

# Quackgrass

*Agropyron repens*



Photo: Missouri Botanical Garden

Quackgrass can be identified by looking closely at the point where the end of the leaf wraps around the stem. If you find two finger like projections (auricles) wrapping around the stem you have probably found quackgrass. This grass has deep root systems with rhizomes meaning it can reproduce underground and grow out before growing up and emerging from the soil. If you till quackgrass you will scatter the plants around and they can regrow causing an even larger problem. Quackgrass cannot tolerate shade so plant crops that will grow quickly and shade out the grass before it can grow. You can also use a high rate of herbicide to kill it.



Photo: Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University