

Purslane



**GROW & GIVE
WEEDS**

***Portulaca oleracea*, also known as "common purslane", "little hogweed", and "wild portulaca".**



Purslane seedling.

Photo: Phil Westra, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.

Although purslane can be grown as a nutritious crop, it is often considered a weed throughout the United States. It is a fast-growing summer annual that typically takes on a low-growing growth habit and forms a dense mat. Purslane's oval-shaped leaves and reddish stems are very succulent, allowing this plant to store water and, as a result, tolerate drought. Purslane produces a large amount of seeds which can be viable for up to several decades.

Preventing the dispersion and establishment of seeds is the best method of control for purslane. Mulches and soil solarization can be used to kill plants and prevent seed germination. Hand cultivation of plants is quite effective, as long as plant material is removed or dried out, as purslane cuttings can reroot. While chemical control is typically not necessary, both preemergent and postemergent herbicides may be used to control purslane.



Mature and flowering purslane.

Photo: Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org.

For more information on Growing and Giving, go to growandgivecolorado.org

Purslane



**GROW & GIVE
WEEDS**

***Portulaca oleracea*, also known as "common purslane", "little hogweed", and "wild portulaca".**

Although purslane can be grown as a nutritious crop, it is often considered a weed throughout the United States. It is a fast-growing summer annual that typically takes on a low-growing growth habit and forms a dense mat. Purslane's oval-shaped leaves and reddish stems are very succulent, allowing this plant to store water and, as a result, tolerate drought. Purslane produces a large amount of seeds which can be viable for up to several decades.

Preventing the dispersion and establishment of seeds is the best method of control for purslane. Mulches and soil solarization can be used to kill plants and prevent seed germination. Hand cultivation of plants is quite effective, as long as plant material is removed or dried out, as purslane cuttings can reroot. While chemical control is typically not necessary, both preemergent and postemergent herbicides may be used to control purslane.



Purslane seedling.

Photo: Phil Westra, Colorado State University,
Bugwood.org.



Mature and flowering purslane.

Photo: Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia,
Bugwood.org.

For more information on Growing and Giving, go to growandgivecolorado.org