LARGE HOP CLOVER

Trifolium campestre

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This low-growing winter annual has trifoliate leaves similar to white clover (T. repens).
- > Leaflets have prominent veins, with the terminal leaflet on a short stem.
- > Short, hairy, slender stems are reddish in color and have a tendency to sprawl.
- > Bright yellow flowers grow in clusters, each producing a single seed.
- > Active growth begins with cooler temperatures and increased moisture.

CONTROL TIPS

- > Apply a postemergent systemic herbicide that will move from the treated foliage throughout the plant and into the extensive root system to completely control this weed.
- > Consider adjusting your fertility program to include more nitrogen and less phosphorus.
- > Proper turf maintenance also will greatly reduce clover's prevalence. In addition to fertilization. proper mowing and watering will encourage healthy turf.



BLACK MEDIC

Medicago lupulina

IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- > This creeping summer annual is common in lawns stressed from compaction, heat and drought.
- > Often confused with clover (Trifolium spp.). black medic is distinguished by its bright yellow flowers and leaf arrangement. The leaf is similar to clover and other legumes with three leaflets, but black medic's center leaflet is on a separate petiole.
- > Prostrate stems, 1 in. to 2 in. long, grow from a taproot.

CONTROL TIPS

- > Clean up any established black medic with a postemergent herbicide containing florasulam. Time your application in spring or fall.
- > Black medic germinates when soil temperatures are between 50 F and 75 F. Apply a preemergent herbicide containing dithiopyr prior to germination or just after elimination via postemergent control.
- > Nitrogen fertility and aeration also can help encourage a dense turf stand, minimizing black medic establishment.

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