

Common North American Weeds

New North Church
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What is a weed?

A weed is a plant that causes **economic losses** or **ecological damages** or **creates health problems** for animals or humans or is simply **undesirable** where it is growing.

Dandelion

Dandelions will take over any habitat from lawns to gardens.



Shepherd's Purse

Part of the Mustard family along
with cabbage.



Canada Thistle

Canada thistle is an aggressive, creeping perennial weed from Eurasia (despite its name).

It infests crops, pastures, and non-crop areas like ditch banks and roadsides.



Nutsedge

Perennial weeds that superficially resemble grasses, but they are thicker and stiffer. Their leaves are arranged in sets of three from their base instead of sets of two as you would find in grass leaves.

They are among the most problematic weeds for vegetable crops and can greatly reduce harvest yields.



Pigweed

An annual weed, it has evolved traits that makes it a tough competitor, especially in broadleaf crops like soybeans and cotton.



Purslane

Purslane can produce over
2,000,000 seeds PER PLANT!

Many a gardener has hoed purslane
one day only to see it growing at
full strength the next.



Darnel rye-grass, poison darnel

Poison darnel is a non-native grass that grows in cultivated fields and other areas with disturbed soil.

It is found in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine and Vermont.



References

<https://www.almanac.com/content/common-garden-weeds>

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/lolium/temulentum/>