Plant: Blue Mustard (Chorispora tenella) This is NOT an Idaho State listed noxious weed.

Identification: This is an annual plant that grows very early in the spring. It germinates in fall and winter, and shoots up in spring reaching over a foot tall. Once matured, it produces purple flowers. Blue mustard has pea like pods that open up to expose seeds. Each plant can produce hundreds of seeds. These plants will generally grow in groups, and can carpet large open areas, rather than growing as individual plants. Blue mustard can also be toxic to livestock, especially horses.

Defense: Because it's an annual, mechanical control can be effective on Blue mustard. Early applications of 2,4-D can suppress this plant, with a follow up application of herbicides such as Escort XP or Telar XP, to finish them off. Outcompeting this weed with desirable perennial vegetation is key to long term results.

Always read and understand the label on any pesticide you are using. The label is the law.

