

## **Weed Control in Greenhouses**

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### **Nonchemical Control**

Hand-weeding and good sanitation are the safest ways to control weeds in greenhouses. Remove weeds from plugs or liners prior to planting. Use media that are free of weed seed or have been temporarily sterilized using steam or other methods. For steam sterilization of media, mix should be maintained at 180°F for at least 30 minutes. Some weed seed will not be controlled. Prevent weeds from flowering in and around the greenhouse. Allow the greenhouse to completely dry out between crops. Use concrete for the greenhouse floor. Clean up growing media that spills onto the floor.

### **Chemical Control**

Most herbicides cannot be used in greenhouses due to the potential for chemical volatilization under high temperatures. Since greenhouses are enclosed structures, herbicide vapors are trapped around the crop and could cause severe injury. There are several herbicides that are registered for weed control under greenhouse benches. There are no preemergence herbicides registered for weed control in containers or flats located in a greenhouse. See the chapters on Home and Commercial Ornamentals for herbicides registered for annual and perennial flowers maintained outdoors.

**Table 5.7 - Nonselective Herbicides Registered for Weed Control Under Greenhouse Benches**

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Finale (glufosinate)	1.5-4.0 fl oz/gal	Turn off air circulation fans during application. Contact herbicide with some systemic activity. No soil residual action.
Roundup Pro (glyphosate) or other labeled formulation	1.3-2.0 fl oz/gal	Remove desired vegetation from the greenhouse and turn off air circulation fans prior to application. Systemic postemergence herbicide for control of all weeds. No soil residual action.
Reward (diquat)	0.75 fl oz + labeled rate of a nonionic surfactant/gal	Avoid spray drift to crops. Contact postemergence herbicide for control of all weeds. No residual action.