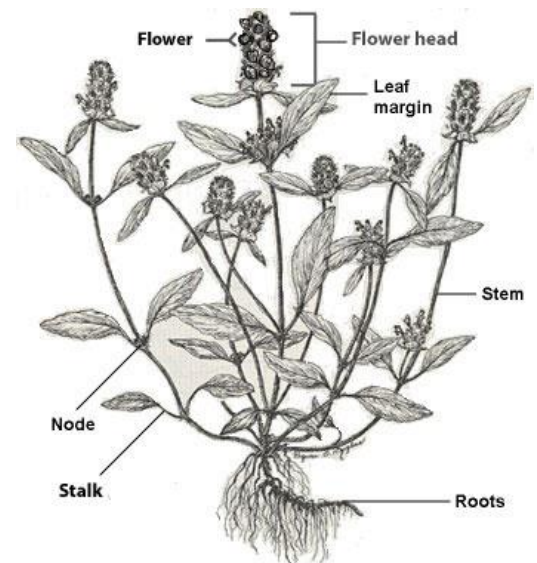


BROADLEAF WEEDS

TITLE:	Hairy Bittercress
LATIN NAME:	<i>Cardamine Hirsuta</i>
FAMILY:	Brassicaceae
OVERALL DESCRIPTION:	
Wiry stems, topped with flowers and later, seed pods, emerge from a basal rosette of leaves commonly found in disturbed or damp soils. Forms a dense mat. Native of Eurasia. One of the first broadleaf weeds to emerge in early spring. Re-seeds extensively because of seed heads that “pop” when seeds are mature, propelling seeds over a wide area. Grows in paved areas and ornamental beds.	
LIFE CYCLE	Winter annual/biennial
SEASONS OF GROWTH	Early spring but capable of growing and germinating year round, depending on climate. Plants are killed by frost.
FLOWERS / SEEDHEAD	Small white flowers occur in clusters with individuals containing four petals. Flowers appear on wiry stems from early spring until fall. Thin purple sticks extending out of the flower are seed pods.
LEAF SHAPE	Simple pinnate, round to oval shape or heart or spade shape.
LEAF EDGES	Undulate (wavy/scalloped) margins
LEAF ARRANGEMENT	Basal rosette, many leaves, alternate arrangement with 2 to 4 leaves.
GROWTH HABIT	Dense, mat-like, erect, branched at the basal level.
FULL LEAF SIZE	1 ½ to 2 ¾ inches long; leaves are larger at base of stem.
STEM CHARACTERISTICS	Up to 10 inches tall, wiry, unbranched, hairless
ROOT	Deep taproot
ANY OTHER DISTINGUISHING TRAITS	Edible member of the mustard family. Seed pods coil and pop explosively when the seeds are mature.



Common Typical Broadleaf Weed Structure

TYPE OF SOIL CONDITIONS OR PRACTICES FAVORING GROWTH	Cool, moist, disturbed soil. Barren soil containing gravel or clay. Mowing lawn too short and shade.
KEY MESSAGE TO HOMEOWNER	An early spring weed that can be controlled by mowing prior to seed formation. Because it can spray seeds over a large area, mulching around landscape plants and beds prevents is important. Can be overlooked in these areas because of early spring growth habit.
CULTURAL CONTROL	Promote growth of thick, dense turf. Keep mower height at 3-3 ½ inches and mower blades sharp.
MECHANICAL CONTROL	Hand pulling is effective with young plants early in an infestation and after rain, when the soil is moist. Hand pulling is less effective in older plants because of deep taproots.
CHEMICAL CONTROL	Preferred time to treat is Fall with Hairy Bittercress showing sensitivity to the following: 2, 4 D+ dicamba, 2, 4 D+ dicamba MCP, 2, 4 D+ dicamba+ triclopyr, 2, 4 D+ dicamba + penoxsulam. (From Table 5-5, 2020 PMG)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION	<p>Illinois Wildflowers https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/weeds/plants/hry_btcrs.htm</p> <p>University of Maryland Extension https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/hairy-bittercress https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/lawn-herbicides#crabgrass</p> <p>Home Grounds and Animals - VCE Publications - Virginia Tech https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-336.pdf</p> <p>Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association https://fairfaxgardening.org/hairy-bittercress/</p> <p>Penn State University Extension https://extension.psu.edu/lawn-and-turfgrass-weeds-hairy-bittercress</p> <p>Photos: Virginia Tech Weed Science Department</p>
FCMGA SPECIAL PROJECT RESEARCH BY	Miriam St. Clair, FCMGA Intern
REVIEWED BY	Tony Makara, FCMGA