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## Wild buckwheat

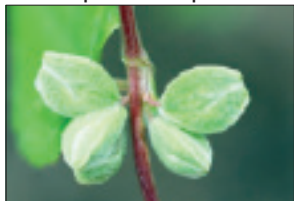
*Polygonum convolvulus* L.

### Life cycle

Twining summer annual vine.

### Leaves

Cotyledons are oblong-oval to linear. Leaves are alternate, hairless and heart- to triangle-shaped with a pointed tip and smooth margins.



Fruit of wild buckwheat.



Wild buckwheat seedling.



Wild buckwheat plant.

**Polygonaceae (Smartweed family)**

## Wild buckwheat *continued*

### Stems

Twining, herbaceous, smooth vines branch at the base and are less than 3 feet long. A membranous sheath (ocrea) surrounds the stem at the base of each petiole.

### Flowers and fruit

Flowers are inconspicuous and green to white or pink. The seed is enclosed in a single-seeded, dull black, three-sided fruit.

### Reproduction

Seeds.



Wild buckwheat flowers.



Wild  
buckwheat  
leaf.

### Similar weeds

#### **Mile-a-minute** (*P. perfoliatum* L.)

Differs by having downward-pointing prickles on the stems, petioles and leaf veins.

#### **Tartary buckwheat**

[*Fagopyrum tataricum* (L.) Gaertn.]

Differs by having a more erect habit, arrow-shaped leaves and a grooved, hollow stem.