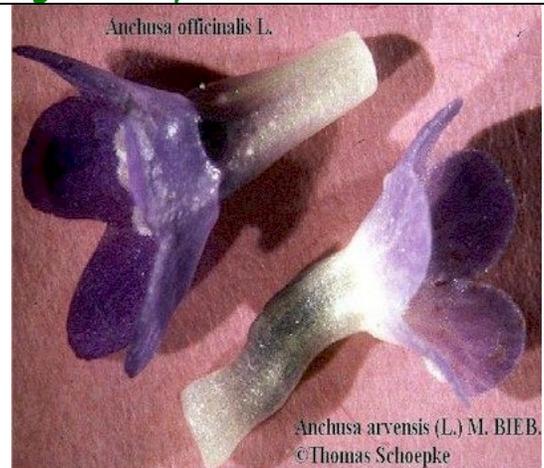


# Annual (small) bugloss

*Anchusa arvensis* L. Borage family

## Key identifying traits

- ❑ Leafy, coiled flower stems typical of the Borage family
- ❑ Small five-lobed blue flowers with white centers
- ❑ Flower tubes white with a distinctive curve-unlike common bugloss which has a straight tube
- ❑ Bristly hairs arise from warty bumps covering plant
- ❑ Rough wrinkled lance-shaped alternate leaves
- ❑ Plant grows 6" to 24" tall with branching stems



## Biology and ecology

- Annual plant-reproduces only by seed
- Member of the Borage family
- Germinates primarily in spring but some wait until fall
- Weed of waste ground and cultivated fields
- Especially in small grains both spring and fall
- Seeds viable in soil for several years



## Control

*Prevention* - Learn to identify the plant; prevent establishment in fields by killing infestations along field borders and entrances; prevent spread from infested fields by cleaning swathers and combines

*Biological* - None available at this time

*Cultural* - Good competitive vegetation helps prevent establishment

*Mechanical* - Cultivation kills existing plants; pull or hoe plants in waste areas and burn them if they have produced seeds; seeds are long lived and can germinate over a period of months each year

*Chemical* - Some effective; best with adjuvant added to help penetrate through hairs; most effective when applied to young plants, prior to bud formation



*Where found* – Common in Williams valley and moving north in the Chewelah area of Stevens County. Primarily in farming areas-some sites believed to be from contaminated alfalfa seed. 2003- several roadside patches found in the north half of the county. Watch r.o.w. & fill areas.