



Viper's Bugloss

(Echium vulgare)

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? This biennial produces a flat rosette in its first year and tall flower stalks in its second year. The leaves and stems are covered with stiff hairs. The long, dark tap root dies out after the second season.

WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW? Vipers Bugloss grows best in sunny areas; meadows, overgrazed pastures, poorly drained slopes and roadsides. It usually will not thrive in cultivated ground.

WHEN DOES IT BLOOM? The bright blue flowers with hot pink stamens bloom June to September.

HOW DOES THIS PLANT SPREAD? Vipers bugloss spreads from seed. Most seeds fall to the ground near the parent plant. The rough seeds can stick to clothing, animal fur, and feathers.

HOW DO I CONTROL IT? Early detection is the best preventative. Destroy plants before they become invasive by digging or pulling prior to bloom. Cut and destroy flower heads when they appear.



NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- Digging plants early in the spring or late fall is very effective.
- Fertilize! When grasses thrive, weeds don't.

CHEMICAL CONTROL:

Chemical treatment works best in spring when the plant is in the rosette stage. Contact the Kootenai County Noxious Weed Department or the Kootenai County Extension Department for recommendations.

For more information please contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, ID 83835
208-446-1290/ TTY 208-446-2145

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or 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.