

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Apocynaceae

9 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

Taxa included in the checklist:

- Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563-603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55-70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with **gray type**.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

Please note: This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on April 2nd, 2026 at 7:18am PT.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

David Giblin (dgiblin@uw.edu)

Peter Zika (zikap941@gmail.com)

Suggested citation:

Weinmann, F., P.F. Zika, D.E. Giblin, B. Legler. 2002+. Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State. University of Washington Herbarium. <https://www.burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>. Accessed Apr 2, 2026.

Dicots:

Apocynaceae [HC, HC2] Dogbane Family

Synonyms:

Asclepiadaceae [HC] (Milkweed Family)

Apocynum [HC, HC2]

dogbane

Apocynum androsaemifolium L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 213. 1753.

flytrap dogbane, spreading dogbane

Apocynum ambigenens Greene

Apocynum androsaemifolium L. ssp. *pumilum* (A. Gray) B. Boivin

Apocynum androsaemifolium L. var. *androsaemifolium* [HC]

Apocynum androsaemifolium L. var. *pumilum* A. Gray [HC]

Apocynum cannabinum L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 213. 1753.

clasping-leaved dogbane, common dogbane, hemp dogbane

Apocynum cannabinum L. var. *glaberrimum* A. DC. [HC]

Apocynum cannabinum L. var. *suksdorfii* (Greene) Bég. & Beloserky [HC]

Apocynum sibiricum Jacq. [HC]

Apocynum sibiricum Jacq. var. *salignum* (Greene) Fernald [HC]

Apocynum xfloribundum Greene [HC2, IMF]

Erythea 1(7): 151. 1893.

western dogbane

Apocynum medium Greene [HC, KZ99]

Asclepias [HC, HC2]

milkweed

Asclepias cryptoceras S. Watson [HC, HC2]

Botany Fortieth Parallel 283, pl. 28, f. 1-4. 1871.

Humboldt milkweed, pallid milkweed

Asclepias cryptoceras S. Watson ssp. *davisii* (Woodson) Woodson [KZ99]

Asclepias cryptoceras S. Watson var. *davisii* (Woodson) W.H. Baker

Asclepias davisii Woodson

Asclepias fascicularis Decne. [HC, HC2]

Prodr. 8: 569. 1844.

Mexican whorled milkweed, narrow-leaf milkweed

Asclepias incarnata L. [Draft FNA]

Sp. Pl. 1: 215. 1753.

swamp milkweed

Recently (2017) documented from Okanogan County.

Asclepias speciosa Torr. [HC, HC2]

Ann. Lyceum Nat. Hist. New York 2: 218-219. 1827.

showy milkweed

Asclepias giffordii Eastw.

**Vinca* [HC, HC2]

periwinkle

**Vinca major* L. [HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 1: 209. 1753.
greater periwinkle

**Vinca minor* L. [HC2]
Sp. Pl. 1: 209. 1753.
lesser periwinkle

Asclepiadaceae: see Apocynaceae