

# INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

## MOUSE - EAR HAWKWEED

(*Hieracium pilosella*)

### HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

#### DESCRIPTION

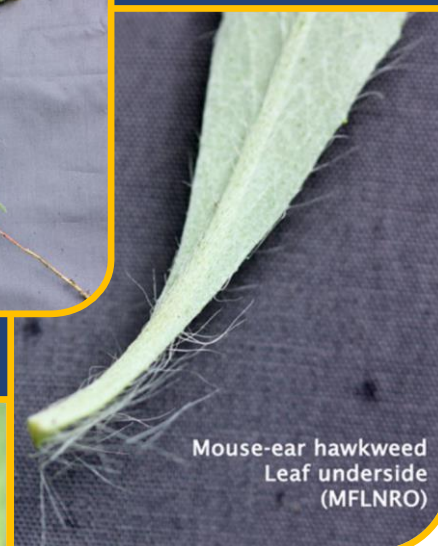
- Native to Europe
- Perennial herb
- Mature plant grows 15 to 30 cm tall
- Yellow, solitary (rarely 2) flower crowns unbranched, leafless stem. Stem hairy at base
- Leaves at base of plant, narrow and egg-shaped
- Leaf upper surface dark green with long eyelash-like hairs
- Leaf under surface whitish with dense mat of short stubble-like hairs
- Stolons 10 to 25 cm long, leafy and mat-forming
- Prefers well-drained coarse-textured soil in disturbed areas but thrives along roadsides, in turf, mountain meadows, forest clearings and pastures
- Reproduces by seed, stolon, rhizome and adventitious root buds
- Local dispersal mainly by 'hitch-hiking' on hair, fur, clothing, vehicles and equipment. Contaminated soil and animal and bird feces are the main pathways for long distance spread.



**REPORT IVASIVES SPECIES**  
Download the App!



[www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species](http://www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species)



**PRIMARY THREAT: Degrades forage and dominates beneficial plant communities.**

### DID YOU KNOW?

Annually, mouse-ear hawkweed can produce up to 40,000 seeds/m<sup>2</sup> and more than 6,500 rosettes/m<sup>2</sup>, with each flower head producing between 12 and 30 seeds.

### LOOK-ALIKES

Native and non-native yellow hawkweeds, especially whiplash hawkweed (*Hieracium flagellare*)



### DISTRIBUTION IN BC

BC confirmed sites are limited to the regions of the West Kootenay, Boundary and Metro Vancouver.



For more information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/invasive-species/plants>