

Common gypsyweed

Veronica officinalis

Description

Found in agricultural seed, such as alfalfa. Green parts used for medicinal properties to treat coughs and gastrointestinal distress.

Habit

Spreading perennial, 2-10 in tall forb, hairy, creeping with erect branches.

Leaves

Opposite, oval to elliptical narrowing to the base, 1 1/2-3 times as long as wide, finely toothed, almost stalkless.

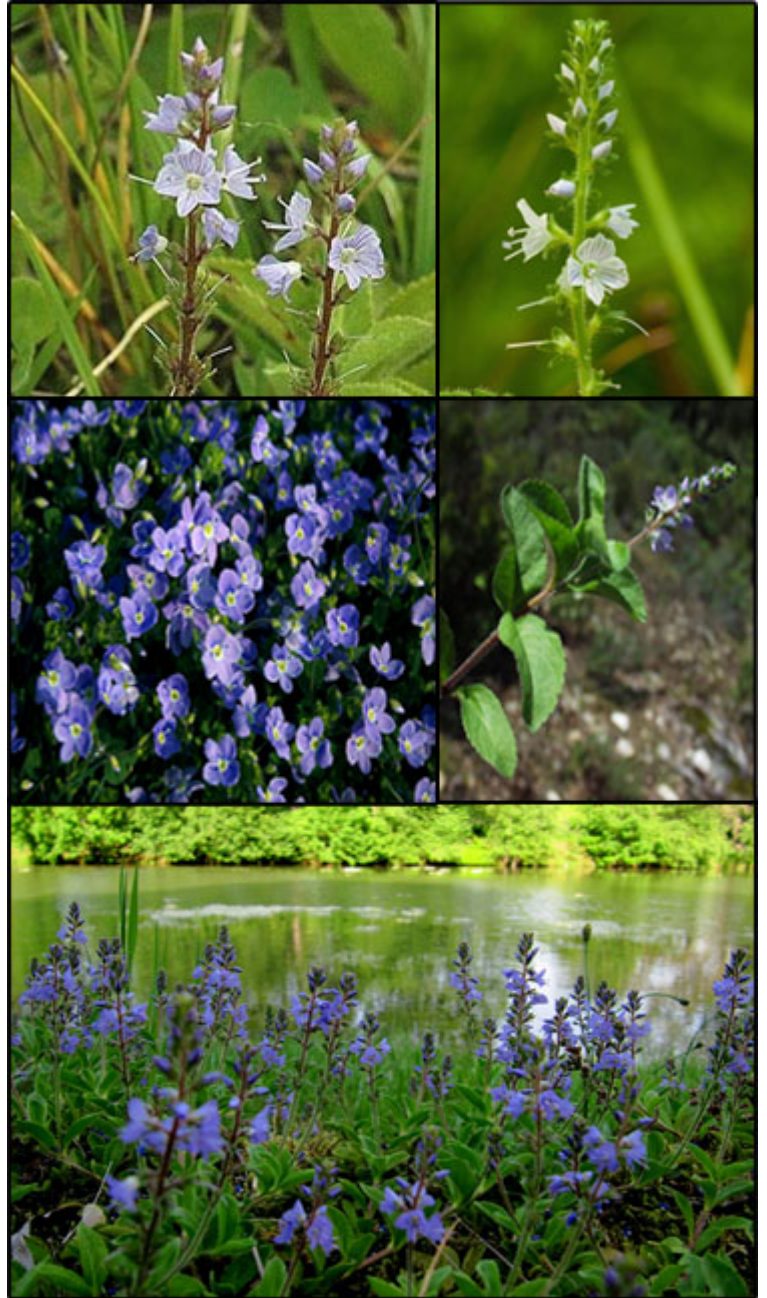
Stems

Hairy; green in color.

Flowers

Light blue in color, 4-parted, 1/4-1/3 in wide, lobes longer than the tube, inflorescence is stalked, spike-like cluster (raceme) of stalked flowers only from the upper leaf axils.

Fruits and Seeds





Seed pod, triangular.

Habitat

Native to Asia, Africa and Europe. Found in dry areas; fields, upland woods.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

Other species of Speedwell (Veronica spp.).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Mowing; adequate fertilization; effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as triclopyr and dicamba.

Credits

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