

# Weeds in rotational crops: managing oxalis

[utas.edu.au/tia](http://utas.edu.au/tia)

Authors: Laurie Krauss (PhD candidate)



## Do you have this plant on your property?

### About the weed

*Oxalis latifolia* (known as fish-tail or fish-tailed oxalis) is a weed that is causing problems in Tasmanian cropping systems.

It has three clover-like leaflets on each stem (but it is not clover!).

It has pale pink flowers on stems that grow taller than the leaflets.

It grows from a single small bulb. It starts growing in spring and dies down in autumn.

### Why is it a problem?

As a broad-leafed weed that grows from a bulb, fish tail oxalis has a distinct survival advantage.

It is highly competitive in crops and can regenerate rapidly by producing many bulbs from its main parent bulb.

Each new bulb has the ability to produce a large number of baby bulbs.

### It can take over entire paddocks

Oxalis is very difficult to kill and eradicate because the clumps of bulbs can be easily broken up and spread by machinery and movement of soil.

Herbicides can kill the leaves, but this does not eliminate the bulbs.



### You can help

- Laurie Krauss is a PhD candidate at the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture.
- She wants to know where this weed is growing in Tasmania, what influences its growth, and how it can be better managed.
- If you have this weed on your property, Laurie would love to hear from you!

#### How to contact Laurie

[laurie.krauss@utas.edu.au](mailto:laurie.krauss@utas.edu.au)

0417 119 317