



Hound's Tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)

HT CYNO OFF

A biennial to short-lived perennial. It forms a rosette in the first year with leaves shaped like a dog's tongue. Mature plants are 0.3 to 1.2 metres tall and have rough, hairy, wide leaves and reddish-purple, five-petal flowers.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Mogulones cruciger</i>		Overwinter	Adult	All stages			Adult	Overwinter - mixed stages			



Distribution

Found throughout the Southern Interior but less common with the introduction of biological control.

Quick ID

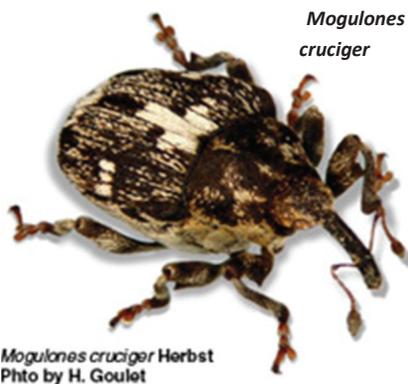
Dull, reddish purple flowers with five petals.

Soft, hairy rosette of leaves in first year.

Burr-like seeds stick to fur and clothing.

Interesting Facts:

Hound's tongue contains toxic alkaloids that can cause liver damage in cattle, deer, pigs, horses, and goats.



Manual Treatment: Hand-pull plants and/or remove flowering stems before seed-set (by mowing or picking). Wear gloves to prevent skin irritation.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	------	-----	------	-----	-----	-----

Flowers: Dull, reddish purple flowers in terminal branches with five petals, united at the base.



Leaves and Stems: Rough, hairy/velvety, 2.5 to 30 cm long leaves with entire margin (lacking teeth or lobes). Alternate leaves in second year. Erect hairy stem, usually branched near the top. May produce a single flowering stem or multiple stems per plant.

Seeds: Fruit is composed of four prickly, flattened, burr-like nutlets (seeds) that are green when immature and roughly the size of a corn kernel. Seeds turn brown and become adhesive when mature, readily clinging to clothing or animals.



Roots: Mature hound's tongue plants have a woody taproot.

Reproduction and Dispersal: By seed. 'Hitchhiking' seeds can easily be spread great distances by animals and humans. Mature plants can produce hundreds of seeds per year. Viable for 2-3 years.

Habitat Preference: Shade tolerant. Open forested and meadow areas, along roads and trails, disturbed areas.

