



# WEED CONTROL FACT SHEET

*Weeds are never good companions for turf. It is always easier trying to manage weeds from the outset, rather than trying to remove them once they are established. Keeping your lawn healthy is an excellent way to combat weeds.*

Weeds are easily dispersed into your lawn, through a variety of ways; on the soles of shoes; animals and birds; infested soil; they can be airborne; through manures and conditioners and on mowing equipment.

If you notice weeds, treating them quickly is the best way to eradicate them. Digging them out by hand when they are young and small, they will be easy to remove. If they are allowed to grow larger, they can be very difficult to remove and may lay seeds all over your lawn, spreading them further.

## **Lawn Height**

Regular maintenance of your lawn, including frequent mowing, encourages healthy growth, meaning that your lawn is better equipped to out compete weed growth. If your lawn is scalped or mown too short, it gives weeds an opportunity to germinate. There are also certain varieties of lawn, for example Buffalo or Zoysia who naturally out compete weeds!

## **Hand Removal**

Many weeds can be removed by hand, however you have to be careful and make sure you remove the roots too! Use a trowel or spade to help you get in and around the roots. Remember, the bigger the weed, the bigger and stronger the roots will be.



## **Herbicides**

If it becomes apparent that you need to use a herbicide to rid your lawn of weeds, there are a couple of things you should consider before applying any chemicals.



There are various types of herbicides available, selective and non-selective. Non-selective herbicides will kill almost everything, including your lawn. Selective will kill specific weeds only. Correctly identifying weeds will help you select what herbicide to use. Your turf supplier or local nursery should be able to assist with identification of weeds.

You will need to check a product's suitability for your lawn too – if you have a Buffalo lawn, you will need to be especially careful as Buffalo can be extremely sensitive. Make sure the chemical you purchase says **"Suitable for Buffalo"** on the label, if not, don't use it!

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying chemicals. Consider using a weeding wand or brush so that you can control the application of the herbicide. Always wear personal protective equipment such as gloves and eye protection.

If you need specific advice, contact us on **02 4578 6622** or at [www.qualturf.com.au](http://www.qualturf.com.au)