

Wild buckwheat

Polygonum convolvulus L.

Life cycle

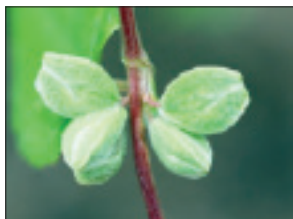
Twining summer annual vine.

Leaves

Cotyledons are oblong-oval to linear. Leaves are alternate, hairless and heart- to triangle-shaped with a pointed tip and smooth margins.

Wild buckwheat seedling.

Fruit of wild buckwheat.



Wild buckwheat plant.

Polygonaceae (Smartweed family)

Wild buckwheat *continued*

Stems

Twining, herbaceous, smooth vines branch at the base and are less than 3 feet long. A membranous sheath (ocrea) surrounds the stem at the base of each petiole.

Flowers and fruit

Flowers are inconspicuous and green to white or pink. The seed is enclosed in a single-seeded, dull black, three-sided fruit.

Reproduction

Seeds.

Wild buckwheat flowers.



Wild buckwheat leaf.

Similar weeds

Mile-a-minute (*P. perfoliatum* L.)

Differs by having downward-pointing prickles on the stems, petioles and leaf veins.

Tartary buckwheat

[*Fagopyrum tataricum* (L.) Gaertn.]

Differs by having a more erect habit, arrow-shaped leaves and a grooved, hollow stem.