

## Convolvulaceae

### morning-glory family

Nearly worldwide, this family includes about 1500 species. Ours are vining or twining herbaceous species with simple alternate leaves. Flowers are perfect, large and showy. The corollas are sympetalous and both calyx and corolla are five-merous. Stamens are equal in number to the corolla lobes and alternating with them. Sepals present and distinct, sometimes subtended by a pair of bracts, forming an involucre. Fruits are capsules. Several species are cultivated as ornamentals.

#### Key to genera

Involucral bracts small or vestigial, inserted well beneath the calyx; corolla <2.5cm long. *Convolvulus*

Involucral bracts leafy, inserted just beneath the calyx, sometimes concealing it; corolla >5cm long. *Calystegia*

### ***Calystegia* R. Br.**

Showy perennials, they spread by rhizomes. clinging and vining over adjacent plants. Large leafy bracts subtend the calyx. The flowers are solitary, ranging from white to pink.

### ***Calystegia sepium* (L.) R. Br.**

**Hedge Bindweed; Wild Morning-glory; liseron des haies d'Amérique**



Photo by David Mazerolle

Leaves are sagittate, separating it from most other vines. The large flared flowers are 5–8cm long and showy. Separated more readily from the following genus on leaf characters. The sinus is more widely pronounced and leaves more sharply acute at the distal tip. Ours is ssp. *americana* (Simms) Brummitt.

Flowers July and August.



Photo by Martin Thomas

Coastal; waste places, roadsides and neighbouring fields.

Common throughout.

Ranges from NF to BC, south to the Gulf of Mexico in the east.

## ***Convolvulus* L. field bindweed**

Including over 200 species, this genus is primarily Eurasian. Flowers are five-merous in the calyx and corolla, which is funnelform, with the stamens inserted. A pair of bracts is positioned distinctly below the calyx and nearly vestigial. Leaves are oblong to cordate with a deep narrow sinus. Flowers may be pink or white, solitary or in racemes.

### ***Convolvulus arvensis* L.**

#### **Creeping Jenny; Field Bindweed; liseron des champs**



Photo by Sean Blaney

A vine with sagittate leaves, more oblong than the previously described genus. Flowers are smaller and less flared.

Flowers from June to September.

Frequents roadsides and fields.

Infrequently found: Annapolis Valley, Lunenburg; Windsor, Truro and Sydney. Less aggressive here than elsewhere.

Found throughout North America after its introduction.

A recent report of *Calystegia spithamea* remains to be substantiated.