

Asiatic dayflower

Commelina communis

Description

Plant gets its name from its' flowers only bloom for one day.

Habit

Erect to spreading summer annual.

Leaves

Alternate, oblong to lance-shaped, 2-4 in. long, gradually tapering to a point, parallel veins, smooth margins. Clasp the stem and forming conspicuous basal sheaths.

Stems

Erect to prostrate, spreading, numerous branched, rooting at the nodes; thick, fleshy and swollen at nodes.

Flowers

Attractive, each flower consists of two large, bright blue petals at the top and a single, small, white petal below. Green, leaflike bract.

Occurring at the ends of long flower stalks. Open



only for one day.

Fruits and Seeds

Two-celled capsules containing brown to reddish, wrinkled seeds.

Habitat

Native to Asia. Can be found growing in moist, shady forest edges, wet crop fields, orchards, ditches and roadsides.

Reproduction

Primarily by seed but can reproduce vegetatively during the summer months.

Similar

Native slender dayflower (*Commelina erecta*).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Poorly controlled by glyphosate. Many commonly used herbicides did not show much success with controlling this species.

Credits

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