

Euphorbia corollata

[Synonyms : *Euphorbia corollata* var. *angustifolia*, *Euphorbia marilandica*, *Tithymalopsis corollata*, *Tithymalopsis marilandica*, *Tithymalopsis olivacea*, *Tithymalus marinus*]

FLOWERING SPURGE is a perennial. Found in eastern North America it has white, petal-like leaves (bracts) surrounding minute flowers.

It is also known as Apple root, Blooming spurge, Boiling spurge, Bowman's root, Emetic root, Garden spurge, Go-quick, Hippo, Indian physic, Ipecac, Ipecacuanha, Large flowering spurge, Milk ipecac, Milk purslain, Milk purslane, Milk pusley, Milkweed, Peheca, Persley, Picac, Picac appleroot, Purge root, Purging root, Smoke's milk, Snake milk, Spurge, Tramp's purge, Tramp's spurge, Wandering milkweed, White purslane, White pursley, White spurge, Wild hippo, Wild ipecac, and Wild spurge.

Warning – internal use is potentially dangerous as the sap can cause oral burning and irritation, as well as inflammation of the throat and stomach. It should only be taken internally under the supervision of a qualified practitioner. The irritant milky sap can cause dermatitis.

Corollata means 'with a corolla, ie petals'.

The plant provided medicine for several North American Indian tribes including some of the Chippewa Indians. It was used to treat worms and rheumatism by the Meskwaki tribe, and the Micmac Indians employed it when it was necessary to cause vomiting. For the Cherokee the plant offered a purgative, and it was also used to treat some female problems, urinary disorders, venereal diseases and various skin ailments (particularly on children). In addition it was used by them as an ingredient in treatment for cancer.

Medicinally, the root has been used by local herbalists for a purgative, and as a treatment for fluid retention.