

# Discover the Flora of Our Campus

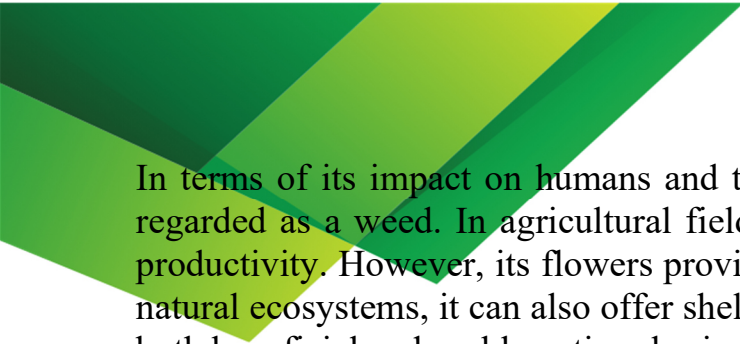
## Field bindweed(*Convolvulus arvensis*)

**Convolvulus arvensis**, commonly known as “**field bindweed**,” is a perennial wild plant that spreads by creeping and twining. Its stems are thin, flexible, and grow along the ground or wrap around other plants. The leaves are small, arrow- or spear-shaped, green, and smooth-edged. Its flowers are funnel-shaped (trumpet-like) and usually white or pale pink. Overall, the plant has a delicate appearance but is extremely hardy and fast-spreading.



This species does not have a strictly limited native range, but it is widely distributed across temperate regions of Europe and Asia. Today, it is a cosmopolitan weed found in many agricultural areas around the world. It grows easily in fields, gardens, cultivated lands, and along roadsides. In Azerbaijan as well, it is a common and widespread weed.

*Convolvulus arvensis* prefers sunny locations and develops actively in open areas. It is not very demanding regarding soil conditions, but it spreads more rapidly in loose, nutrient-rich soils. Thanks to its creeping and twining stems, it climbs over other plants and can dominate them. It has a deep root system, making it highly drought-tolerant and difficult to eliminate completely. It can reproduce both by seeds and through its root system within a single season.



In terms of its impact on humans and the environment, field bindweed is mainly regarded as a weed. In agricultural fields, it competes with crops and can reduce productivity. However, its flowers provide nectar for bees and other pollinators. In natural ecosystems, it can also offer shelter for small organisms. Therefore, it plays both beneficial and problematic roles in the environment.

Its uses are very limited, and it is mostly considered a wild plant rather than a cultivated one. While it has some traditional uses, in agriculture it is mainly treated as a weed that requires control. Due to its aggressive spreading ability, it often needs continuous management in gardens and farmland. It is more commonly studied in ecological and agricultural research.

Interestingly, *Convolvulus arvensis* has a very deep and extensive root system, allowing it to survive in soil for long periods and regrow even from small root fragments. Its climbing habit enables it to reach light by growing over other plants. For this reason, it is considered one of the most persistent and invasive wild bindweed species in the world.

