

**Houndstongue** or beggar's ticks  
*Cynoglossum officinale*  
Boraginaceae, the borage family  
Category: Containment

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**Background:**

- Introduced from Europe in crop seed
- Biennial or short-lived perennial
- Found in grasslands and forested areas
- Disperses well with hooked seed
- Toxic to livestock, attacks liver and also causes photosensitization

**Description:**

- Leaves form basal rosette with hairy leaves in first year
- After first year, stem forms with alternate, lance shaped leaves that are hairy and rough
- Flowers in upper leaf axils
- Petals reddish-purple
- Fruits: 4 nutlets, hooked



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Photo from Erickson Weed  
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