

# FIELD BINDWEED

(*Convolvulus arvensis*)

**WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?** A stubborn, low-growing perennial vine that has stems that twine and spread to form a mat on the ground or can climb up to 7 feet blocking sunlight from other plants as it grows. Leaf size and shape varies but generally the leaves are one to two inches long, smooth, and shaped like an arrowhead. The flowers are trumpet shaped, white to pink.



**WHERE DOES IT GROW?** Brought in from Europe, field bindweed can be found growing anywhere there is strong sunlight and good moisture. It will grow up and over anything in its path.

**WHEN DOES IT BLOOM?** Flowering occurs from late June until frost in the fall.



**HOW DOES IT SPREAD?** New plants can begin from seed or from the creeping root system. Buds located along the root can send up new shoots, or establish a new patch when roots are cut and moved. Roots of field bindweed may extend 20 to 30 feet out and up to 20 feet deep and have the ability to store food for 2 to 3 years.

**WHY IS IT A NOXIOUS WEED?** Field Bindweed is an extremely persistent, difficult to control weed. It out competes native plants, devalues land and precludes the planting of many crops.

**HOW DO I CONTROL IT?** The best long term control for any weed species is to get your desirable plants thriving. A thick, healthy layer of grass will prevent Field Bindweed from getting started. Also, any control method that does not target the root system will be ineffective at reducing infestations of Field Bindweed. See the reverse side for detailed information on mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical control options for Field Bindweed. Also see our Chemical Treatments handout for more information on herbicide use.



For more information, contact:

**Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control**  
10905 N. Ramsey Road, Hayden, ID 83835  
208-446-1290

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or [www.kcweeds.com](http://www.kcweeds.com)

*Kootenai County does not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in, its public meetings, programs, or activities. Requests for assistance or accommodations can be arranged by contacting the Noxious Weed Control Department at (208) 446-1290 or County Administration Office TTY (208)446-2145 with 3 days advance notice. Developed by L. Ely 073106*

# How to Control Field Bindweed

Field Bindweed is a deep rooted creeping perennial that reproduces not only by seed but also vegetatively through lateral rhizomes.

**Mechanical** Digging/pulling/tilling will not control Field Bindweed once established, and will actually increase the number of plants by spreading root fragments.

**Cultural** The best long term weed control is to get your desirable native plants thriving. Killing weeds is only one step, you have to also replace them with something good. Seed and fertilize so your grass can take nutrients away from the weeds and not leave available open soil for new weeds to germinate.

**Biological** There are currently three biocontrol agents available for Field Bindweed, with varying results. Contact Nez Perce Biocontrol Center for more information (208)843-9374 or [nezpercebiocontrol.com](http://nezpercebiocontrol.com).

**Chemical** \* *Any control attempt that only treats top growth will not be effective against Field Bindweed. You must chose a chemical that will translocate to kill the root system. See our Chemical Treatment handout for more information.*

- **Triclopyr** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Garlon 3a**, and many “Poison Ivy & Vine Killer” products. It is broadleaf selective (safe on grasses) and can be effective on Field Bindweed if applied during the bud stage. Follow up treatments may be required.
- **Quinclorac** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Drive XLR8**, and many “Crabgrass Control” products. It can be effective on Field Bindweed if applied per the label.
- **Picloram** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Tordon 22K**. It is broadleaf selective and can be effective on Field Bindweed but it is federally restricted and requires a license to buy or apply.
- **Glyphosate** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **RoundUp, Honcho, Gly-Star**, etc. It is non-selective (will kill grass) and can be effective on Field Bindweed.

*Chemical recommendations are based on University of Idaho Extension Bulletin 865 [Idaho's Noxious Weeds 2011 Control Guidelines Noncrop and Rangeland Sites](#), the book [Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States](#) published by UC Davis Weed Research & Information Center, and herbicide labels.*