

Plant: Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) aka morning glory

Identification: Field bindweed is a perennial that disperses by creeping roots and seed. It is a vine like plant that can have stems up to 6 feet long, and forms dense mats across the ground and climbs over other plants. It has lateral creeping roots that can reach depths over 9 feet deep. The flowers are funnel shaped, and white and pinkish in color. Leaves alternate down the stems and are arrowhead shaped. It is one of the most noxious weeds in agriculture. It can be found in cultivated fields, pastures, lawns, roadsides, and disturbed sites. Seeds can remain viable for 50 years.

Defense: mechanical control is difficult because of the deep roots. Systemic chemicals are usually the best to get through the entire plant and root system. Dicamba (Vanquish), Picloram (Tordon 22k – a restricted use product), and a mix of Dicamba+2,4-D+Fluroxypyr (Scorch) are a few examples. Fall treatments with systemic herbicides can be particularly effective when the plant is sending most of its energy to its root system.

Make sure to read and understand all pesticide labels and restrictions. The label is the law.

