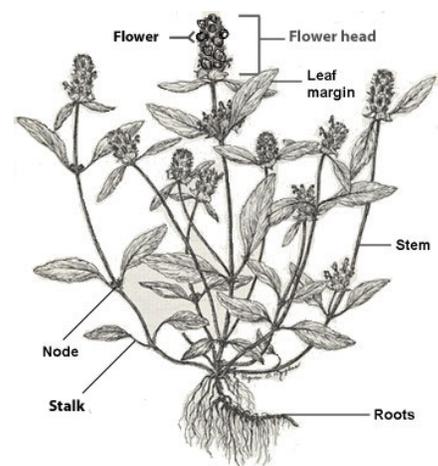


BROADLEAF WEEDS

TITLE:	SHEPHERD'S PURSE
LATIN NAME:	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>
FAMILY:	Brassicaceae
OVERALL DESCRIPTION:	
Shepherd's Purse is a member of the mustard family, recognized as a low growing weed with upright stems. It is a common weed found along roadsides, in nurseries and disturbed soils. For homeowners, it is found in Kentucky Bluegrass, Tall Fescue, Perennial Ryegrass, and Common Bermudagrass, along with gardens.	
LIFE CYCLE	Winter annual
SEASONS OF GROWTH	Germinates in late summer early autumn. Growth in late winter through early spring to summer.
FLOWERS / SEEDHEAD	Flowers in late winter/early spring; four white petals and sepals; 4-8 mm x 2-4 mm. Seed pods, triangular shaped pods on the long stem, are 5-8 mm long with two chambers of 10-20 seeds per chamber.
LEAF SHAPE	Heart to triangular shape
LEAF EDGES	Lobed and/or serrated
LEAF ARRANGEMENT	Basal rosette then alternate
GROWTH HABIT	Growth to about 20 inches tall
FULL LEAF SIZE	Grow from 3-15 cm in length, 1-4 cm in width
STEM CHARACTERISTICS	Cross section may be round or oval; with or without hairs
ROOT	Taproot
ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING TRAITS	Star-shaped hairs on leaves and flat, heart/triangular shaped pods



Above Photos: Virginia Tech



Common Typical Broadleaf Weed Structure

TYPE OF SOIL CONDITIONS OR PRACTICES FAVORING GROWTH	Does well in nutrient poor and disturbed soils.
KEY MESSAGE TO HOMEOWNER	Identifying this weed early is key to management, and hand-pulling when soil is moist is the easiest method. This is a winter annual and will die off in the summer months but, without management, may reseed for the next generation.
CULTURAL CONTROL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand-pulling, or using an appropriate weeding tool, is best when seedlings first appear. due to its low-growing nature mowing is not beneficial in control and may spread seeds. Hand-pulling when the soil is moist makes the task easier. • Maintain healthy dense turf that can compete and prevent weed establishment. Do not mow low.
BIOLOGICAL CONTROL	None noted.
CHEMICAL CONTROL	<p>In lawns - Use herbicides as a last resort. Best to spot treat with a liquid, selective, postemergent, weed killers when weeds are actively growing. Read the label carefully.</p> <p>Refer to VCE PEST MANAGEMENT GUIDE Home Grounds & Animals 2021; Tables 5.6, 5.8 and 5.9</p> <p>Pre-emergents: In lawns, apply in late summer/early fall</p> <p>Post-emergents : Recommended herbicide active ingredients: 2-4-D+Dicamba; 2-4-MCPP; -4-D+ Dicamba+MCP; 2-4-D+ Dicamba+Triclopyr: 2-4-D+Dicamba+Penoxsulam. Apply to actively growing weeds, best when they are young. For use in gardens with fruit trees or ornamentals, refer to Tables 3.13, 3.15 and 4.15 and 4.16 respectively.</p>
SOURCES OF INFORMATION	<p>Virginia Tech, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences https://weedid.cals.vt.edu/profile/115</p> <p>VCE, Pest Management Guide (PMG) Home Grounds and Animals, 2021 https://fairfaxgardening.org/wp-content/webdocs/ref/2021PestManagementGuide.pdf</p> <p>Cornell University, Cornell Weed Identification: https://blogs.cornell.edu/weedid/shepherds-purse/</p> <p>University of California, Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program, http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/WEEDS/shepherdspurse.html</p> <p>University of Missouri, Division of Plant Sciences, Weed ID Guide https://weedid.missouri.edu/weedinfo.cfm?weed_id=47</p>
FCMGA SPECIAL PROJECT RESEARCH BY	Rosanne Jones, FCMGA Master Gardener Intern