



Myrtle Spurge

Euphorbia myrsinites



- Perennial, blooms in April-June
- Grows less than 1 foot tall
- Sold as an ornamental, grows in dry areas, gardens, waste areas and public land
- Milky sap is toxic and can cause skin blistering/irritation

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Suggested Control Methods for Myrtle Spurge

Mechanical & Manual Control

Hand-pulling/Digging: Best done in spring when soil is soft, ensuring you remove the entire taproot to prevent regrowth.

Wear Protection: Always wear thick rubber gloves and long sleeves to avoid the skin-irritating milky sap.

Seed Head Removal: Remove seed heads before they mature to stop seed spread, but handle carefully to avoid dispersal.

Proper Disposal: Bag the entire plant and dispose of it in the garbage; do not compost.

Mowing: Ineffective and can spread seeds, so it is not recommended.

Chemical Control (Herbicides)

Timing: Apply in late fall or spring regrowth.

Effective Chemicals: Products with 2,4-D, Dicamba, or Glyphosate, often mixed with a surfactant due to the plant's waxy leave,

Safety: Always read and follow the herbicide label.

Cultural Control

Competitive Plants: Plant aggressive, desirable grasses and groundcovers to outcompete spurge.

Healthy Turf: Maintain a thick, healthy lawn by proper mowing, watering, and fertilizing to crowd out weeds.