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Sandburs

Puncturevine (aka Goathead)

Puncturevine is a broadleaf weed that prefers Hot, Dry locations where many other plants won't grow (Image 1).

It is very easy to control by hand pulling or spraying with *FL Weed-Out* or *FL Weed-Out with Crabgrass Killer*. If hand pulling, physically destroy the plant because small fruit can still cause damage (Image 2).

Numerous Universities list the active ingredients in *FL For All Seasons* or *HY Turf & Ornamental* for the prevention of puncturevine, make that application late April to late May.

Cenchrus (aka Sandbur or Sandspur)

Sandburs (Image 3) like Hot, Dry areas, also Sandy soils.

There are at least 25 species of grassy sandbur type plants in the United States. They are all Summer germinating annuals, although in areas that do not get a killing freeze they can act as perennials.

Control of these grasses can come in three different ways:

1. Simply water and get the grass to grow. A good thick stand of grass is the best deterrent to sandburs.
2. Spray them after they have emerged. *FL Weed-Out with Crabgrass Killer* is very effective on YOUNG sandbur plants. Once they have developed seed heads (Image 4), *Weed-out with Crabgrass* will have little effect.
3. Prevent them with a long lasting preventer. *FL For All Seasons* has a Great turf label, otherwise for turf and landscape beds, use *HY Turf & Ornamental*, where two applications may be needed the first year.

Due to water restrictions in many areas, we now see sandburs in areas we normally would not.

FL Over The Top or *HY Grass Killer* may be used to control the grassy type sandburs in and around vegetables and ornamentals. Don't forget to add some *HY Spreader Sticker* to the mix.

HY KillZall may be an option in areas where you don't care if you kill all weeds or grasses. It may also be used under woody ornamentals.

Atrazine is an option in the Southern States where it is registered. It is only safe for use on St. Augustine and Centipede Grass. It also has some preventative action.

