



Squarrose Knapwood
Centaurea virgata



05-0116-11



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Squarrose Knapweed

(Centaurea virgata)

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act requires every landowner to **eradicate this weed** wherever it is found on his or her property. The Colorado Department of Transportation controls these weeds on its right-of-way.

Squarrose knapweed is a long-lived perennial that reaches 1 to 3 feet in height. Flowers are borne in singles or pairs at the tip of each branch. The flowers are rose to pink and usually the plant only produces 3 to 4 seeds per head. The flower heads appear more slender than other species of knapweeds. They are also smaller – less than 0.5 inch long.

For control, dig the entire taproot from the ground. Dispose of the plants properly, since seeds can mature and become viable after the plant has been dug out. More details about this species and herbicides to control it are available online at <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds>.

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