

LOUISIANA HOME LAWN SERIES

A guide to maintaining a healthy Louisiana lawn



Dollarweed

Description

Dollarweed (*Hydrocotyle* spp.), also known as pennywort, is a perennial weed common throughout Louisiana. It is typically found growing in lawn areas with moist or wet soil. As a moisture-loving weed, dollarweed can also be found growing in bodies of water. It produces flowers in summer and spreads via seed and rhizomes (underground stems). Its ability to spread underground and establish quickly makes dollarweed a difficult weed to control in lawns.



Dollarweed

Identification

Dollarweed can be identified by its shiny, silver-dollar-shaped, bright-green leaves. Leaf edges are undulated (widely wavy), and stems are attached at the center of each leaf's underside. Stems are from rhizomes (underground stems), which can form underground chains connecting several aboveground leaves. It has a low growth habit and produces tiny white flowers that are clustered at the top of flower stalks. For more information on Dollarweed identification and characterization visit the USDA Plants Database at <https://plants.usda.gov>.



Circular leaf



Stem attachment



Rhizome chain

Cultural Control Practices

The best way to prevent or reduce weed encroachment is to maintain a healthy lawn through regular mowing and proper fertilization and soil pH management. Properly maintaining a lawn through these cultural practices promotes dense and vigorous turfgrass and allows the lawn to better compete with weeds. Below are the recommended mowing and nitrogen fertility rates recommended for each turfgrass species. In addition to these lawn care practices, manual removal of weeds may also be necessary. If possible, dig up rhizomes when physically removing dollarweed. Improving drainage may be necessary for long-term control of dollarweed.

Turfgrass	Mowing height	Nitrogen Rate (per 1,000 ft ² per year)
Bermudagrass	1 - 2 inches	2 - 3 pounds
Centipedegrass	1 - 2.5 inches	0.5 - 2 pounds
St. Augustine grass	2.5 - 3 inches	1 - 3 pounds
Zoysia	1 - 2.5 inches	0.5 - 2 pounds

Chemical Control Practices

In addition to cultural practices, herbicide applications may be required to achieve effective weed control. Apply post-emergent herbicides in late spring when dollarweed is observed in the lawn. Metsulfuron is the most effective herbicide on dollarweed. However, repeated applications may be necessary to achieve control. When using any type of herbicide, always follow the manufacturer's labeled directions.

For more information regarding pesticides for turfgrass please reference the Louisiana Suggested Chemical Weed Control Guide at the LSU AgCenter website www.lsuagcenter.com.

	St. Augustine grass	Centipedegrass	Zoysia	Bermudagrass
Post-emergence Herbicide Active Ingredients				
metsulfuron methyl	✓	✓	✓	✓
2, 4D + dicamba + mecoprop	✓	✓	✓	✓
2, 4D + dicamba + mecoprop + carfentrazone	✓	✓	✓	✓
atrazine	✓	✓	✓	

For information regarding weed identification and control options please contact your local LSU AgCenter Extension Parish Office. To find your local LSU AgCenter Extension Parish Office visit www.lsuagcenter.com.

Authors:

Jeffrey Beasley, Associate Professor, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences; Ronald Strahan, Associate Professor, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences
Kayla Sanders, Extension Associate, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences; Matt Voitier, Research Associate, School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences

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William B. Richardson, LSU Vice President for Agriculture

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