

(revision date:4/7/2021)

## **Weeds: Prostrate knotweed(*Polygonum aviculare*)**

family: Polygonaceae

cycle Annual

plant type: Broadleaf

**Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.**

### ***Biology***

Prostrate knotweed is a low-growing plant with wiry stems and a thin taproot. Plants branch extensively at the base, with branches lying along the ground but not rooting. The alternate, blue-green leaves are narrow, typically not exceeding an inch in length and 1/4 inch in width. Leaf tips may be slightly pointed to rounded in outline. The petioles are very short. The greenish-white flowers are borne in leaf axils and are inconspicuous.

### ***Habitat***

Prostrate knotweed is commonly found on compacted soils and may occur on waste areas, or in lawns, paths, and other areas in yards. It is frequently a problem on compacted or high-traffic areas in lawns.

### ***Management Options***

#### **Non-Chemical Management**

~ Cultivation (rototilling or hoeing) will effectively eliminate plants.

*Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!*

#### **Chemical Management**

***IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides***

Apply according to label directions. Glyphosate products should be applied as spot treatments only!

NOTE: Some ingredients listed here are only available in combination. Read the label carefully on combination products to make sure the product is suitable for your specific situation.

Landscape Areas	Turf Areas	Bare Ground Areas
- glyphosate - dichlobenil - trifluralin - products containing diquat	- 2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba	- glyphosate - products containing diquat - dichlobenil

*Weeds: Prostrate knotweed(Polygonum aviculare)*

*Images*



~ Caption: Prostrate knotweed leaves  
~ Photo by: R. Parker



~ Caption: Prostrate knotweed  
~ Photo by: R. Parker



~ Caption: Prostrate knotweed flowers and leaf axils  
~ Photo by: D.G. Swan



~ *Caption: Prostrate knotweed seedling*  
~ *Photo by: J.A. Kropf*



~ *Caption: Prostrate knotweed growing in gravel*  
~ *Photo by: T.W. Miller*



~ *Caption: Prostrate knotweed flowers and nodes*  
~ *Photo by: T. W. Miller*



~ *Caption: Prostrate knotweed leaves*  
~ *Photo by: T. W. Miller*