



Hairy willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*)



- Tall, bushy herb with softly hairy leaves and large purple flowers
- Habitats it invades:
 - Wetlands
 - Roadsides
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Prohibited/Restricted
 - Regulated in: OH





Hairy willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*)

Leaves opposite, simple

- 1.5-5" long, lance-shaped, without petioles
- Leaf margins toothed; leaf bases clasping the stem
- Stems and leaves softly hairy



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Hairy willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*)

Flower/fruit

- Flowers pink, with four petals
- Sepals, petals, and stamens fused into an elongated tube (hypanthium)
- Ovary inferior, long, and tube-shaped
- Fruit is a tube-shaped capsule with fluffy seeds



Hairy willowherb look alike



Hairy willow herb (*Epilobium hirsutum*) is most likely to be confused with fireweed (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*) (N).



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Bugwood.org

Hairy willow herb has pink to dark purple flowers with **4 notched petals**. Flowers in **clusters at leaf axils**. Leaves are **opposite, sharply toothed, and clasp the stem**.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Bugwood.org

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Katy Chayka, MinnesotaWildflowers.info

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Fireweed has pink to purplish 4-petaled flowers in a **terminal cluster at the top of the plant stalk**. Leaves are **alternate, mostly toothless**, somewhat wavy along the edges, with a **creamy white midrib**.