



Perennial wetland bulbous herb forming clumps, stems 30–60 cm high, compressed, narrowly double-winged. Umbel with 2–7 white flowers each with green patch near the apex.

Distribution and ecology

European southern-temperate element. On the northern spread, it reaches CZ and SK, native also in CH, AT, HU, introduced in DE, absent in PL. Native mostly in winter-flooded riverside *Alnus* or *Salix* carrs on alluvial soils with high nitrogen levels. Pollen limitation of reproduction in low-density populations. Optimal germination temperature 20–25 °C. Endangered due to destruction or alteration of its habitats and the harvesting of its bulbs for medical purposes (alkaloids).

Anatomy

Biangular oval flower stalk with a diameter of 2–3 mm (1).

The flower stalk consists of a parenchymatic tissue with angular intercellulars and some vascular bundles (1). Below the epidermis, a layer of palisade-like cells occurs (4).

Vascular bundles contain a few large air ducts, a few vessels (2, 3) and a phloem with a distinct separation of sieve tubes and companion cells (2). The external wall of the epidermis is unignified and thick-walled (4). The parenchymatic tissue contains a few very long styloids (5).

