



Postemergent Herbicides for Use in Ornamentals¹

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Postemergent herbicides are applied directly to weeds. These herbicides are most effective when the weeds are small and actively growing. Effectiveness of these herbicides generally is reduced if the weeds are under stress. If perennial weeds are large, try spot applications of a translocated herbicide in late summer or early fall. The herbicide should remain on the plant several hours to be effective (check the label as the time can vary). Therefore, be sure the herbicide isn't washed off by rain or a sprinkler within the specified period.

Some postemergent herbicides can be applied over-the-top of ornamental plants. The herbicides listed in Table 1 can be safely used over-the-top of some ornamentals when used according to label directions.

Table 2 lists postemergent herbicides that are registered for use around ornamental plants when applied as a directed spray. When using these herbicides be sure that the herbicide does not contact desirable vegetation. Use of a shielded spray nozzle or wick applicator is recommended when applying these type of postemergent herbicides in the vicinity of ornamentals or turf.

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1. This document is ENH-95, one of a series of the Department of Environmental Horticulture, University of Florida. Revised March 1999. Please visit the EDIS Web site at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
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Table 1. Postemergent herbicides that can be applied over-the-top of tolerant ornamental species. **X** indicates that the herbicide **can** be used for this location.

Herbicide		Labelled uses			
		Nursery		Landscape	Greenhouse
Trade name	Active ingredient(s)	Container	Field		
Acclaim Extra	fenoxaprop-ethyl	X	X	X	
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many annual grasses; temporary suppression of some perennial grasses; will not control broadleaf weeds or sedges (nutgrass). Comments: Be careful when using this herbicide around ornamental grasses.</p>					
Asulox	sodium salt of asulam	X	X		
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many annual grasses, horseweed (marestalk) Comments: *Commercial use only. Use only on junipers and podocarpus; check label for specific species. Apply only 1 time per year; do not use a surfactant.</p>					
Basagran, Lescogran	bentazon	X	X	X	
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many broadleaf weeds including coffee senna, beggar-ticks, dayflower, Pennsylvania smartweed, sesbania, shepherds-purse, wild mustard, and wild poinsettia; also yellow nutsedge. Comments: Over-the-top applications only on English ivy, liriope (<i>Liriope spicata</i> and <i>Liriope muscari</i>), and periwinkle (<i>Vinca minor</i>); may cause slight chlorosis on 'Evergreen Giant' liriope (<i>Liriope muscari</i> 'Evergreen Giant').</p>					
Envoy	clethodim	X	X	X	X
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many annual and some perennial grasses; will not control broadleaf weeds or sedges (nutgrass). Comments: Be careful when using this herbicide around ornamental grasses.</p>					
Goal 2XL	oxyfluorfen	X**	X**		
<p>Weeds Controlled: When applied at recommended dosages and weed stages: several broadleaf and grassy weeds including barnyard grass, red and white clover, giant foxtail, large crabgrass, henbit, wild mustard, common lambsquarters, prickly lettuce, witchgrass. Comments: * * <i>Conifers only</i> (several juniper spp., arborvitae spp., and pine spp. - check the label).</p>					
Image	imazaquin			X	
<p>Weeds Controlled: Several sedges (including yellow and purple). Comments: Do not apply to soil where annual bedding plants may be planted the following year or plant injury may result.</p>					
Fusilade II, Ornamec 170	fluazifop-butyl	X	X	X	X***
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many annual and some perennial grasses, including torpedograss; will not control broadleaf weeds or sedges (nutgrass). Comments: Be careful when using this herbicide around ornamental grasses. *** Fusilade II is specifically labelled for use in greenhouses while Ornamec 170 is not.</p>					
Vantage	sethoxydim (+ surfactant)	X	X	X	
<p>Weeds Controlled: Many annual and some perennial grasses, will not control broadleaf weeds or sedges (nutgrass). Comments: Be careful when using this herbicide around ornamental grasses.</p>					

Table 2. Postemergent herbicides that are applied as directed sprays. **X** indicates that the herbicide **can** be used for this location.

Herbicide		Labelled uses			
		Nursery		Landscape	Greenhouse
Trade name	Active ingredient(s)	Container	Field		
Basagran, Lescogran	bentazon	X	X	X	
Weeds Controlled: Many broadleaf weeds including coffee senna, beggar-ticks, dayflower, Pennsylvania smartweed, sesbania, shepherdspurse, wild mustard, and wild poinsettia; also yellow nutsedge. Comments: Thorough coverage necessary.					
Diquat, Reward	diquat	X	X	X	X
Weeds Controlled: Will kill most young, actively growing annual weeds. Only above-ground growth of biennials and perennials will be affected. Comments: Thorough coverage necessary; repeat applications may be necessary.					
Finale	glufosinate	X	X	X	X
Weeds Controlled: Many broadleaf weeds and grasses as well as some woody species. Comments: Thorough coverage necessary; rainfast in 4 hours.					
Roundup	glyphosate	X	X	X	X
Weeds Controlled: Many broadleaf weeds and grasses as well as some woody species. Comments: Use for eliminating weeds around container beds and in field nurseries.					
Scythe	pelargonic acid + related fatty acids	X	X	X	X
Weeds Controlled: Controls both annual broadleaf and grass weeds that are less than 6 inches in height. Comments: Thorough coverage necessary; repeat applications may be necessary.					