

QUACKGRASS (*Agropyron repens*)

WHAT IS IT?

Quackgrass is a cool-season, perennial grass and the most common grassy weed found in area lawns and low maintenance areas alike.

Because the leaf blades are twice the width of bluegrass and tend to be rough in texture, quackgrass can be a noticeable problem.

CAN IT BE CONTROLLED?

Since quackgrass is a "close relative" to most other desirable grasses, there is no herbicide at present that will selectively control quackgrass without causing damage to other grasses.

Physical removal (digging out) of the plants is not recommended as the plant may return in greater numbers from roots in the soil.

Though it is possible to apply a non-selective herbicide (such as Round-Up) it is impractical because this product will kill all vegetation it comes in contact with.

Reseeding is then required and quackgrass often will invade new seedlings. The best time to attempt this method is in late summer. Follow label instructions carefully. After the plant is dead it needs to be physically removed (dug out) so reseeding can be done.

It is usually easier to live with and mask the quackgrass problem than it is to irradiate it.

By mowing tall in summer and keeping the desirable turf healthy, quackgrass will blend in and be unable to become a more serious problem.