

**KEY
CHARACTERISTICS**

growth

Biennial with a thick woody taproot. In its first year of growth, it appears as a leafy rosette. In the second year the coarse erect plants can reach 60 cm tall becoming branched above.

flower

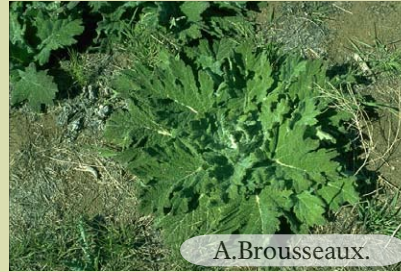
Reddish-purple, with fused petals, broadly funnelform in shape. Cymes numerous, solitary in the axils of the upper leaves becoming raceme-like in fruit.

stems

Leaves and stem are usually softly pubescent. Plants often emit a musty odor.

leaves

Upper leaves are alternate becoming shorter and narrower with the uppermost leaves appearing sessile and almost clasping. Basal and lower leaves are oblong to oblong-lanceolate tapering to a long petiole-like base.



fruit

Brown 4-lobed nutlet covered with short barbed bristles. Easily sticks to fur and clothing. See photos above.

Elevation:
Up to 8000 feet

Ecotypes Invaded:
Montane conifer forest.

ECOLOGY & DISTRIBUTION

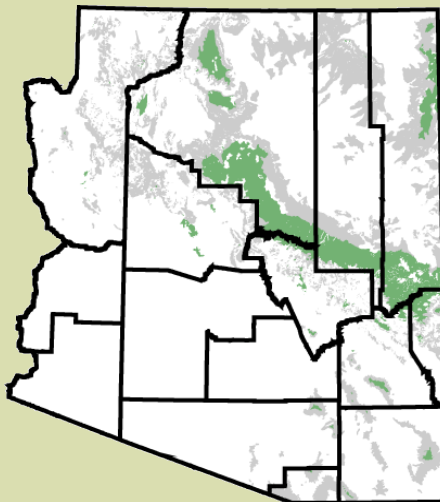
It can invade disturbed pastures, roadsides, forest edges, and meadows. Thrives on gravelly, somewhat limy soils.

It is most damaging on rangelands because it is toxic to livestock and it can form relatively dense stands on disturbed ground, but studies have shown that houndstongue seedlings have a comparatively low growth rate and are not strongly competitive.



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SUITABLE HABITAT



Suitable habitat based on the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (AZ-WIPWG) assessment. Green = suitable habitat; White = unsuitable habitat; Gray = unknown. Based on Brown, Lowe & Pase (1980) vegetation communities.



"Flora Londinensis" -William Curtis (1746-1799)