

What to do if you find common bugloss...

Document the site (location, photos, dates)
and report findings to 1-866-invader or your
local weed control district. Small patches can be
manually removed by hand-pulling or spraying.

Don't let common bugloss spread in Oregon!

**Report suspect
sites to**

Oregon Department of Agriculture
Noxious Weed Control Program
503-986-4621
or call

1-866-INVADER



**Oregon Department
of Agriculture**
Plant Division
Noxious Weed Control Program
695 Capitol St. NE
Salem OR 97301-2532



Common bugloss

**Anchusa officinalis
INVADER ALERT!**



What is common bugloss?

A native of Europe and west Asia. The plant has been used in the herbal trade to cure external cuts and bruises and internally to treat cough. Prefers dry, sandy to gravelly soils. It prefers sunny and warmer areas.



How does common bugloss spread?

Common bugloss spreads by seeds. Average seed production is in excess of 900 seeds per plant. Infestation sites reported in northeastern Oregon, with the largest on the Imnaha River.



How can you identify common bugloss?

Common bugloss is a perennial herb that flowers from May to October. It grows from one to two feet tall. Stems and leaves are fleshy and the overall plant is coarsely hairy. Lower leaves are narrow and oblong while mid leaves are progressively smaller up the stem, and the upper leaves are clasping. When dry, the leaves emit a rich musky odor. Flowers of this weed are scented and blue to purple with white throats. Petals are five equal lobes, forming an uncurved tube. Flowers found in coiled clusters at the end of stems. As the flowers open, coils unfold. Fruit is a four-chambered nutlet and each nutlet contains one seed.



What does common bugloss do?

This plant invades alfalfa fields, pastures, pine forests, roadsides, rangeland, riparian and waste areas. The fleshy stalks can cause hay bales to mold. Large, very dense stands can occur, offering strong competition to native plant communities. This non-native weed may be pretty in a meadow setting, but very destructive to our ecosystem.



- Widely distributed
- Limited distribution
- Not known to occur

<http://oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT>
03/2008

Photography by Dan Sharratt,
Beth Myers-Shenai, and Tim Butler, ODA.
Materials and photos are available at no cost.
Please credit Oregon Department of Agriculture.



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture