For the homeowner: *Roundup® for Lawns*? April 13, 2017

The turf world is abuzz with questions and concerns about a new product, *Roundup for Lawns*₁, which can safely control weeds in your lawn when used according to label specifications. Many are confused because it's common to associate *Roundup* (from *Roundup Weed and Grass Killer*) with *glyphosate*, one of the herbicide's active ingredients. Those without knowledge of herbicide nomenclature consider the terms synonymous, but they are not.

Roundup Weed and Grass Killer is the **brand name** of an herbicide that contains inert and active ingredients, whereas *glyphosate* is an **active ingredient** formulated in the herbicide that **nonselectively kills most plants**. When you use *Roundup* to control weeds in the gaps between pavers on your patio, in your garden, or even in your lawn, you expect that everything you spray will die, even turf.

*Roundup for Lawns*¹ is the **brand name** of an herbicide that **DOES NOT contain** *glyphosate* or other nonselective herbicides.

Rather, it contains the active ingredients *MCPA*, *quinclorac*, *dicamba*, and *sulfentrazone*, each of which are selective herbicides that control various weeds without harming your Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, or tall fescue lawn. The product could cause some short-lived injury to buffalograss lawns because the active ingredients *MCPA* and *dicamba* have injured buffalograss in research trials.

What about other types of *Roundup*? A related product, *Roundup for Lawns*₄: *For Use on Southern Grasses*, has different active ingredients and is marketed for use in the southern U.S. Other *Roundup* products contain nonselective herbicides as active ingredients, are used for total vegetation control, and will injure your lawn. Additionally, *Roundup Extended Control* and *Roundup Max Control 365* contain *imazapic* as an active ingredient, which has soilresidual activity, and will kill germinating seedlings of cool-season grasses for weeks after the product is applied. Do not use these extended control products in renovation situations where you intend to seed soon after application.



Figure 1. The product label for *Roundup Weed and Grass Killer* contains the active ingredients the herbicide includes that define what types of plants the herbicide will kill.

The table on the following page identifies uses for active ingredients in various formulations of *Roundup,* and will help you decide which formulation best suits your needs. Always read the entire product label before using an herbicide.

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Active Ingredients	Roundup Weed and Grass Killer	Roundup Extended Control	Roundup Max Control 365	Roundup <i>For Lawns</i> (1, 2, or 3) [*]	Roundup for Lawns (4, 5, or 6) ^{**}	Typical Weeds Controlled
Glyphosate	x	X	х			Nonselective
Pelargonic acid	X	X				Nonselective
Imazapic		X	х			Summer annual grasses; not safe in cool-season turf; soil residual kills new seedlings
Diquat			х			Nonselective
МСРА				x		Broadleaf weeds, especially dandelion
Quinclorac				x		Crabgrass, sandbur, and some broadleaf weeds
Dicamba				x	X	Broadleaf weeds, especially white clover
Sulfentrazone				x	x	Yellow nutsedge; typically only suppression as part of premixed products (less active ingredient)
Penoxsulam					X	Broadleaf weeds; may injure perennial ryegrass or tall fescue lawns
2,4-D					x	Broadleaf weeds, especially dandelion
	*Roundup for Lawns is sold as a ready-to-use product with an included wand (1), as concentrated herbicide (2), or for use as a hose-end sprayer (3). **Roundup for Lawns: For Use on Southern Grasses is sold as a ready-to-use product with an included wand (4), as concentrated herbicide (5), or for use as a hose-end sprayer (6).					

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