WEED IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

How to use this guide

This guide provides short descriptions and photos of common weeds you are likely to see. For more information, please visit plants.usda.gov



Native plants are plants indigenous to a given area that have developed, occur naturally, or existed for many years in that area. They will be depicted with this symbol.

White clover

(Trifolium repens)

Three round leaflets per leaf, each with a white V-shape. Leaves are smooth and on a long stem. The flower is white or pinkish, round, and made up of many smaller flowers.







Buckthorn / narrowleaf plantain (Plantago lanceolata)

Cluster of shiny leaves with smooth edges that grow in a circle shape at its base. Flowers are tiny and white, clustered on long stalks that grow several inches above the leaves.







Yellow wood sorrel

Leaflets are smooth, clustered into three, and heart-shaped. The flowers are yellow and occur in clusters. Each flower has 5 petals.







Field bindweed

(Convolvulus arvensis)

Leaves are arrow to spade shaped and rounded tips. It is a climbing vine that attaches to nearby plants. Flowers are white to pink and form a funnel shape.



English daisy (Bellis perennis)

Small rounded or spoon shaped leaves that grow flat to the ground. Flowers are white or pink with a yellow center and have many thin petals.







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Dandelion

(Taraxacum)

All leaves are near the ground at the base of the plant. Leaves are oblong to spatula shaped with large, backward pointing waves. The flowers are bright yellow and fluffy. The stem is hollow and leaves and stems produce milky sap when damaged.







Common violet

(Viola papilionacea)

Leaves are heart shaped and smooth.
The flowers are blue to purple and have
5 petals. Sometimes the flowers can be
light purple or white.







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Geograph

Birdsfoot trefoil

(Lotus corniculatus)

Leaflets are oval and smooth, grouped in three as a leaf at the end of a thin long stem. Flowers are bright yellow and sometimes have red streaks, and found in groups at the end the stems.







Red clover

(Trifolium pratense)

Leaflets are almond shaped and groups of three form one leaf. Each leaflet has a light green to white V-shape on them. Flowers are round and pink to red with many individual flowers at the end the stems.







Mary Gardiner

Purslane

(Portulaca oleracea)

Leaves are green, thick, shiny, and oval. The stem is red to pinkish. The flower is small and yellow, and have four or five notched petals.







Ground lvy/Creeping Charlie

(Glechoma hederacea)

Leaves are round or egg shaped with wavy edges. The stem is square and has a few hairs. The flowers are purplish white to blue violet and are found in groups on the stem.







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