



Hoary cress (*Cardaria spp*)



Hoary cress	
General	Family: Mustard (Brassicaceae) Found in moist and transitional areas along right of ways, fields, and cropland. Introduced in late 19th century from Europe
Common names	Whitetop
Habitat	Alkaline and disturbed soils Very competitive once established Easily displaces native vegetation Forms monoculture Creeping perennial Mature plants grow up to 2 feet tall
PLANT	
Vegetation	Leaves are blue-green Lower leaves are stalked Upper leaves have two lobes that clasp the stem Oval or oblong with toothed or almost smooth margins Leaves are often covered with very fine white hairs
Roots	Deep rooted creeping perennial Rhizomatous lateral roots send up shoots which develop independent taproots Roots of hoary cress release chemicals that hinder the growth of cereals
Flower	Late April and May 1/8 inch across Usually white. Four petals. Multiple flowers clustered at the end of stems.
Seed	Mature plant produces 1,200-4,800 seeds Seeds viable for 1 to 2 years Heart-shaped seed pod contains two oval, finely pitted, red-brown seeds each about 1/12 inch long

Hoary Cress

Seedling	Most emerge in April, some fall germination possible under optimum conditions.
Reproduction	Reproduces by both seed and vegetative means

CONTROL			
BIOLOGICAL	<i>None</i>		
CHEMICAL	<i>Herbicide</i>	<i>Rate</i>	<i>Timing</i>
	Metsulfuron (Escort XP)	1 oz. product/acre 0.25 v/v non-ionic surfactant	Apply at the early bud growth stage; i.e. "broccoli" growth stage. (Early Spring to Early Summer)
	Chlorsulfuron (Telar)	1 oz. product/acre 0.25 v/v non-ionic surfactant	Apply at the early bud growth stage; i.e. "broccoli" growth stage. (Early Spring to Early Summer)
	Imazapic (Plateau)	12 fl. oz./acre + 2 pints/acre methylated seed oil or crop oil concentrate	Apply at late flower to post-flower growth stage. (Late Spring to Mid Summer)
CULTURAL	Prevention. Hand-pulling is only minimally effective because the plants regenerate from the roots Cultivation spreads the plant and is not recommended unless area is plowed every couple weeks during the growing season for up to three years.		
MECHANICAL			
Burning	Not effective		
Grazing	Not recommended. Not readily grazed by livestock May taint meat and milk May poison livestock		
Mowing	Not recommended. May spread seed. May disturb the root system New plants form off of the plant fragments -		

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label.

No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.