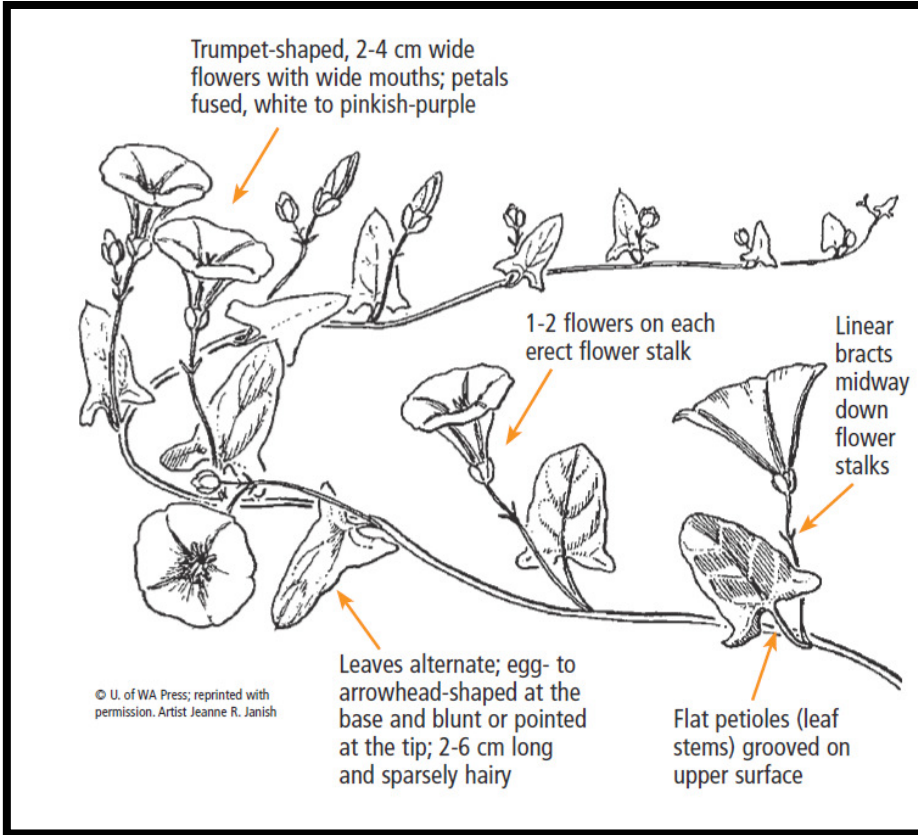


European Field Bindweed Survey for BC

European Field Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), the unspoken bane of many BC organic operators, is currently listed as an invasive plant by the BC Ministry of Forest and Range's Biocontrol Program, and is categorized as a prohibited noxious weed under the



Canada Seeds Act, but only listed as a nuisance weed by the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (where is it listed). Field bindweed is generally manageable using standard agricultural practices, but is more difficult to manage in organic food production areas.

The purpose of this survey is to quantify the extent of the problem of field bindweed on organic farms.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Total managed _____ Acres or _____ Hectares

1. Are you growing organically? YES NO
2. Which crops do you grow organically?

3. Do you have the weed, field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) on your farming operation? If yes, proceed to question 4, if no, thank you for your time.
 YES NO

4. Do you consider field bindweed a problem on your farm? Does it reduce your production? Does it impact your yield or product quality? (i.e., does it have an economic impact on your operation?)

5. Are you able to estimate:

- a. Crop loss from field bindweed infested land? YES NO
- b. Contain the spread of field bindweed? YES NO
- c. Prevent field bindweed from establishing? YES NO

Optional Question: If you don't mind please provide an estimate of income loss due to field bindweed in 2008 _____. This information will be kept confidential.

6. Please describe the type of areas where you have field bindweed, for example, in your crops, in the turn around zones, along fencelines, along the creek, etc. If possible briefly describe the soil, topography, soil moisture level, of these areas. Is the bindweed more correlated to heavy or light soil, or is just spreading from one spot whichever way you cultivate? If you have GPS coordinates please include these.

7. Annual Crops: How many acres (hectares) do you **no longer use** for annual crop production because of field bindweed? (Select all that apply)

- _____ acres (_____ hectares) impacted.
- Not applicable – do not produce annual crops
- Not applicable – do not have field bindweed in any fields used for annual crops
- Not applicable – I switched these acres to perennial crops
- Not applicable – I am still working those annual crop acres that have field bindweed
- I stopped organic farming because of field bindweed.

8. Perennial Crops: How many perennial crop acres are infested with field bindweed?

- _____ acres impacted.
- Not applicable – do not produce perennial crops
- Not applicable – do not have field bindweed in any fields used for perennial crops
- Not applicable – controlling field bindweed in perennial crops.
- I stopped organic farming because of field bindweed.

9. Is the field bindweed spreading on your property? If so, can you quantify the spread?
10. If not, how have you managed to slowdown/stop the spread? Please describe all the control methods you use.
11. Do you know how these areas initially got infested? If yes, please explain. For example, transported in soil or manure, brought in on machinery, was already present when production began. Etc.
12. Would you like more information on how to control field bindweed
- In a manner that is compliant with organic certification requirements?
 - In whatever fashion possible?

Please submit completed surveys to Rochelle Eisen by Aug 31, 2009

Email: extension@certifiedorganic.bc.ca

Mail: Box 370, Lumby BC V0E 2G0

Fax: 250.547.6580

Online version <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/education/surveys/fieldbindweedsurvey.pdf>
or <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/education/surveys/fieldbindweedsurvey.doc>.

If you have any questions contact Rochelle via email or by phone 250.547.6573