

Control Lawn Weeds in the Fall

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Did you have dandelions and henbit in your yard last spring and as you walk across your lawn now are you seeing little weeds getting off to a good start? If so, we have something you may be interested in to control these pesty weeds.

Late October to early November is the most effective time to control broadleaf weeds in lawns. Dandelions usually produce a flush of new plants in late September, and the winter annual weeds henbit and chickweed should have germinated in October. These young plants are small and easily controlled with herbicides such as 2,4-D or combination products (Trimec, Weed-B-Gon, Weed-Out) that contain 2,4-D, MCPP and Dicamba. Even established dandelions are more easily controlled now than in the spring because they are actively moving materials from the top portion of the plant to the roots.

Herbicides will translocate to the roots as well and will kill the plant from the roots up. Choose a day that is 50 degrees or higher. The better the weed is growing, the more weed killer will be moved from the leaves to the roots. Cold temperatures will slow or stop this process.

For more information on this and other topics, please contact the local K-State Research and Extension Office. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.