

Neogaerrhinum Rothm. TWINING SNAPDRAGON

Neogaerrhinum strictum (Hooker & Arnott) Rothm., KELLOGG'S TWINING SNAPDRAGON. Annual, twining via pedicels, taprooted, branching from lower stem and later from upper stem, ascending, 50–90 cm tall; shoots typically glabrate. **Stems:** cylindric, to 3 mm diameter, brittle, often purplish, sparsely villous on the lowermost internodes, glabrous or nearly so on upper internodes. **Leaves:** opposite decussate (lower nodes) and helically alternate above, simple, short-petiolate, without stipules; petiole 2–6 mm long, when young sparsely hairy; blade lanceolate, 20–45 × 6–7.5 mm, broadly tapered at base, entire, acute with a discrete pink to purple conic point at tip, pinnately veined with midrib sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, lower surface sometimes purplish and sparsely hairy. **Inflorescence:** raceme, terminal (axillary), length almost equal to plant height, many-flowered, bracteate, glabrous or sparsely capitate glandular-hairy on the youngest growth; axis with internodes 30–70 mm long; bractlet subtending pedicel leaflike, linear to linear-lanceolate, 6–30 × 0.7–4 mm, with pink conic tips; pedicel slender, 30–60(–90) mm, tendrilar, often sigmoidal with upper curve tightly U-shaped especially in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, 9–11 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, ± bilateral, barely fused at base, at anthesis ± 4.5 mm long increasing to 6 mm long in fruit, 5-ribbed, glabrous or sparsely glandular-hairy; tube ± 0.5 mm long; lobes barely overlapping, ± equal, narrowly lanceolate, typically purplish at tips and on margins, somewhat fleshy; **corolla** 2-lipped, 5-lobed, 10–14 mm long; tube + throat compressed side-to-side, 5–7 mm long, yellowish white changing suddenly to deep blue-purple at base with many darker parallel veins, the base truncate and distended on lower surface but lacking a saclike extension, the floor inflexed sharply upward to the palate formed by the lower lip, internally on floor sparsely glandular-hairy; palate white with purple, netlike veins at mouth and linear veins toward the tip, bearded, the beard with dense, white, club-shaped hairs and peripherally with some capitate-glandular hairs; lips deep blue-purple (lavender) with conspicuous, darker veins especially on the upper lip; upper lip ± erect and spreading and 2-lobed, lower lip 3-lobed, lobes rounded, ca. 3 × 3 mm, purple; **stamens** 4, lacking staminode, fused to base of corolla tube, dimorphic with the longer 2 stamens on lower side; filaments ± 7 mm long and fused to corolla for 1 mm (long stamens) and 4–5 mm long and fused to corolla for 2 mm (short stamens), lavender and purple grading to white approaching tip, twisted or not, flattened and dilated toward the tip, densely white-hairy at base, the short filaments ± sharply bent and with white papillate-hirsute hairs at base; anthers positioned at the palate, ± fused or free, dorsifixed, dithecal, plump and broadly V-shaped, < 1 mm long, with 2 ends facing downward, grayish purple, dehiscing by 1 or 2 terminal pores; pollen creamy yellow or yellow; **pistil** 1, 4.5–6.5 mm long; ovary superior, spheroid, 1.5–2 mm, glabrous or sparsely glandular-hairy, 2-chambered, each chamber with numerous ovules attached to center; style straight, 4–4.5 mm long, purplish to wine red, with minute projections along most of length; stigma touching anthers. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, dehiscent by 2 slits at tip and separating from vertical septum, many-seeded, grape-shaped, 4–6.5 × 3–4(–5.5) mm, often with persistent beak (style), before drying tinged purplish on upper 1/3, with the lower chamber larger. **Seed:** blunt-conic, 0.6–0.7 mm long, brown, minutely bumpy (tuberculate) over most faces. Late January–late May.

Native. A climbing annual occasionally encountered on open slopes or growing up through shrubs. *Neogaerrhinum strictum* usually has been called *Antirrhinum kelloggii*. It may be a free-standing plant, but more commonly is found with pedicels looped around neighboring plant shoots for support. The brilliantly colored flowers appear blue due to reflectance in natural light, but under artificial illumination the blue disappears because there is no blue pigment in this plant.

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