

Wild Mint

Mentha arvensis

Mentha arvensis, the corn mint, field mint, or wild mint, is a species of flowering plant in the mint family Lamiaceae. It has a circumboreal distribution, being native to the temperate regions of Europe and western and central Asia, east to the Himalaya and eastern Siberia, and North America.

Identification

Stem: Distinctly square (four-angled) and often hairy.

Leaves: Opposite pairs, egg-shaped to lance-shaped (2 - 4 cm long), with serrated (toothed) margins.

Flowers: Small, pale purple, lilac, or white, growing in dense whorls in the leaf axils.

Scent: Strong, unmistakable mint aroma when crushed.

Growth Form: Spreads via rhizomes, often forming patches in moist soil, wetlands, and along streams.

Control

Physical Removal: Dig up the plant, ensuring all roots and runners are removed, as any left behind can regrow.

Herbicides: Pre-emergence: Oxyfluorfen (0.20–0.25 kg/ha) or Pendimethalin (1.0 kg/ha) are highly effective in reducing weed density and dry matter. Post-emergence: Glyphosate or amino triazole can be used where no other crops are present, with glyphosate being more effective at the flowering stage. Weed Management in Mint Crops: A combination of pendimethalin (pre-emergence) followed by clodinafop (post-emergence) is recommended, as is application of imazethapyr + pendimethalin for, high-efficiency control.

