

VIOLACEAE – VIOLET FAMILY

Plant: small herbs, sometimes woody plants or vines in tropics

Stem:

Root:

Leaves: simple, entire or toothed or lobed, alternate, rarely opposite or whorled; with stipules

Flowers: mostly perfect, strongly irregular (zygomorphic); 5 sepals, persistent; 5 petals, in violets the lowest is usually wider, heavily veined, and extends back into a spur (or not), lateral petals often bearded; 5 stamens loosely united; ovary superior, 2-5 carpels, 1 style though often modified

Fruit: berry or capsule or rarely a nut, fleshy or not

Other: mostly tropical, our species mostly violets; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 21+ genera; *locally Hybanthus* (green violet), *Viola* (violet)

Flower Morphology in the Violaceae (Violet Family)

5-petaled flower, usually with
a spur

Caulесcent - flower on a leafy
stem (stemmed)

Acaulescent - flower on **Scape**
(flowering stem without leaves -
stemless)



Birdfoot Violet



Field Pansy [Johnny-Jump-Up]



Long-Spurred Violet



Sweet White Violet



Common [Wolly] Blue Violet



Green Violet



[Downy] Yellow Violet



Striped [Cream] White Violet

VIOLACEAE – VIOLET FAMILY

- Eastern Green Violet; *Hybanthus concolor* (T.F. Forst.) Spreng.
Field Pansy [Johnny- Jump-Up] ; *Viola bicolor* Pursh.
Sweet White Violet; *Viola blanda* Willd.
Canadian White Violet; *Viola canadensis* L. var. *canadensis*
[Alpine Violet] Dog Violet; *Viola labradorica* Schrank [*Viola conspersa* Reichenb.]
Bog White Violet; *Viola lanceolata* L. ssp. *Vittata* (Greene) N.H. Russell
Missouri Violet; *Viola missouriensis* Greene
Birdfoot Violet; *Viola pedata* L.
[Downy] Yellow Violet; *Viola Pubescens* Ait.
Long-Spurred Violet; *Viola rostrata* Pursh
Arrow-Leaved Violet; *Viola Sagittata* Ait.
Common [Wolly] Blue Violet; *Viola Sororia* Willd.
Striped [Cream, White] Violet; *Viola striata* Ait.
Three Lobed Violet; *Viola triloba* Schwein. var. *triloba*

Eastern Green Violet

Hybanthus concolor (T.F. Forst.)

Spreng.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Whipple (R.A.) State Nature Preserve, Adams
County, Ohio

Notes: 5-petaled small flower, green to greenish
white, 1 to 3+ flowers on short pedicles from leaf
axils; leaves elliptical to somewhat lanceolate, long
pointed, some times with small teeth; stem very
hairy; woods; spring.

[V Max Brown, 2009]



Field Pansy [Johnny-Jump-Up]

Viola bicolor Pursh.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Sam A. Baker State Park, Wayne County, Missouri

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled small flower, light to medium blue to white with yellow base, sepals shorter than petals; stipules deeply divided and look like leaves but without sharp teeth; plant small and common; spring.

[V Max Brown, 2006]



Sweet White Violet

Viola blanda Willd.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Oak Openings Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled flower, usually white, no beard, upper 2 petals swept back or twisted; leaf ovate to reniform but base is cordate, with fine teeth, mostly glabrous, larger leaves 4cm+; often a red-tinge to leaf and flower stalks; spring

[V Max Brown, 2006]



Canadian White Violet

Viola canadensis L. var. *canadensis*

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Whipple (R.A.) State Nature Preserve, Adams County, Ohio

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled flower, white with a distinctive center of yellow, lateral petals bearded, the backs of petals usually tinted with violet to reddish violet, older flowers even more so; leaves cordate, long pointed, with fine teeth; woods; spring to early summer to early fall.

[V Max Brown, 2009]



[Alpine Violet] Dog Violet

Viola labradorica Schrank [*Viola conspersa* Reichenb.]

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Pokagon State Park, Steuben County, Indiana

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled flower, light blue-violet, spur about 0.5cm, lateral petals bearded, stipules lanceolate with teeth especially outer edge; leaves ovate to reniform with cordate base; stem and leaves mostly glabrous; plant mostly erect; spring

[V Max Brown, 2007]



Bog White Violet

Viola lanceolata L. ssp. *Vittata*
(Greene) N.H. Russell

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve, Levy County, Florida

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled solitary flower,
usually white, no beard, upper 2 petals swept back or
twisted, lower petal with purple veins; leaf variable
but mostly lanceolate, early leaves small, later leaves
up to 6 in or more, often with fine teeth; fruit a
capsule; winter to spring

[V Max Brown, 2011]



Missouri Violet
Viola missouriensis Greene
Violaceae (Violet Family)
Cherokee Prairie Natural Area,
Franklin County, Arkansas
Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled flower,
blue-violet to lavender, lateral petals
bearded, pedicels mostly glabrous, flower
often above leaves; leaves deltoid, much
longer (2-3X) than wide, crenate margins,
base truncate to somewhat cordate,
mostly glabrous; spring to fall
[V Max Brown, 2012]



Birdfoot Violet

Viola pedata L.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Oak Openings Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled flower, usually somewhat lighter in color than many blue violets, rarely white but dark banners may occur, no beard, tips of orange stamens show; leaves deeply lobed into 5-7 segments, lobes linear, usually divided again with rounded tips; usually found in sandy soils; spring to summer

[V Max Brown, 2006]



[Downy] Yellow Violet

Viola Pubescens Ait.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled flower, yellow with purple-brown veins on base and side petals, bearded; leaves ovate to triangular and hairy, especially on leaf margin and on veins on underside, stipules with fine teeth; spring to early summer (several varieties)

[V Max Brown, 2004]



Long-Spurred Violet

Viola rostrata Pursh

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Goll Woods State Nature Preserve, Fulton
County, Ohio

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled flower, light blue
to red-blue to white, upper petals swept back, long
spur extends back and usually curves upward,
lateral petals without beards, stipules present,
sharply toothed; leaves ovate, slightly toothed;
woods; late spring to early summer

[V Max Brown, 2004]



Arrow-Leaved Violet

Viola Sagittata Ait.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Kitty Todd Nature Preserve, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled spurred flower, blue to purple-violet with white center, lateral petals bearded, peduncles glabrous; leaves lanceolate with basal lobes (sometimes hastate or arrow-head shaped), usually finely toothed (rounded) above, early leaves may lack lobes, glabrous to hairy on either side; spring to early summer

[V Max Brown, 2006]



Common [Wolly] Blue Violet

Viola Sororia Willd.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled flower, blue-violet to red-violet to white, lateral petals bearded, pedicels usually hairy; leaves ovate to reniform, base cordate, often broader than long; glabrous or hairy, rounded teeth; common and hybridizes, often difficult to ID varieties; spring to fall

[V Max Brown, 2004]



Striped [Cream] White Violet



Viola striata Ait.

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: plant caulescent; 5-petaled flower, white with brown-black-purple stripes mostly on base petal but petals not tinged blue, stipules lanceolate and well toothed; leaves ovate, base cordate, often longer than broad, mostly glabrous; spring to fall

[V Max Brown, 2005]



Three Lobed Violet

Viola triloba Schwein. var. *triloba*

Violaceae (Violet Family)

Shawnee State Forest, Scioto County, Ohio

Notes: plant acaulescent; 5-petaled flower, blue to violet to white or some combination of these, lateral petals bearded; leaves quite variable – often three-lobed with the middle lobe the widest, in some plants the 2 basal lobes are again three-lobed, simple cordate leaves may also be found; woods; spring

[V Max Brown, 2009]

