

COMMON CRUPINA

Crupina vulgaris
Asteraceae, the sunflower family
Category: Control

USDA APHIS PPQ - Oxford, North Carolina, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- Common Crupina is highly competitive and can form dense stands that out-compete native vegetation and alter the ecosystem function of a landscape.
- The plant is very small and will leave less residual biomass upon desiccation than the native species it replaces. This can lead to increased soil surface exposure which leads to increases of runoff and soil erosion.

Description

- Winter annual that grows up to 3 feet tall.
- Roots are fibrous.
- Rosette and leaf stems are pinnately lobed and covered with short, stiff hairs.
- Flowers are pink-purple and cylindrical to urn-shaped flower heads borne on branch tips.
- Seeds are black-brown, have a cylindrical achene with a ring of black, bristly hairs.

Introduction and Movement

- Common crupina is native to the Mediterranean region and was likely introduced to the United States as a contaminate in soil used as ballast.
- Inhabits rangelands, canyon grasslands, and forests.
- Seeds can travel long distances by becoming lodged into fur, wool, hair, fabric and can also be carried in shoe tread and on motorized vehicles.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Common crupina and eradicate infestations on your property.
- Always remove and properly dispose of all seed and plant materials on vehicles, clothing, shoes and pets before you exit or enter outdoor recreational sites.
- Always Remember To: **KNOCK IT OFF!**

Sources

- CABI Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/13697>
- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.



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DISTRIBUTION MAP

