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Asclepias quadrifolia

FOUR-LEAVED MILKWEED is a perennial. Native to eastern North America it has small, fragrant pale pink to ivory flowers.

It is also known as Fourleaf milkweed, and Four-leaved swallow-wort.

Quadrifolia is derived from Latin *quattuor* (four) and *-folia* (leaved) meaning 'four-leaved'.

The North American Cherokee Indians made bow strings out of the plant fibre.

From records it seems that four-leaved milkweed had little medicinal value for North American Indian tribes generally, although the Cherokee appear to have used it to treat fluid retention and some venereal disease. They also included it as an ingredient in a remedy for backache and used it to remove warts.