

leaves. Mature leaves are 15-20 cm (6-8 in) long and 5 to 9 cm (2 to 3.5 in) wide, with a prominent midvein. The underside of the leaf is frequently finely pubescent. The stem is stout, usually simple, and green to black (see below) in color. When broken, the leaves, as well as stem and fruit, exude milky latex. Flowers are purplish to very pink to mostly white or even greenish and about 2 cm (0.75 in) long and 1 cm (0.4 in) wide. They occur in semi-spherical umbels (umbrella like clusters) in the upper leaf axils. Flowers are somewhat complex in their structure, with structures not found in the average flower (see <http://www.kew.org/eng/seed/seed/seed.htm> or <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/diagnostic.pl>). The flowers are strongly and sweetly scented. The fruits (pods), known as bilicles, are formed from the union of multiple flowers. They are green, covered in soft silky projections and are finely pubescent. When the seeds are mature, the bilicle splits exposing the seeds. Each seed is equipped with a coma, a soft group of hairs. As the newly exposed seeds dry, the hairs of the coma expand allowing the seed to catch a

