

# Invaders of Texas

a Citizen Science program of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

## Invasive Species Field ID

### ***Convolvulus arvensis* L.**

**Synonym(s):** *Convolvulus ambigens*,  
*Convolvulus incanus*, *Strophocaulos arvensis*

**Family:** Convolvulaceae (Morning-Glory Family)

**Common Name(s):** field bindweed

**Habit:** Vine, Herb

**USDA Plants:** [COAR4](#)



**Description:** Viny perennial with an extensive system of deep creeping roots and rhizomes. Field bindweed is considered one of the most noxious weeds of agricultural fields throughout temperate regions of the world.

**Biology & Spread:** Reproduces by seed and vegetatively from deep creeping roots and rhizomes. Most seeds fall near the parent plant, but some seeds may disperse to greater distances with water, agricultural activities, and animals. Seeds are hard coated and can survive ingestion by birds and other animals

**Resembles/Alternatives:** Western morningglory [*Calystegia occidentalis* (A. Gray) Brummitt] is a native perennial that closely resembles field bindweed. It is a desirable component of the vegetation in natural communities, but is sometimes weedy in agricultural or managed forest systems. Unlike field bindweed, western morningglory typically has flowers 2.5-4 cm long, calyxes greater than 7 mm long, stigma lobes flattened, and bracts mostly attached less than 10 mm below the flowers. In addition, western morningglory is hairy throughout, and the basal lobes of leaves are often squared to slightly indented or 2-lobed. Western morningglory grows on dry slopes in chaparral and pine forests throughout California, except the Mojave and Sonoran deserts, to 2700 m (8900 ft). Hollyhock bindweed [*Convolvulus althaeoides* L.][Bayer code: none] is a showy perennial with purple to deep pink flowers introduced from the Mediterranean region. Hollyhock bindweed is distinguished by having some upper leaves deeply lobed. It grows in localized populations on disturbed sites in the northern Sierra Nevada foothills (Nevada Co.), Transverse Ranges, Peninsular Ranges, and Southwest region, to 1000 m (3300 ft).

**Management:** Biology and Prevention: Field bindweed is a very serious perennial vine that may reduce crop yields, increase irrigation costs, and interfere with harvesting. Field bindweed is an excellent competitor for soil moisture and thrives in dryland agricultural systems. Its extensive root system utilizes deep soil moisture and allows the plant to withstand serious drought. Additionally, the plant is capable of summer dormancy

