

“B” Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant,
but may have limited distribution in some counties

Common crupina
Crupina vulgaris

Other common names: Bearded creeper

USDA symbol: CRVU2
ODA rating: B



Introduction: Common crupina is native to the Mediterranean region. The source and means of its introduction into the U.S. is not known. The first population was discovered in Idaho in 1969. The plant was spread to northeastern Oregon through contaminated hay.

Distribution in Oregon: Common crupina has limited distribution in Wallowa, Baker, and Umatilla Counties.

Description: A winter annual that flowers in June to July. It grows one to three feet tall. Leaves are alternate, with a coarse, rough texture when touched. Cotyledons (seed leaves) have a dark purple vein. Flower heads are narrow and topped with pink, lavender or purple flowers in groups of up to five. Seeds have a distinct ring of dark, stiff, bristles encircling broad end.

Impacts: Common crupina can be found in range, forest, and disturbed non-crop lands. The primary Pacific Northwest habitat is southern slopes in steep canyon grasslands. It is adapted to a wide range of soil and climate. It forms solid stands that reduces the quantity and quality of forage. It is unpalatable to most grazing animals, which avoid it, allowing the weed to thrive and spread.

Biological controls: No biocontrols are currently approved for use in the U.S.

