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Henbit

Lamium amplexicaule L.

Life cycle: Square-stemmed winter annual.

Leaves: Cotyledons are oval in outline and notched at the base where the hairy petioles attach. Opposite, circular to heart-shaped, hairy leaves have rounded teeth along the margins. Prominent, palmately veined leaves give a crinkled leaf surface. Lower leaves are attached by long petioles; upper leaves lack petioles and encircle the stem.

Stems: Square, hairy, spreading stems with many ascending branches from the base can root at the lower nodes. Stems are up to 16 inches tall.

Flowers and fruit: Pink to purple flowers in a two-lipped tube form in whorls in the upper leaf axils. Each flower produces four egg-shaped, one-seeded, grayish brown and speckled nutlets.

Reproduction: Seeds.



Henbit seedling.

All photos this page: Steven A. Gower



Henbit leaf.

Henbit *continued...*



Henbit flowers.



Close-up of henbit flower.

Similar weeds

Purple deadnettle (*Lamium purpureum* L.). Differs by having more triangle-shaped leaves, upper leaves with petioles and red to purple coloration.



Purple foliage and flowers of purple deadnettle.