

# Blue Mustard



**GROW & GIVE  
WEEDS**

***Chorispora tenella*, also known as purple mustard.**

Blue mustard is an introduced species to Colorado, commonly found in groups in cultivated or waste areas. It reproduces by seed which germinates in late winter/early spring. Blue mustard takes on an upright to spreading form, growing up to 6-18". The plant has a shallow taproot and lavender, 4-petaled flowers that bloom in spring. The entire plants is strongly odorous.



**Field of Blue Mustard.**

Photo: Steve Dewey, Utah State University,  
Bugwood.org.



**Foliage of Blue Mustard.**

Photo: Joseph M. DiTomaso, U.of California,  
Bugwood.org.



**Flowering Blue Mustard.**

Photo: Yvette Henson, CSU Extension.

To control blue mustard, dig, hoe, or pull up young plants. Mowing during early flowering is also effective in reducing seed production. Pre-emergent herbicides can be used to help to manage the existing seedbank. If necessary, broadleaf herbicides can be applied to young plants.

Using a surfactant, as per label instructions, will enhance herbicide uptake by waxy leaves. The mustard family can be resistant to many herbicides.

For more information on Growing and Giving, go to [growandgivecolorado.org](http://growandgivecolorado.org)