

## *Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.



**Habit:** Climbing herb

**Description:** Leaves alternate, bi-ternate; leaflets 2-4 x 1-2.5 cm, ovate-lanceolate, deeply dentate or lobed, apex acute to acuminate, membranous; petiole to 3 cm long. Flowers white, polygamous in 3-7-flowered axillary tendril-bearing peduncles; peduncle up to 5 cm long. Sepals 4, in 2-pairs, outer pair smaller. Petals 4, white, unequal, with basal scales. Stamens 8; filaments unequal, pilose. Ovary 3-locular; ovule 1-per locule; stigma 3-fid. Capsule papery, inflated, 3-lobed, winged. Seeds one in each chamber, black with a white eye.

**Taxonomy:**

<b>Kingdom</b>	Plantae
<b>Division</b>	Tracheophyta
<b>Class</b>	Magnoliopsida
<b>Order</b>	Sapindales
<b>Family</b>	Sapindaceae
<b>Genus</b>	Cardiospermum
<b>Species</b>	<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i> L.

**Uses:** Works as diaphoretic, diuretic, emetic, laxative, refrigerant, stomachic and sudorific and has antibacterial, anti-diarrheal, antioxidant activities, suppresses TNF production, exhibits anticancer, vaso- depressant effect, rheumatism, severe bronchitis, snakebite

**Reference:** Indian Biodiversity Portal, NCBI