

Kochia



**GROW & GIVE
WEEDS**

***Bassia scoparia*, also known as "mexican fireweed".**



Kochia seedling.

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



Mature Kochia plant.

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

Kochia is a pesky summer annual that matures into an erect, highly branching form with flowering terminal spikes. It can reach heights of 6 feet or taller, and is often found in agricultural lands and disturbed areas. Upon maturing, Kochia plants snap at the base and become tumbleweeds, spreading seeds as the plant tumbles around.



Flowering Kochia.

Photo: Jan Samanek, Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org.

Kochia reproduces by seed only, so the best method of control is to prevent seed dispersal. Plants can be removed manually by pulling out the taproot (make sure to dispose of plants if they are producing seed). Herbicides containing fluroxypyr, dicamba, and glyphosate are effective control options and should be applied when plants are 2-6 inches tall.

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

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