

Nicotiana L. TOBACCO

Nicotiana acuminata (Graham) Hooker var. *multiflora* (Phil.) Reiche, MANYFLOWER TOBACCO. Annual, robust, taprooted, 1-stemmed at base, branches ascending and flower-bearing branches forming from the canopy downward, erect, in range 50–130 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves, densely glandular-hairy on all surfaces, the hairs stalked with yellow-green to transparent, fusiform or ovoid heads, viscid and extremely ill-smelling. **Stems:** ± cylindric or inconspicuously ridged, to 10 mm diameter, the glandular hairs erect, 0.5–1 mm long. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate (basal and cauline leaves), without stipules; petiole ± hemi-cylindric, to 130 mm long at base gradually reduced to 2 mm below inflorescence, never winged; blade of basal leaves narrow to broadly ovate, 100–230 × 50–110 mm, dull, truncate to broadly tapered and commonly oblique at base, entire and wavy on margins, acuminate at tip, of cauline leaves narrowly ovate to lanceolate, reduced upward to 60 × 10 mm and grading into bracts, broadly tapered at base, long-acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins conspicuously raised on lower surface. **Inflorescence:** panicle, terminal, open, densely glandular like cauline leaves; bract subtending each branch with > 1 flower, leaflike, linear-lanceolate to linear, to 60 × 8 mm reduced upward and becoming linear and sessile; bractlet subtending pedicel absent; pedicel cylindric, 8–10 mm long increasing 2× in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 13–27 mm across, opening around dusk (vespertine), sweetly scented; **calyx** 5-lobed, 11.5–14.5 × 4.3–4.7 mm, densely glandular-hairy; tube 5–7 mm long, herbaceous in basal 1–1.5 mm, membranous and translucent between green lobes for remainder of length, wider in fruit by the expansion of membranes; lobes unequal, narrowly triangular, ≥ tube length, with raised, dark green midvein extending to base of calyx, narrowly membranous on basal 1/3–1/2 of margins; **corolla** 5-lobed, trumpet-shaped (salverform), lobes strongly twisted in bud; tube cylindric, in range (30–)40–50 mm long, ca. 2.3 mm diameter at base and 4.5–5 mm diameter at orifice, greenish white, faintly 15-veined, densely glandular-pubescent from above calyx and sparsely so at base, the hairs with reduced heads; limb pleated, 6–11 mm long, externally densely glandular-pubescent, the lobes broad and short, rounded, ± at midpoint of limb, 8–10 mm wide, white, 3-veined at base, midvein conspicuous and dark green on lower surface and visible but less conspicuous on upper surface, other veins light green on lower surface and very faint on upper surface; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube at ± same level 9–18 mm above base, included, dimorphic with 4 long and 1 short, the longer ones with anthers just below orifice, the shorter stamen 2–3 mm shorter; filaments straight but sometimes hooked at tip, slender, cylindric, 20–26 mm long, very pale green, with scattered hairs at base; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 2 mm long, greenish aging brownish orange, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen whitish; **nectary disc** surrounding base of ovary, ringlike, 0.5–0.6 mm long, light orange, producing copious nectar; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid, ca. 3 × 2 mm, greenish, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with > 200 ovules attached to center; style cylindric, 40–42 × 0.3–0.4 mm, pale green, glabrous; stigma 2-lobed, ± 1.2 mm broad, greenish, densely papillate-hairy, initially projected above anthers, eventually at same level as anthers. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 4 ovate, terminal valves, many-seeded, ovoid, 10–12 mm long, light brown. **Seed:** ± wedge-shaped, 0.6–0.7 mm long, hard, brown, frosted; seed coat with network of sinusoidal ridges. Mid-May–late June.

Naturalized. An extremely viscid annual in range discovered (2005) in a small population of seventeen plants behind a water catchment barricade near Seminole Hot Springs (SMM). *Nicotiana acuminata* var. *multiflora* is a South American species that has attractive, sweetly scented, tubular flowers, but like other tobacco species, its leaves produce a strong, disagreeable odor. Cauline leaves of this species have well-defined petioles.

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