

# Weed Alert

## Spanish heath



# Spanish heath

(*Erica lusitanica*)

**Mature Size** Shoulder



## Description

- 4-5 ft. slender perennial shrub with small tubular bell-shaped flowers
- White to light pink flowers with 4 petals, grow singly or in small clusters
- Evergreen, leathery, needle-like leaves less than 1 in. long
- Young stems densely hairy; mature stems brown and woody
- Fruit is a capsule  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. long and filled with tiny seeds
- Reproduces by seed and may resprout from roots when damaged
- Spread by wind, water, animals, roads, trails, equipment, horticulture
- Native to western Europe, Spain, and Portugal



**Bloom Period** Mar - Jul

**Habitat** Coastal scrub, riparian, forest, grassland, disturbed sites

**2-Minute Removal** Dig



Image credits: Front and back: Trevor James, AgResearch; icons by Tim Hyland

These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.