

Spreading Dayflower Biology and Management in Turf¹

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Spreading dayflower (*Commelina diffusa*) is a succulent annual that produces freely branched smooth stems. Leaves are broadly lance-shaped with closed sheaths. Sheaths are short with a few soft hairs on the upper margin. Flowers have three blue petals in a leaf-like structure open on the margins. Reproduction occurs via seed and stem fragments.



Figure 1. Spreading dayflower Credits: Creative Commons BY-NC: IRRI Images

Herbicide options for controlling spreading dayflower in Florida turfgrass

(Always refer to the label for specific uses, application rates, and turfgrass tolerance)

Bermudagrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: bentazon, imazaquin, simazine, sulfentrazone+imazethapyr, sulfentrazone+2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba, trifloxyfulfuron

St. Augustinegrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: atrazine, bentazon, imazaquin, simazine

Centipedegrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: atrazine, bentazon, imazaquin, simazine, sulfentrazone+imazethapyr, sulfentrazone+2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba

Bahiagrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: bentazon, sulfentrazone+imazethapyr, sulfentrazone+2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba
- 1. This document is ENH1236, one of a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date December 2013. Adapted from: Tim R. Murphy, Daniel L. Colvin, Ray Dickens, John W. Everest, David Hall, and L.B. McCarty. *Weeds of Southern Turfgrasses*. University of Florida, 1992. Visit the EDIS Web Site at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu.
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Seashore paspalum

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: bentazon, imazaquin

Zoysiagrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: atrazine, bentazon, imazaquin, simazine, sulfentrazone+imazethapyr, sulfentrazone+2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba, trifloxysulfuro

Perennial ryegrass

- Preemergence: none
- Postemergence: bentazon, sulfentrazone+2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba

Refer to the publication Pest Control Guide for Turfgrass Managers at http://turf.ufl.edu/pdf/2012_UF_Pest_Control_Guide.pdf for brand names associated with chemical names listed.