



COMMON BUGLOSS (*Anchusa officinalis*)

Family: Boraginaceae (Borage)

Life Cycle: Biennial to Perennial

Class: B - Control Required

AKA: Alkanet, Anchusa

COMMON BUGLOSS	DESCRIPTION
- Can cause baled hay to mold - Blooms in a spectrum of colors - Will regrow and bloom after mowing - Drops viable seed while still blooming - Native to Europe and western Asia	Growth Traits: Perennial plant which can bloom in its first year. Typically spends first year as a basal rosette, sending up branching stems the second year. Entire plant covered in coarse hairs. Bushy spreading plants can grow over two feet tall and spread three or more feet in diameter. Leaves and Stems: Leaves and stems are fleshy and covered in dense coarse hairs. Leaves are narrow, oblong and slightly pointed. Multiple branching stems may grow from one taproot. Leaves on stem are alternate, and decrease in size going up the stem. Flowers: Blooms May - September. Flower stems start out coiled, and extend as each flower blooms along the stalk. Blossoms have white centers and are most often blue to purple, but may be pink to white. Roots and Reproduction: Develops deep taproot from which it regrows each season, or when cut back. New shoots can develop from root stalk fragment. Spreads via prolific seed production. Flowers produce up to four nutlets, each nutlet containing one seed. Habitat: Grows in open rangeland, pasture, disturbed areas such as roadsides, vacant lots, etc. Spokane County is the most heavily infested county in Washington State. It was originally found growing near Mead and has been spreading in the county. Toxicity: Unknown. However, many plants in the Borage family contain pyrrolizidine alkaloids which are toxic to humans and animals.
CONTROL METHODS	
Mechanical: Small infestations may be dug, ensuring as much of the taproot is removed as possible. If plant is going to seed, bag it and throw it away. Do not compost seeding plants. Wear gloves and long sleeves when handling, coarse hairs can cause skin irritation. Continuous mowing will reduce seed production, but may encourage plants to flower at mower blade height, and will not kill the plants. Cultural: Prevent seed spreading to new sites by cleaning clothing, animals, equipment, etc. before leaving an infested site. Reseed disturbed areas. Replace with native or non-invasive introduced plants where bee forage is a priority. Biological: There are currently no biological agents approved for release in Washington State. Chemical*: Most effective in rosette stage. Use a surfactant to help spray stick to plan. Recommendations are below.	

***ALWAYS read herbicide labels and follow instructions for use and PPE.** The use of a surfactant (aka sticker) increases the efficacy of herbicide application, saving you time and money. If treating over multiple seasons, rotate using herbicides with different modes of action to reduce likelihood of herbicide resistance developing. Below are recommended herbicides based on stage of growth and time of year. All recommendations are supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Noxious Weed Board is implied. Trade names are used to simplify recommendations.

NOTE: There is no 'magic bullet' in noxious weed control, and control efforts must be repeated every season to stop their spread. Using a combination of methods (e.g. cultural and chemical) will lead to better control over time.

April - May Rosette, Seedling Stage	June - July Bolting, Bud, Bloom Stage	August - October Seeding, Fall Regrowth Stage
Pasture Pro	PasturePro	Tordon + 2,4-D
Prescott	Prescott	Pasture Pro (<i>Regrowth after mow</i>)
Telar	Tordon + 2,4-D	Telar (<i>Regrowth</i>)
Method + Telar	Method + Telar	Method + Telar (<i>Regrowth</i>)