

Common Lawn Weeds



Dandelions
Taraxacum officinale

Description: The familiar yellow flowers are the most common lawn weed in the country. They thrive in wet soil and are sometimes a sign of overwatering.

Prevention: Dandelions are easily avoided with a broadleaf weed preventer. These work by creating a gaseous barrier just beneath the surface of the soil which prevents any seeds from sprouting. Apply a broadleaf weed preventer in March or April.



Solutions: Dig out the dandelions with a dandelion digger. Be sure to remove the whole root because dandelions can easily re-sprout from broken roots that remain in the soil. You can also spray with a broadleaf weed killer. These herbicides are designed to kill dandelions and other non-grassy weeds without harming your lawn grass. For best results, spray the affected area and make a second application after 3-4 weeks.



Info from Ortho Problem Solver, CSU Extension



Tall Fescue
Festuca arundinacea

Description: Tough, coarse grass that grows in thin areas of the lawn. **Many people mistake Tall Fescue for crabgrass.** Crabgrass is an annual weed grass that appears in June or July. Tall Fescue is a perennial grass that starts to green up in early March or April with the rest of the lawn.

Prevention: Normal lawn maintenance will help your lawn grow strong, uniform and more resistant to invasion by unwanted plants like Tall Fescue.

Solutions: Unfortunately, since Tall Fescue and lawn grasses are the same type of plant, you can't kill one without killing the other. Dig out clumps of fescue or spray with a non-selective grass killer like **Bonide Kleen-Up or Hi Yield Killzall.** This will kill the fescue but also kill a small patch in the lawn. One week after spraying, mow the grass and reseed the affected area. Top dress with **B.O.S.S.** and water well.



Info from Ortho Problem Solver, CSU Extension