

Weeds

Master Gardener Volunteer Training
August 10, 2024

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Orange County



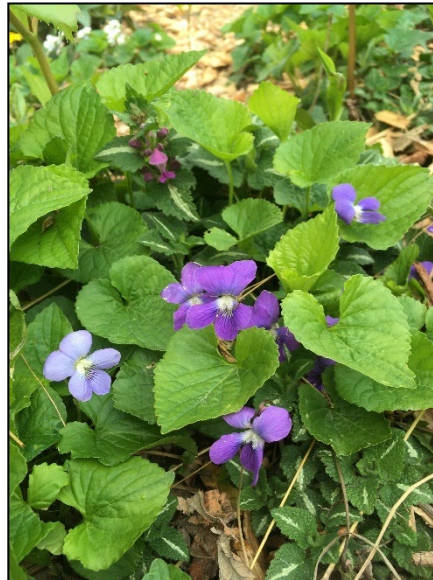
Overview

- **What is a Weed?**
- **Characteristics of Weeds**
- **Weed Identification**
- **Weed Lifecycles**
- **Control Methods**

What is a Weed?

weed – a plant that is not valued in the place where it is growing
– a plant whose virtues haven't been discovered yet

Weeds are in the eye of the beholder.




Weed Characteristics

Important things to know about a weed
to determine proper management strategies

- Life cycle
- Reproductive strategy
- Root system
- Phenology – When do seeds germinate? When does it flower?

Weed Identification



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Weed Identification

Below are weeds commonly submitted to the Virginia Weed Identification Clinic. Narrow the list by choosing characteristics that match your unknown plant or search for plants by name. Please contact your [local Extension office](#) if you cannot identify your weed. Comments can be emailed to WeedID@vt.edu


Search by plant or family name

OR


Select characteristics below to narrow the plant list

Plant type


Broadleaf



Grass or grass like



Other




Order the list by common or scientific name

☒ Common Name ☐ Scientific Name

Common name

(747 weeds)

[absinthe](#)
[Adam and Eve orchid](#)
[air yam](#)
[allegheny monkeyflower](#)
[alligatorweed](#)
[American barberry](#)
[American basswood](#)
[American beautyberry](#)
[American beech](#)
[American black elderberry](#)
[American bur-reed](#)
[American burnweed](#)
[American cancer-root](#)
[American climacium moss](#)
[American climbing fern](#)
[American false pennyroyal](#)
[American hazelnut](#)
[American plum](#)
[American pokeweed](#)
[American speedwell](#)
[American sycamore](#)
[American water-willow](#)
[American white waterlily](#)
[Amur honeysuckle](#)
[annual bluegrass](#)
[annual sowthistle](#)




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Start Over

Plant type

Broadleaf



If you find errors in this application, please contact [Weed ID Developers](#).

Growth habit

Leaf structure

Leaf shape

Leaf arrangement

Leaf margin

Leaf stalk

Leaf hairs

Stem cross section

Stem hairs

Thorns or spines

Ochrea

Milky sap

Dominant flower color

Flower symmetry

Flower diameter

Lifecycle

Root structure

☒ Common Name ☐ Scientific Name

Common name

(584 weeds)

[absinthe](#)
[Adam and Eve orchid](#)
[air yam](#)
[allegheny monkeyflower](#)
[alligatorweed](#)
[American barberry](#)
[American basswood](#)
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[American sycamore](#)
[American water-willow](#)
[American white waterlily](#)
[Amur honeysuckle](#)
[annual sowthistle](#)
[annual trampweed](#)
[apple of Peru](#)
[arrowleaf sida](#)
[ashy sunflower](#)
[Asian ponyfoot](#)
[Asiatic dayflower](#)
[Asiatic tearthumb](#)
[Australian water-clover](#)
[autumn olive](#)
[balloon plant](#)
[balsampear](#)
[bearded beggarticks](#)
[beefsteakplant](#)
[biennial beeblossom](#)
[big chickweed](#)
[bigpod sesbania](#)
[bird's-foot trefoil](#)
[bishop's weed](#)
[bitter dock](#)
[bitternut hickory](#)
[bittersweet nightshade](#)
[black bugbane](#)
[black cherry](#)
[black highbush blueberry](#)
[black huckleberry](#)
[black locust](#)
[black medic](#)
[black nightshade](#)
[black raspberry](#)
[black willow](#)
[blackeyed Susan](#)
[blackgum](#)
[blackhaw](#)

Weed Identification



New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Home About ▾ Cooperative Extension ▾ Research Topics ▾ County Offices Services ▾ Giving Contact Us

HOME, LAWN & GARDEN

New Jersey Weed Gallery

Weed Search

Go!

View Weeds By...

Photos Common Names Latin Names

Photo Gallery



Aster



Bamboo Grass



Barberry



Barnyardgrass



Bedstraw



Bittercress



Black Medic



Brambles



Broadleaf Plantain



Broomsedge



Buckhorn Plantain



Bull Thistle



Bur Cucumber



Burdock



Canada Thistle



Carpetweed



Chicory



Cocklebur



Common Mullein



Common Pigweed

Weed Control Recommendations

The most frequent request we receive is for control recommendations. We cannot provide that information on this web site. Weed control recommendations that are appropriate for New Jersey may not be appropriate for someone living in another state. Recommendations for homeowners are considerably different from recommendations for commercial enterprises that have access to chemicals whose purchase and use require a pesticide applicator's license. There are a lot of variables in the weed control equation and without detailed information it is difficult for us to provide satisfactory recommendations.

We suggest that you contact your [Cooperative Extension office](#) in your state to obtain control recommendations appropriate for weeds occurring in your geographic location.

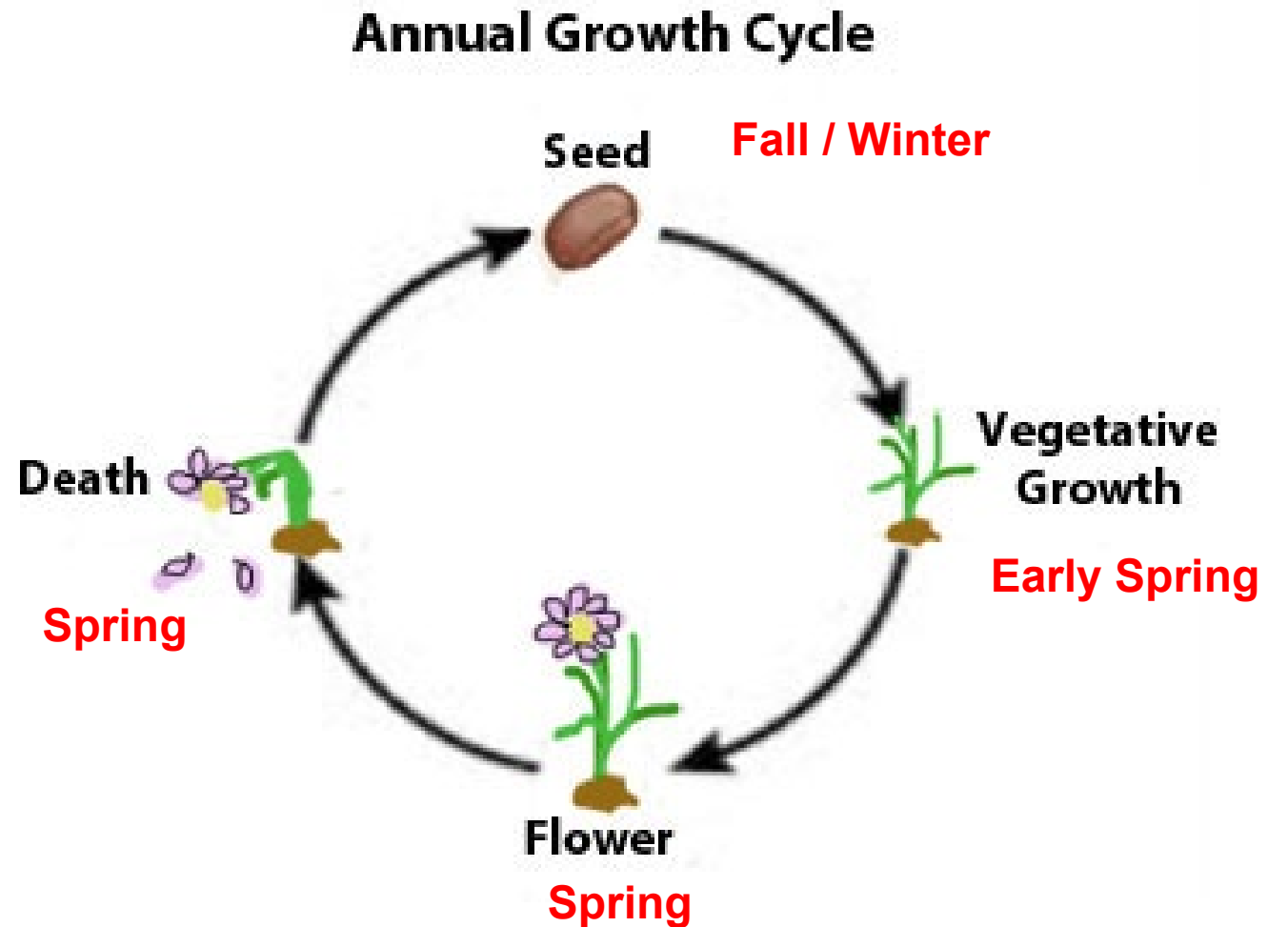
New Jersey homeowners please refer to Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) fact sheet FS119, [Weed Control in Home Lawns](#) for more information on weed control.

Selected References

For more information on weed identification in the northeastern

Weed Lifecycles

- **Annuals**
- **Winter**

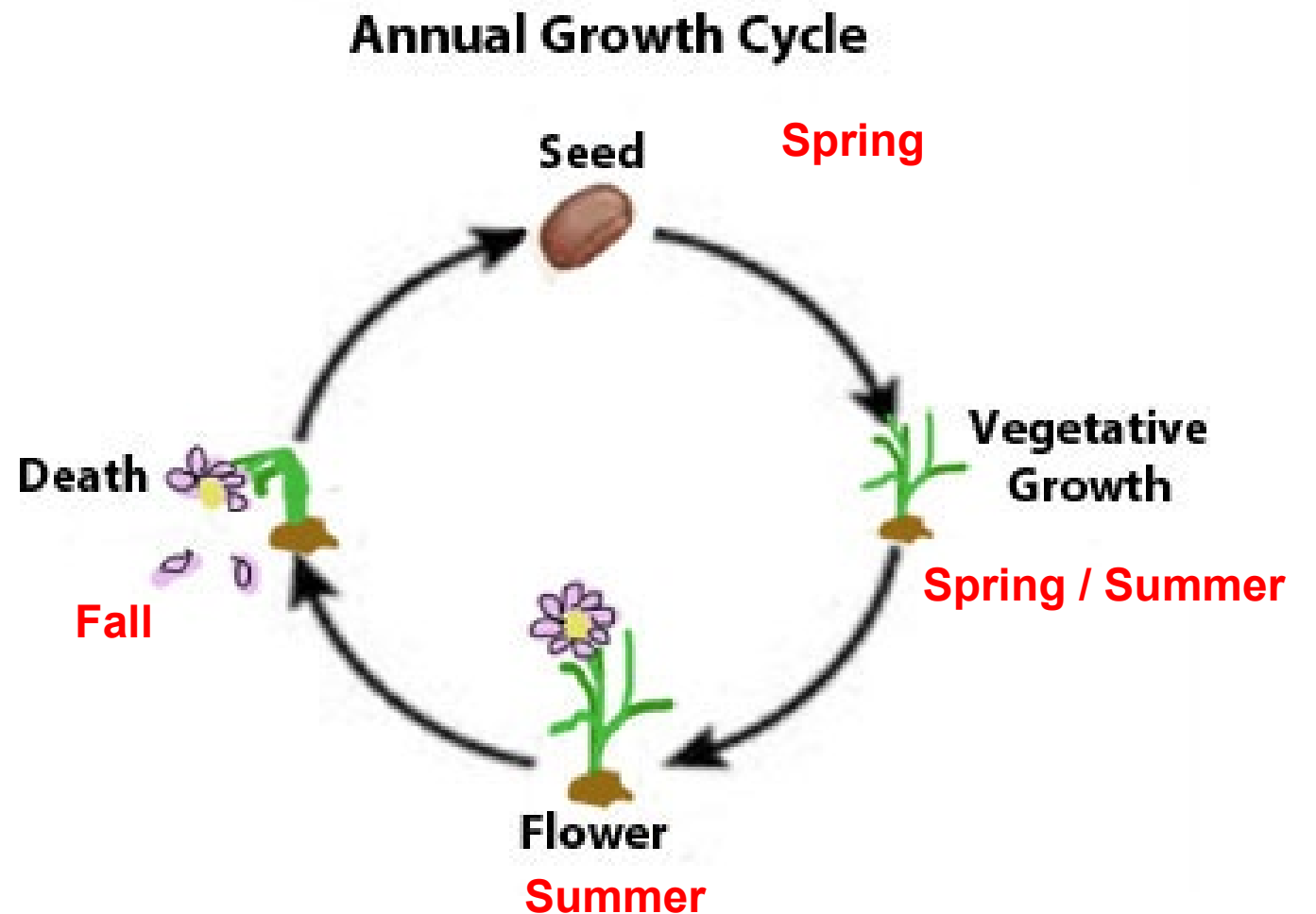


Weed Lifecycles

- **Annuals**

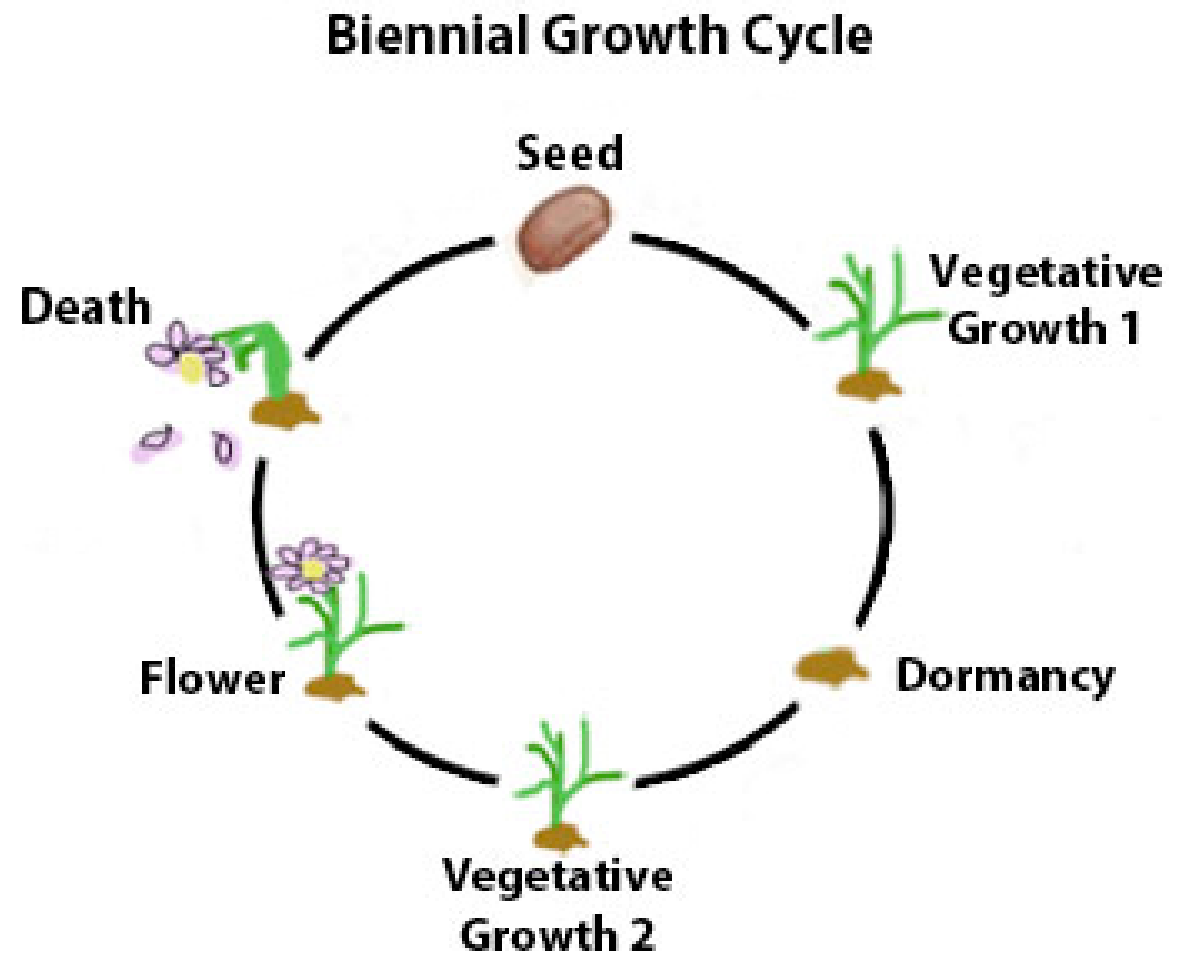
- Winter

- Summer



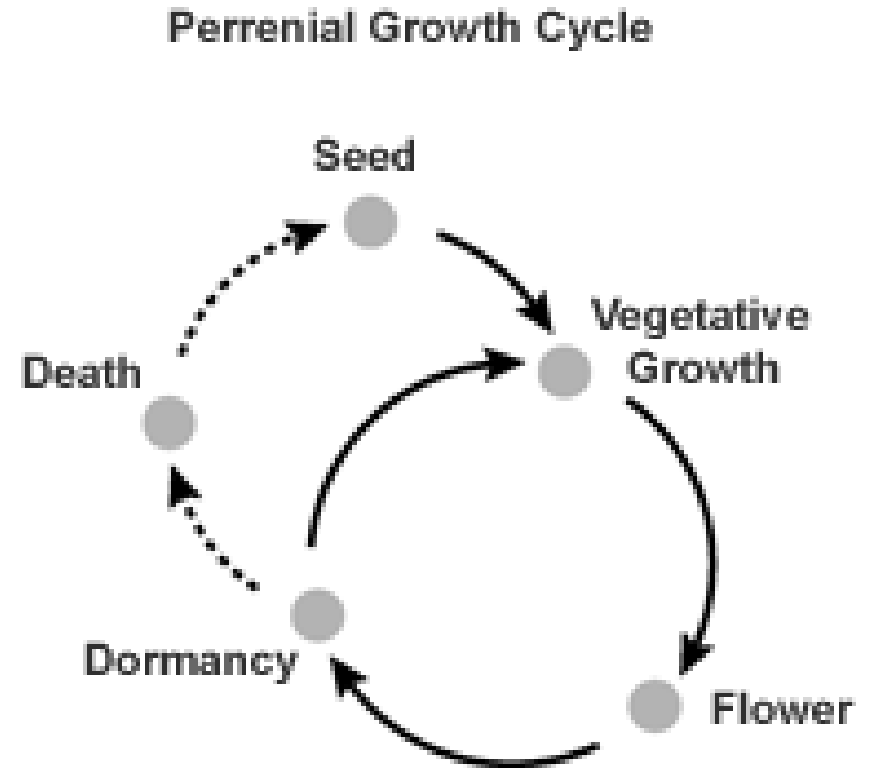
Weed Lifecycles

- **Annuals**
- **Biennials**



Weed Lifecycles

- Annuals
- Biennials
- **Perennials**
 - Herbaceous
 - Woody



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **Types**
 - **simple**

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **Types**
 - **simple**

Curly Dock

Rumex crispus



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **Types**
 - **simple**

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- Life Cycle
- Types
 - simple



Curly Dock

Rumex crispus



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **Types**
 - simple
 - **creeping**



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**

- **bulbs**
- **rhizomes**
- **stolons**
- **tubers**
- **creeping roots**

Leaf Modification

Stem Modification

Root Modification

Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - bulbs
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*

Wild Onion
Allium spp.



Herbaceous Perennials

- **vegetative propagules**
 - rhizomes
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*
 - *usually in top 6" of soil*

Mugwort
Artemisia vulgaris



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - rhizomes
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*
 - *usually in top 6" of soil*

Mugwort
Artemisia vulgaris



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - stolons
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *above soil*

Ground Ivy
Glechoma hederacea



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - stolons
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *above the soil*

Ground Ivy
Glechoma hederacea



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - tubers
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*

Yellow Nutsedge
Cyperus esculentus



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - tubers
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*

Yellow Nutsedge
Cyperus esculentus



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - creeping roots
 - *vegetative propagation*
 - *store carbohydrates*
 - *can go down several feet*

Field Bindweed
Convolvulus arvensis



Herbaceous Perennial Weeds

- **vegetative propagules**
 - bulbs
 - rhizomes
 - stolons
 - tubers
 - creeping roots

Control Methods

- **cultural**
 - **crop rotation**

**Weeds usually grow
along side plants
with similar life
cycles.**



Control Methods

- cultural
- **physical / mechanical**
 - tillage



Control Methods

- cultural
- **physical / mechanical**
 - tillage
 - pulling and digging



Control Methods

- cultural
- **physical / mechanical**
 - tillage
 - pulling and digging
 - **occultation**



Control Methods

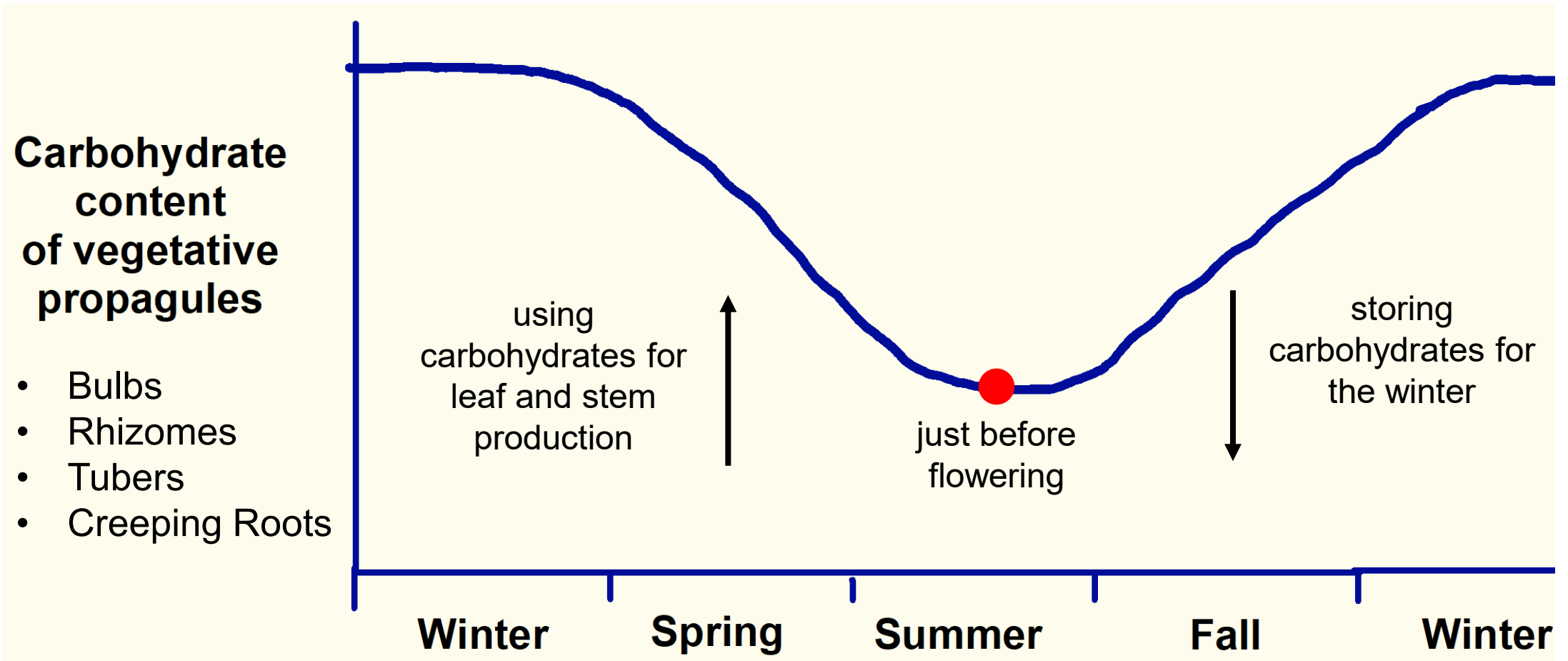
- cultural
- **physical / mechanical**
 - tillage
 - pulling and digging
 - occultation
 - solarization



Control Methods

- cultural
- **physical / mechanical**
 - tillage
 - pulling and digging
 - occultation
 - solarization
 - cutting or mowing

Control Methods



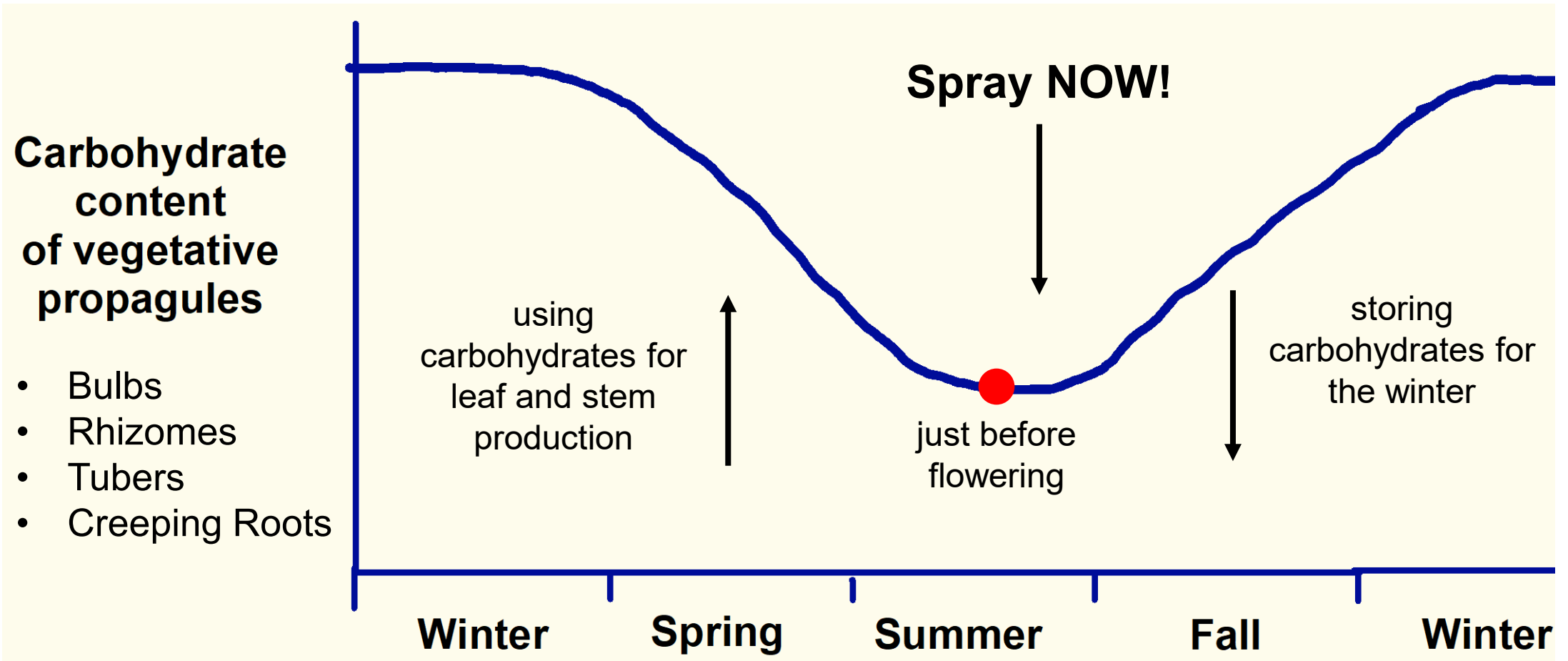
Control Methods

- cultural
- physical / mechanical
- ~~biological~~

Control Methods

- cultural
- physical / mechanical
- ~~biological~~
- **chemical**
 - Pre-Emergent Herbicide
 - Post Emergent Herbicide
 - Non-Selective
 - Selective Herbicide

Control Methods



Review

- **What is a Weed?**
- **Characteristics of Weeds**
- **Weed Identification**
- **Weed Lifecycles**
- **Control Methods**

Resources

Weed Identification

[Weed Identification Resources](#) – NYS IPM

List of weed identification resources.

[Weed Identification](#) – Virginia Tech

Select different characteristics to narrow down the possibilities.

[New Jersey Weed Gallery](#) – Rutgers University

Weed Control Methods

[Cultural Weed Management](#) – University of Massachusetts Amherst

[Managing Invasive Plants: Methods of Control](#) – University of New Hampshire Extension

[Perennial Weed Control Using Cultural/Mechanical Techniques](#) – Rutgers University



Questions?