

BINDII

Soliva sessilis



Photographs are courtesy of Dr Sheldon Navie

Description & life cycle

Bindii (*Soliva sessilis*) is chiefly a winter weed of eastern QLD and NSW. It generally first raises its head in June and dies out in November, when the weather becomes warmer.

Bindii is a small rosette-forming annual with carrot like leaves.

Bindii hugs closely to the ground and primarily is a weed of lawns, playing fields and parks, where the burrs are familiar to many bare-footed children

Like all plants, Bindii produce seeds from which new plants grow. Bindii uses a spiky prickly burr to attach their seed.

Nature has designed that the burrs stick to the fur of animals so that the Bindii spreads from place to place.

Bindii is a winter weed. The Bindii burrs are soft and fluffy when they first form in August/September. As the temperatures rise, the Bindii begins to die and the burrs turn into hard prickles.

Key features

- > It grows very low to the ground, making it impossible to be mown out.
- > It's favourite haunts include worn areas around playgrounds, picnic spots, under trees and other shady areas.
- > When the burrs can be seen (or felt!), it is too late to spray.

Control

1. A few plants can be lifted with a fork or removed with a steel garden rake, but most infestations require treatment with selected turf herbicides to achieve effective control
2. If Bindii is identified early and treatment can occur before formation of the burrs, Spearhead®, which contains a mixture of Clopyralid, Diflufenican and MCPA, is the preferred herbicide as it contains some pre-emergent qualities. It is also useful for treating Clover and other broadleaf weeds.
3. If treated late in the season, Millennium®, which contains 2,4-D, Clopyralid & Dicamba, is the preferred herbicide as it provides quicker control. This herbicide also controls Clover and other broadleaf weeds which emerge over the winter period.
4. Depending on the season and infestation, Bindii can re-emerge weeks after an initial treatment. For this reason Technigro recommends a proactive approach be developed in late Autumn to ensure your program is planned well in advance of treatment being required. Experience has proven that customers who have targeted Bindii with Spearhead at the right time of the year have fewer complaints and reduce the need to undertake follow up treatments later in the same season.