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Online Training Available

<https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>
<https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Additional Resources

University of Florida
Extension Publications
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Pest Management in and
Around Structures
<http://www.eXtension.org/>

PMU Focus - Preemergence Herbicide Timing for the Lawn and Landscape

By: Chris Marble

With spring fast-approaching, now is the time to be considering preemergence herbicide applications. When determining whether or not to use preemergence herbicides in your weed control program, one aspect that should be considered is the life cycle of the weeds you are trying to control. Preemergence herbicides are only going to offer control of weeds germinating from seed which are most often annual weeds.

Preemergence herbicides may be the only control option for control of annual grassy weeds like crabgrass (*Digitaria* spp.) or goosegrass (*Eleusine indica*) which are difficult to control in turf areas after germination. Many of the common perennial weeds in Florida landscapes reproduce via rhizomes, stolons, tubers or other underground storage organs such as Florida betony (*Stachys floridana*) (Figure 1) or dollarweed (*Hydrocotyle* spp.) (Figure 2). These perennial weeds may be suppressed in some cases, but are unlikely to be controlled by a preemergence herbicide application unless germinating from seed.



Figure 1. Florida betony reproduces from primarily by rhizomes and tubers and will not be controlled by most preemergence herbicides unless it is germinating from seed. Credit C. Marble

Due to the fact that preemergence herbicides must be applied prior to weed seed germination, timing is critical. Different weeds will germinate at different temperatures, but a good rule of thumb controlling warm season annual weeds is to try and time the application in early February in South Florida, the middle of February in Central Florida, and early March in North Florida. The key is to make the application when daytime temperatures reach 65 to 70°F for 4 or 5 days in a row. Depending upon the environmental conditions, you can expect most preemergence herbicides to provide control for anywhere

from 6 to 10 weeks or longer at which time another preemergence application will be needed for extended control. More information on preemergence herbicide timing can be found here <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep141>.



Figure 2. Dollarweed reproduces primarily via rhizomes. Credit C. Marble

After application, preemergence herbicides will need to be “activated” or watered in with either rainfall or irrigation within a specified window of time listed on the herbicide label. If the products are not watered in within this time frame, weed control will be significantly reduced. As with all pesticides, it is important to rotate herbicides with different modes of action so that resistant weed populations do not develop and you achieve the best weed control

possible.

In contrast to most postemergence herbicides which can damage ornamentals, many of the same

preemergence herbicides commonly used in turf areas such as prodiamine, pendimethalin, isoxaben, or dimethenamid-p, along with several others, can also be applied to landscape beds to control weeds in and around ornamental plants. Preemergence herbicide applications in these areas are generally safe if the plant is listed on the product label and all label precautions are followed. Along with mulch, making preemergence herbicide applications in plant beds and can reduce the need for making repeated postemergence spot treatments throughout the summer which can be time consuming and increase the chances of non-target plant damage.

Upcoming Training Opportunities:

...Did you know that PMU can help you by

- Partially satisfying the 482/5E-14 requirement for initial technician training hours?
- Providing training that meets statutory requirements for the WDO endorsement for ID cardholders?

Our [April 26-28 GHP Masters](#), [May 24-26 Termite Masters](#), and [Nov 1-3 L&O Masters](#) courses are open! Similar to the Structural Fumigation School (<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fumigation/>), the state has graciously allowed us to hold the state certified operator examination at the end of each Masters course. We hold optional reviews in the evenings. To qualify, you must:

- Take the Foundations **and** Masters courses for GHP, WDO, or L&O
 - Fill out an application package for the certified operator exam [online](#) at least one week before the exam

February 2017 Offering:

Foundations of Termite Management 101

Date: Feb 15-17, 2017; W-F

Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC

Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

Registration fee: \$375

Learn how termites exploit over 50 building construction elements and how to treat them in a hands-on environment in 2-days instead of 2 years.

- Practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs.
- Hear about the top 5 reasons technicians get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
- Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation.

[Register here](#)

March 2017 Offerings:

Foundations of Lawn and Ornamentals Pest Management 101

Date: March 1-3, 2017; W-F

Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC

Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

Registration fee: \$375

- Learn about the general Florida licensing requirements for technicians and sales staff.
- Be able to pass DACS vehicle inspections, practice doing a spill drill, and learn the best ways to minimize risks before, during, and after an application.
- Learn to identify diseases, insects, and weeds in lawns and ornamentals and best management practices for their control.
- Gain hands on experience reading and understanding

pesticide labels, calculating treatment areas, and calibrating application equipment for lawns, shrubs, and other ornamental plants.

[Register here](#)

WDO Inspections and Form 13645

Date: March 2-3, 2017; Wed-Fri

Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

Registration fee: \$220

Improperly completed 13645 forms are a leading cause of litigation for pest control. Foundations recommended, but not required.

- Do an inspection at PMUs house for WDOs with Paul Mitola from DACS.
- Learn the proper determination of "live, damage and evidence" and how to use DACS 13645.
- Learn from industry attorney Mark Ruff about the legal ramifications of an incomplete WDOI, using case studies and a mock trial video.
- Review WDO biology and behavior.

[Register here](#)

Foundations of General Pest Management 101

Date: March 29-31, 2017; Wed-Fri

Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

Registration fee: \$375

Pest control matters. Cockroach allergen mitigation can be achieved with IPM.

- Study domestic and peridomestic cockroach species and how to control them as well as rodent, small fly, filth fly, occasional invaders, fire ant, and nuisance ant management.
- Review the labels of commonly used GHP products, practice pest inspections at PMU's house and develop treatment strategies focused on IPM.
- Do a vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from FDACS.

[Register here](#)

Click on "Register here" for course descriptions or go to <http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses> for more information

Learn more from IFAS



- UF/IFAS has Extension Offices in each of Florida's sixty-seven counties. We also have twelve Research and Education Centers (RECs) and Research and Demonstration Sites (RDSs).
- If you need help a great place to start is your local County Extension Office. With an office located in every county it has never been easier to partner with the University of Florida and your local County Government. To find an office near you please visit:
<http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/>