



COMMON DANDELION

Taraxacum officinale

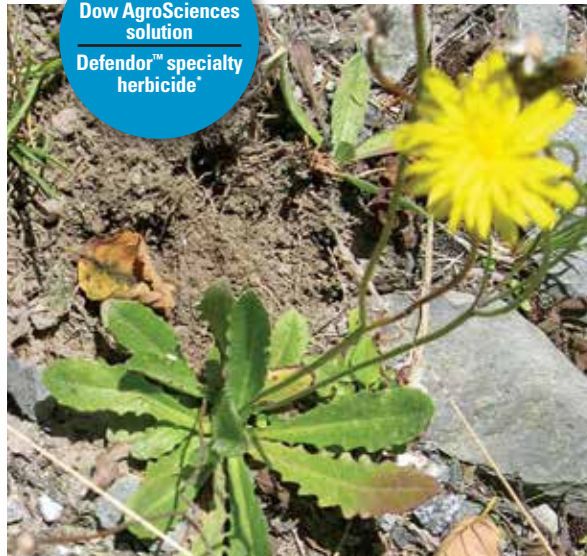
IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- ▶ This perennial overwinters as a small rosette of leaves. Seedlings grow from a taproot and begin to emerge in early spring, when soil temperatures reach 50 F.
- ▶ Solitary, bright yellow blossoms grow on the end of leafless, hollow stalks that emit a white milky sap when broken.
- ▶ It produces a puffball seedhead shortly after mowing, and seeds are easily dispersed by wind.
- ▶ Dandelions prefer moist

conditions and soils, but thrive in weak, thin turf.

CONTROL TIPS

- ▶ For early-season control of weeds that overwintered, apply a postemergent herbicide containing florasulam to turf early in the spring, when temperatures are cool and the dandelions have not yet bloomed.
- ▶ Thick, healthy turf is important for managing this weed species. Properly mow, water and fertilize lawns to encourage healthy growth and minimize thin turf.



FALSE DANDELION

Hypochaeris radicata

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- ▶ Also known as cat's ear/ catsear or flatweed, this perennial weed closely resembles common dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*).
- ▶ Leaves are arranged in a basal rosette; they are densely hairy with toothed or irregularly lobed margins. This is in contrast to common dandelion, which has highly divided, hairless leaves.
- ▶ Each leafless stalk has two to seven bright yellow ray flowers. Leaves and flower stalks emit a milky substance when broken.

CONTROL TIPS

- ▶ As with any turfgrass weed, proper cultural maintenance of the lawn will greatly reduce false dandelion's prevalence and presence. Properly mow, fertilize and water lawns to encourage healthy turf.
- ▶ When false dandelion is actively growing, apply a postemergent, systemic herbicide, such as florasulam, that will move from the treated foliage throughout the plant and into the extensive root system to provide control.

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