

Ipomoea purpurea

Ipomoea purpurea, the common morning-glory,[2] tall morning-glory,[3] or purple morning glory, is a species in the genus *Ipomoea*, native to Mexico[4] and Central America.

Like all morning glories, the plant entwines itself around structures, growing to a height of 2–3 m (6 ft 7 in – 9 ft 10 in) tall. The leaves are heart-shaped and the stems are covered with brown hairs. The flowers are trumpet-shaped, predominantly blue to purple or white, and 3–6 cm (1.2–2.4 in) in diameter.[5]

The plant is predisposed to moist and rich soil, but can be found growing in a wide array of soil types.[6] It is naturalized throughout warm temperate and subtropical regions of the world. Although it is often considered a noxious weed, *I. purpurea* is also grown for its attractive purple and white flowers, and has many cultivars. Common cultivars include *I. purpurea* 'Crimson Rambler' (red-violet blossoms with white throats), 'Grandpa Ott's', 'Kniola's Black Knight', 'Star of Yelta' (blossoms in varying shades of deep purple with white or pale pink throats), and 'Milky Way' (white corolla with mauve accents).

The triangular seeds have some history of use as a psychedelic; they, like *I. tricolor*, may contain LSA.[6] Effects are reported to be somewhat similar to those of LSD.[7]

Acylated cyanidin glycosides can be isolated from violet-blue flowers of *I. purpurea*. These anthocyanins were all based on cyanidin 3-sophoroside-5-glucoside, acylated with caffeic acid and/or p-coumaric acid.[8]

Acylated pelargonidin glycosides can be isolated from the red-purple flowers of *I. purpurea*. The acylated anthocyanins were all based on pelargonidin 3-sophoroside-5-glucoside, acylated with caffeic acid and/or glucosylcaffeic acid.[9]

Commercial morning glory seeds are commonly treated with toxic methylmercury, which serves as a preservative and a cumulative neurotoxic poison that is considered useful by some to discourage their recreational use. The US has no legal requirement to disclose to buyers that seeds have been treated with a toxic heavy metal compound.[10] According to the book *Substances of Abuse*, in addition to methylmercury, the seeds are commonly coated with a chemical[which?] that cannot be removed with washing that is designed to cause unpleasant physical symptoms, such as nausea and abdominal pain. The book states that this chemical is also toxic.[11]

Light blue *I. purpurea*

Pink *I. purpurea*

Pink *I. purpurea* close-up

I. purpurea in Loganville, Georgia

Pink *I. purpurea*

Purple *I. purpurea* close-up

Purple *I. purpurea* close-up

Scanning electron micrograph of *I. purpurea* pollen

Violet-blue *I. purpurea*

