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*Melanthium virginicum*

[Synonyms : *Helonias virginica*, *Leimanthum virginicum*, *Melanthium dispersum*, *Veratrum virginicum*, *Zigadenus virginicum*]

**BUNCHFLOWER** is a perennial. Native to eastern North America it has small greenish-white (maturing to blackish-brown) flowers.

It is also known as Blackflower, Bunchlily, Quaffidilla, and Quaffodil.

Warning – the leaves and seeds can be extremely poisonous for cattle, sheep and horses.

Symptoms include lack of appetite, laboured breathing, muscular weakness, variable heartbeat, stupor and death.

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

In the past the root has been used as a poison for crows and flies.