

# Weed Alert!

## Red valerian



# Red valerian

(*Centranthus ruber*)

**Mature Size** Knee



## Description

- 1-3 ft. perennial herb with fragrant small white, rose-pink, or crimson flowers
- Individual flowers are tiny, but dome-shaped clusters are large and showy
- Tubular flowers have 5 fused petals and tiny spur
- Fleshy, opposite blue-green leaves clasp smooth stems, are oval or sword-shaped, and 2-4 in. long
- Seeds have fine, feathery hairs at ends
- Reproduces by seed
- Spread by wind and horticulture
- Native to southern Europe and the Mediterranean region



**Bloom Period** Apr - Aug

**Habitat** Disturbed and rocky sites, woodland, coastal regions

**2-Minute Removal** Dig



Image credits: Front top and back bottom: Wouter Hagens, Front bottom: Stan Shebs, Front center: Magnus Manske, Back top and center: Sheldon Navie; icons by Tim Hyland  
These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.