

## Common Crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*)

### Description

A winter annual. Mature crupina can grow to almost a meter in height, with finely dissected leaves that develop short stiff spines on the edges, giving a coarse rough texture when touched. First rosette leaves entire with toothed margins. Subsequent leaves increasingly lobed. Pink to purple flowers, 1.3 cm long, grow one or two to a branch (up to 40 per plant), developing into seeds with stiff dark bristles on the wide end. Lower leaves can be 7.5 cm long. Common crupina is listed as a prohibited noxious weed on the *Weed Seeds Order* under the *Seeds Act*. Its presence in domestic and imported seed for planting is prohibited by CFIA.

### Key Identifiers

- ✓ Ranges from 30-100 cm tall.
- ✓ Pinkish-purple flowers surrounded by stiff bracts.
- ✓ Stiff spines on lobed leaf edges.

### Location in Canada

Found in areas of the United States but not yet found in Canada.

### Resources

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/invenv/pestrava/cruvul/cruvulfse.shtml>

<http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca/Downloads/FS-CommonCrupina.pdf>

[http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/weedsbc/pdf/common\\_crupina.pdf](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/weedsbc/pdf/common_crupina.pdf)

### Similar species

Several knapweeds in the genus *Centaurea* and Russian knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*) superficially resemble common crupina. Unlike common crupina, the knapweeds have flower receptacles with bristles and leaf margins without bristly, barb-tipped hairs.



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