:*

- ba bahiagrass
- bc bentgrass, creeping
- be bermudagrass
- bk bluegrass, Kentucky
- c centipedegrass
- f fescue, tall
- r ryegrass, perennial
- sa St. Augustinegrass
- z zoysiagrass
- blank No turfgrass in the database is completely tolerant. Check label to see if chemical can be used at a reduced rate or during the dormant season on your turfgrass.

(2) *Efficacy Ratings:*

- E excellent control (90 to 100%)
- G good control (80 to 90%)
- F fair control (70 to 80%)

Efficacy ratings are based on herbicide trials performed by weed scientists at North Carolina State University between 1997 and 2007. The number of trials included in the efficacy ratings is displayed in the next-to-last column. The higher this number, the more confidence can be placed in the efficacy values. Trials may have involved sequential applications of one or more chemical. Details of

individual trials (herbicide rates, dates of application, environmental conditions at time of application, etc) can be viewed on the TurfFiles web site, through the [Turf Weed Management Decision Aid](#).

Efficacy ratings for chemicals lacking trial data are from "[Pest Management Strategic Plan for Turfgrass in the Southern United States](#)," a summary of a workshop for turf experts from multiple universities held in Griffin, GA in October, 2004. The workshop was sponsored by the Southern Region Integrated Pest Management Center.

- (3) Recommendations of specific chemicals are based upon information on the manufacturer's label and performance in a limited number of trials. Because environmental conditions and methods of application may vary widely, performance of the chemical will not always conform to the safety and pest control standards indicated by experimental data. The order in which brand names are given is not an indication of a recommendation or criticism.

Recommendations for the use of agricultural chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services does not imply endorsement by North Carolina State University or discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Other brand names may be labeled for use on turfgrasses. Individuals who use agricultural chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage regulations and examine a current product label before applying any chemical. For assistance, contact your county's Cooperative Extension agent.

Links contained in this document:

Glossary: <http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/Glossary.aspx>

Pest Management Strategic Plan: <http://www.ipmcenters.org/pmsp/pdf/SouthernTurfgrass.pdf>

Turf & Weed Identification Decision Aid: <http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/turfid/>

Turf Weed Management Decision Aid: <http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/turfweedmgmt/>

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