

CROWN VETCH

Coronilla vfaria



Elizabeth Czarapata

Mature Height	12 to 18 inches and forms heavy mat	Soil Type	All types
Mature Spread	Vines - 2 to 6 feet long	Flower Color	Pink to Purple
Mature Form	Prostrate Vines	Foliage Color	Dark Green
Growth Rate	Rapid	Fall Color	Green to brown in winter
Sun Exposure	Full Sun		
Soil Moisture	Dry to Wet		

Crown Vetch is a legume that came from southern Europe in the 1950's. It was used for erosion control but was quickly found to spread into adjacent natural areas. It spreads by seed and by rhizomes. It is especially bad when it invades dunes and native prairies. The problem with this plant is that it shades out and smothers all native vegetation. Crown Vetch prefers open sunny areas. It was planted widely along highway rights-of-way so it is very common in all Indiana counties. It is tolerant to very cold and hot weather, to drought and to periods of heavy precipitation so it will grow anywhere. It is very difficult to walk through and often trips people. Control is achieved with 2-4-D amine foliar spray in the spring or with Glyphosate or Triclopyr in the summer. Always follow label directions when using herbicides.



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This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

