



PLS 434L: Weed Science Lab
Fall 2026 Syllabus and Course Schedule

Instructor: Dr. Grace Flusche Ogden
Office: AGET 249
Office Hours: MW 10-10:50
Virtual appointments available by request. Send me an email.

Preferred form of communication:
Email
E-mail: grace.ogden@etamu.edu
Expected response time: 48 hours
Class time & Location: F 10-11:50 for lab; PSC 100.

Course Purpose: This course is designed to educate students about the ecology and management of weeds. Weeds and their impact will be presented through an agronomic lens.

Course Text: None required. Students who are eager to identify weeds or herbicides may purchase "Weeds of the South" or "The Herbicide Handbook".

Student Learning Objectives

- Describe common plant parts used for identification and their purpose
- Identify common and troublesome weeds found in Texas.
- Recognize the five methods of weed management.
- Recognize essential herbicides used in weed management.
- Name herbicide classification groups commonly used in crop production.
- Calculate sprayer calibration and formulate mixing solutions.

Grading

Course Grading: Grades will be based on quizzes, assignments, and one lab practicum.

Assignment	# of Opportunities	Points
ID & Review Quizzes	9	200
Worksheets & Reflections	5	100
Lab Practicum	1	100

PLS 434 Lab Schedule

#	Date	Topic	Assignment	Location
1	Aug 21	Safety Orientation	Safety Agreement	
2	Aug 28	Plant Family classification & Identification Tips	Identification Quiz	
3	Sept 4	Weed Walk- ID and collect	1 plant press ID Quiz	
4	Sept 11	Twin Oaks Activity	1 plant press ID Quiz	
5	Sept 18	Control Methods- Mechanical	Mechanical Control Worksheet ID Quiz	
6	Sept 25	Control Methods- Chemical; Backpack sprayer	Chemical Control Worksheet ID Quiz	
7	Oct 2	Tractor sprayer	Sprayer Calibration Math Worksheet ID Quiz	
8	Oct 9	No Lab		
9	Oct 16	Symptomology Demo	Symptomology Worksheet ID Quiz	
10	Oct 23	TBD		
11	Oct 30	Herbicide Labels, Policy, and Worker Safety	Reflection ID Quiz	
12	Nov 6	No Lab		
13	Nov 13	Review and Wrap Up	Lab Review Quiz on D2L Plant Presses Due!	Plant Science Center

14	Nov 20	Lab Practicum	Lab Practicum must be taken during assigned lab time.	Plant Science Center
No further labs. Have a great winter break!				

Plant ID List

You will be responsible for being able to ID the following plants by picture or physical specimen throughout the duration of lab.

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Johnson grass | 21. Old world bluestem |
| 2. Horseweed | 22. Salt cedar |
| 3. Giant ragweed | 23. Hydrilla |
| 4. Field bindweed | 24. Crabgrass |
| 5. Woolly croton | 25. Yellow nutsedge |
| 6. Poison ivy | 26. Hemp sesbania |
| 7. Barnyard grass | 27. Sericea lespedeza |
| 8. Bermudagrass | 28. rescuegrass |
| 9. cheat | 29. Kudzu |
| 10. Marshelder | 30. Palmer amaranth |
| 11. Cocklebur | 31. Japanese honeysuckle |
| 12. Prostrate spurge | 32. Bitter sneezeweed |
| 13. Italian ryegrass | 33. Yellow buttercup |
| 14. Ground cherry | 34. Shepard's purse |
| 15. Silverleaf nightshade | 35. Sandbur |
| 16. Jungle rice | 36. Annual sowthistle |
| 17. Black nightshade | 37. Carpetweed |
| 18. Virginia pepperweed | 38. Carolina geranium |
| 19. Pennsylvania smartweed | 39. Buckhorn plantain |
| 20. Tropic croton | 40. Common chickweed |
| | 41. Common groundsel |

- 42. Dandelion
- 43. Curly dock
- 44. Cudweed
- 45. Henbit
- 46. Lawn burweed
- 47. Devil's claw
- 48. Goosegrass
- 49. Dallisgrass
- 50. Common vetch