

# Swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum* spp.)

## Flower

Comparing the flowers of black swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum nigrum*) and pale swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum rossicum*) is the best way to tell apart the two species. The leaves and stems of each species are very similar to one another.

Both species have small clusters of five-petaled flowers with a domed structure in the middle. They resemble tiny milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) flowers.



# Swallowwort look alike

Swallowworts somewhat resemble **native** milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) because their flowers are similar. However, milkweeds are **upright plants that never twine**, and they bear their flowers in large, usually rounded clusters. Most milkweed species have **milky sap**.



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