

(revision date:4/5/2016)

Weeds: Speedwells(Veronica spp.)

family: Scrophulariaceae

cycle Annual/Perennial

plant type: Broadleaf

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

Biology

Three of the speedwell species common in the Pacific Northwest are very similar in appearance. Ivyleaf speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*), Persian speedwell (*V. persica*), and creeping speedwell (*V. filiformis*) are prostrate to weakly upright with small, opposite leaves on short petioles. Persian speedwell is a mat-forming winter annual which roots at the nodes. Leaves are rounded with coarse teeth and the seed capsules are flattened with a notch at the top. Ivyleaf speedwell has lobed leaves with a larger center lobe than the other species. Seed capsules are circular and flattened. Creeping speedwell is an annual to perennial plant that is mat-forming and difficult to eradicate. The rounded leaves are broad and toothed and the seed capsules are hairy. All three species are finely hairy on leaves and stems and have small purplish to blue, four-petalled flowers borne singly in the leaf axils.

SPECIAL INFORMATION: Speedwells are tolerant of many herbicides, making them difficult to control.

Habitat

Speedwells may be found in many sites. These species may be found in gardens, waste and cultivated areas, and 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! There is a product available to licensed applicators for application to effectively control speedwell without damaging the turfgrass (DCPA). **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

- glyphosate

Turf Areas

Bare Ground Areas

- glyphosate

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Images



~ Caption: *Ivyleaf speedwell*
~ Photo by: *T.W. Miller*



~ Caption: *Ivyleaf speedwell*
~ Photo by: *T.W. Miller*



~ Caption: *Speedwell*
~ Photo by: *G. Stahnke*



~ Caption: *Speedwell*
~ Photo by: *T. W. Miller*



~ *Caption: Speedwell invading pasture*
~ *Photo by: G. Stahnke*