

Germander speedwell

Veronica chamaedrys

Description

This plant has a history of medicinal uses in which this plant contains a certain amount of astringency, and with an infusion of its leaves was used to cure coughs, while the juice of the fresh plant was boiled into a syrup with honey for asthma.

Habit

Herbaceous perennial, 4-12 in in height.

Leaves

Opposite, ovate, sessile, 1.5 cm long and 0.8-2 cm wide, coarsely serrate with rounded teeth.

Stems

Nearly erect; 1-3 dm. tall; spreading hairs.

Flowers

Blue in color, inflorescence of loose racemes on long peduncles arising in the leaf axils, calyx of 4 sepals, corolla is blue, 9-12 mm wide, 4-lobed, the upper lobe the largest.





Fruits and Seeds

Seed pod, 3-3.5 mm, flattened, heart-shaped, notched at the tip, hairy and with fringed margins, seeds about 6 per chamber.

Habitat

Native to Europe. Found in disturbed ground, lawns and gardens.

Reproduction

By seed and stem fragments.

Similar

Ivyleaf speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*); Birdeye speedwell (*Veronica persica*); Gray field speedwell (*Veronica polita*); Thymeleaf speedwell (*Veronica serpyllifolia*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand-pulling; effectively controlled using any of the several readily available general use herbicides.

Credits

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