

Bladder campion

Silene vulgaris

Description

Introduced to North America as an ornamental.

Habit

Short-lived perennial, glabrous, rarely pubescent, glaucous, taproot is fleshy & stout, caudex woody, 8-24 in tall, thick lateral roots.

Leaves

Mainly cauline, 2 per node, sessile, almost clasping, reduced proximal to inflorescence, blade broadly oblong to oblanceolate or lanceolate, rarely linear, 2-8 cm by 5-30 mm, round base, apex acute to acuminate.

Stems

Several-many; erect; branched and decumbent at base; rarely simple; 20-80 cm.

Flowers

White in color, bisexual and unisexual, 15-20 mm diameter, margins dentate, lobes broadly triangular. Calyx is pale green to dull pink in





color.

Fruits and Seeds

Seeds are black, globose-reniform, 1-1.5 mm, finely tuberculate.

Habitat

Native to Africa, Asia and Europe.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

Nightflowering silene (*Silene noctiflora*); Evening campion (*Silene nivea*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand-pulling for small infestations, making sure all fragments are removed; effectively controlled using any of the several readily available general use herbicides.

Credits

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