

## WEED REFERENCE

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### Large Crabgrass, *Digitaria sanguinalis*

#### DESCRIPTION:

Large crabgrass is a summer annual and is very similar to smooth crabgrass. The distinguishable feature between the two species is large crabgrass has hairy stems whereas smooth crabgrass has smooth stems. Both species germinate when 24 hour mean soil temperatures average about 53 to 55 degrees F near the soils surface for several days. Alternating dry and wet conditions at the soil surface in the spring encourages germination. Crabgrass species germinate and grow best when adequate light and moisture are present. Crabgrass species are some of the most problematic weeds in golf course turf due to their abundance and the fact that they can survive very low mowing heights such as those found on putting greens. Crabgrass competition is enhanced by thin, open turfgrass stands.



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<b>Type of plant:</b>	grass
<b>Life cycle:</b>	Summer annual
<b>Growth habit:</b>	Slightly spreading
<b>Aggressiveness (1-10 scale; 10=most aggressive):</b>	9
<b>Leaf color:</b>	Medium green
<b>Flower description:</b>	Not distinguishable with naked eye
<b>Seed description:</b>	Small tan, oblong seed that drops in late summer
<b>Reproduces by:</b>	seed
<b>U.S. states found in:</b>	Throughout U.S.
<b>Countries found in:</b>	Central and South America, Europe, Asia
<b>Golf course areas found in:</b>	Greens, tees, fairways, roughs, low maintenance areas

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#### MONITORING:

Begin monitoring when weeds begin to germinate, when soil temperatures reach a 24 hour average of 53 – 55 F (12-13 C).

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### MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES:

Always check labels to determine turfgrass sensitivity to herbicides.

Follow resistance management guidelines by rotating products as outlined in IPM Template Reference “Herbicide Resistance Management Groups.” Always consult the most recent version of all product labels before use.

TYPE	TIMING/ THRESHOLD	PRACTICE	
Cultural	N/A	Keep turf healthy to avoid weed invasion	
Biological			
Chemical	Pre-emerge: apply late winter/spring before average soil temperatures reach 53 – 55 F (12 – 13 C)	Active ingredient (example)	Label signal word
		dithiopyr (Dimension)	Caution or Warning, depending on formulation
		oryazalin (Surflan)	Caution
		oxadiazon (Ronstar)	Warning
		pendimethalin, trifluralin + benefin (Team pro)	Warning
		prodiamine (Barricade)	Caution
	Post-emerge: apply when weeds are small	fenoxaprop (Acclaim Extra)	Caution
		fluazifop (Fusilade)	Caution
		quinclorac (Drive)	Caution

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