



Cutleaf Vipergrass

Scorzonera laciniata



- Short lived perennial broadleaf (not a grass)
- Grows 1-2 ft tall
- Found in fallow fields and disturbed areas
- Flowers throughout the summer.
- Plant is a known food source for clover cutworms, which damage a wide variety of food crops.

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Suggested Control Methods for Cutleaf Vipergrass

Mechanical & Cultural Controls

Hand-Pulling/Digging: Effective for small infestations, especially in spring when plants are small; remove the entire taproot to prevent regrowth.

Mowing: Mow before flowers form to stop seed production, though it can flower quickly after mowing.

Competition: Maintain dense, healthy desirable vegetation to outcompete vipergrass seedlings.

Prevention: Clean boots, vehicles, and equipment after leaving infested areas to prevent seed spread.

Chemical Controls

Selective Herbicides: Products with 2,4-D and dicamba are suggested, similar to western salsify control. Aminopyralid

Non-Selective Herbicides: Glyphosate can be used but kills other plants too.

Application: Apply to actively growing plants (rosette to pre-bloom stage) and add a surfactant.

Important: Always read and follow herbicide label directions and check with your local Extension office for region-specific advice, as research is limited.