

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Medeola virginiana

CUCUMBER ROOT is a perennial. Native to eastern North America it has small greenish-yellow flowers with reddish-brown stamens.

It is also known as Cushat lily, Indian cucumber, and Indian cucumber root.

Virginiana means 'of or from Virginia (United States)' which itself was named after the English 'Virgin Queen' Elizabeth I (1533-1603).

Local North American Indian tribes included the tuberous underground stems in their diet.

Iroquois Indians baited their fish-hooks with chewed root as they thought this would lure the fish.

The plant also provided medicine that the Iroquois tribe believed was gentle enough to give a baby suffering convulsions.