

## Money plant

### *Lunaria annua*

#### Description

Introduced to North America as an ornamental.

#### Habit

Annual / Biennial, 2-3 1/2 ft tall, little branched.

#### Leaves

Up to 3 1/2 in long and 2 in across (excluding the petioles), lower leaves are oval-cordate or oval-deltoid, coarsely serrated or shallowly lobed, long hairy petioles, green or reddish purple in color; upper leaves are deltoid or ovate, smaller, coarsely serrated and sessile.

#### Stems

Green or reddish in color; scattered long white hairs.

#### Flowers

3/4 in across, 4 pinkish purple petals with branching veins, 4 oblong sepals that are pink or purple and appressed together, occasionally petals are pink or white, fade with age, 1/2 in





pedicel; fragrant.

### **Fruits and Seeds**

1-1 1/2 in long seedpod, flattened, orbicular to oblong, slender stripe adjoining the pedicel, reticulated outer surface, few seeds, reniform-orbicular seeds with narrow papery margin.

### **Habitat**

Native to Europe. Found in edges of woodlands, hedges, and flower gardens in semi-shaded areas.

### **Reproduction**

By seed.

### **Similar**

Dame's Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Difficult to eradicate once established; hand-pulling and digging up root system may be effective.

### **Credits**

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