



Botanical name: *Stellaria media*

Common name: Chickweed, bindweed, common chickweed, satin-flower, starweed, starwort, stitchwort, tongue grass, white bird's eye, winter weed.

Family: Caryophyllaceae (carnation family)

Origin: Origin is obscure but thought to have originated in Europe and western Asia.

Habit: Winter annual broadleaf herb

Height: upto 1m x 250mm

Flowers: Consist of 5 double-lobed white petals supported by a whorl of five green sepals. Ranging in size from .05cm to .3175cm. Grows and flowers in autumn/winter.

Fruit: Oval capsule with tiny (1mm in diameter) red-brown seeds inside.

Stems: Has a line of "hair" along the stem alternating between the joints. The inner stem is elastic and will stretch when pulled separating from the outer stem which is not elastic.

Reproduction: Mostly from seed, but sometimes it reproduces by creeping stems that root from stem joints (nodes)

Leaves: Pointed oval-shaped leaves arranged in opposite pairs spaced on

Habitat: Includes woodland areas prone to flooding or standing water, thickets, cropland and fallow fields, lawns and gardens, nursery plots, areas adjacent to buildings, and miscellaneous waste areas.

Toxicity: Nontoxic. Is edible and of nutritional acclaim as well as supposedly delicious.

Control Methods: In garden beds, as the plant has shallow roots, the best way to kill chickweed is to manually pull out as much as possible. However as new plants will grow from any rootstock left in the ground it may be hard to eliminate entirely. A non-selective herbicide can be applied to kill all of the leaves and roots best applied before flowering.

In lawn areas, pull chickweed from the ground to expose the soil. The soil should then be aerated with an aerator or shovel. If using a shovel, place gashes in the ground at least 5-8 cm deep and every ½ to 1mtr.

Spread a combination of fertilizer and weed killer over the affected area to eradicate chickweed

NOTE:

Regarded as an environmental weed in Vic, NSW, Qld, SA and WA.

the stem. Leaves can be anywhere
from 0.05 to 3 cm.

Source:

<https://www.crop.bayer.com.au/find-crop-solutions/by-pest/weeds/chickweed>

https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/stellaria_media.htm

http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/WEEDS/common_chickweed.html