

## CHEATGRASS – WHY IT IS A PROBLEM – WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

### It is a problem because:

- It grows faster and seeds sooner than native plants.
- This allows it to take over an area and grow densely, becoming a continuous FUEL BED.
- It dries earlier than the native plants becoming TINDER FOR FIRES.
- It changes the fire dynamics of an area, making the fire season LONGER.

If it spreads down the Sabino Canyon drainage, it will bring fire right in to Summerhaven again.

### You can help by:

- Learning to identify the plant
- Eradicating it when you see it, either by pulling or spraying
- Reporting the location to [info@treesformountlemmon.net](mailto:info@treesformountlemmon.net) so we can monitor the spread



### **Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*)**

If you think you see cheatgrass on your property, please contact Trees for Mt. Lemmon. We will help you identify and eradicate it. We will have volunteer crews pulling cheatgrass in common areas and on private property when requested.

### **Characteristics of cheatgrass**

- ❖ 6 – 12” high
- ❖ “Nodding” seed head (bends over)
- ❖ Mostly stems and seeds, few leaves
- ❖ Turns purple when mature

### **Remember when eradicating:**

- Spray with chemicals only when green.
- Pull before the seeds dry and disperse.
- Pull gently; the plants usually come out easily.
- Immediately put plants in plastic bag and seal before disposal.