WEEDWATCH

STANDING SENTINEL TO PROTECT PLANT HEALTH



PURPLE DEADNETTLE

Lamium pupureum

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > With square stems and purple-red flowers, this winter annual closely resembles henbit (Lamium amplexicaule).
- > Opposite leaves with pointed tips often have a purple tinge. Leaves grow on short or long petioles dependent on where the leaf is located on the plant—unlike henbit, where leaves lack petioles.
- > Purple-red flowers grow in clusters of three to six in the upper leaves.
- > Deadnettle, a member of the mint family, reproduces by seed.

CONTROL TIPS

- > Purple deadnettle germinates in the fall and flowers in the spring. It thrives in thin turf and moist shady sites.
- Dense, lush turf is the best way to reduce spread and encroachment of winter annuals. Properly mow, fertilize and water in spring and summer to minimize thin turf areas.
- > Apply a preemergent herbicide containing dithiopyr prior to germination in the fall.



HENBIT

Lamium amplexicaule

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This member of the mint family, from the same genus as purple deadnettle, features a square stem.
- > Commonly confused with deadnettle, henbit leaves are also opposite—but circular to heart-shaped, without petioles for attachment but with clasping leaves on the petiole.
- > Pink to purple flowers grow in whorls in the upper leaves without petioles.

> Primarily found in turfgrass and landscapes, henbit prefers thin, nutrient-rich soil.

CONTROL TIPS

- > Henbit germinates in the fall, reproducing by seed and flowers in spring.
- Dense, lush turf is the best way to reduce spread and encroachment of winter annuals. Properly mow, fertilize and water in spring and summer to minimize thin turf areas.
- > Apply a preemergent herbicide containing isoxaben prior to germination in the fall.

For more information regarding these and other turf weeds — and related control technologies and tips — please visit www.DowProvesIt.com or call 800/255-3726.

