

- **Life cycle:** Perennial
- **Root:** Horizontal and vertical
- **Leaves:** Alternate, wavy, lance-shaped, lobed, spine-tipped and lack stalks. Upper leaves smaller than lower leaves.
- **Stems:** 1 to 4 feet tall, lack spines, erect, ridged, branched, and slightly hairy.
- **Flower:** Purple fading to white with diameter of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch form clusters at branch ends. Bracts have weak prickles without sharp points.
- **Seed/Fruit:** Long, flattened seeds with tufts of white hairs.

Integrated Management Options



For information on biology and management, see [NRCS Tech Note MT-5](#).