

## Why Bindweed Mites???

The bindweed mite, *Aceria mahlerbae*, was introduced into the US after extensive research in a quarantine facility. Host plant research showed that it feeds only on field bindweed and some closely related *Calystegia* species.

Bindweed mites can have a significant impact on the weed in many instances. They are a long-term, sustainable, inexpensive, environmentally friendly addition to our existing arsenal of management tools for this tenacious weed.

Bindweed mites do not establish well where there is any regular overhead irrigation. For example, bindweed mites are unlikely to damage bindweed that is growing in lawns. The best success with bindweed mites has occurred on non-irrigated sites, although sites with limited irrigation have been successfully colonized. Sprinkler irrigated sites have a lower success rate than furrow or drip irrigated sites.

For much more detail see

[http://wci.colostate.edu/shtml/bindweed\\_mite.shtml](http://wci.colostate.edu/shtml/bindweed_mite.shtml)