

ASCLEPIAS INCARNATA.

Swamp Silk-weed.

Stem somewhat corymbosely branched above, more or less pubescent; leaves oblong—lanceolate, pubescent, on short petioles; umbels numerous, erect, mostly in pairs and terminal; lobes of the crown oblong, scarcely exceeding the stigma, not toothed; horn subulate, exserted.—*Linn. sp. 1. p. 215; Michx. fl. 1. p. 115; Pursh. fl. 1, p. 181; Ell. sk. 1, p. 320; Bot. reg. t. 250; Torr. fl. 1, p. 281; Beek. bot. p. 235; Darlingt. fl. cest. p. 172; Hook. fl. Bor.-Am. 2. p. 53; Decaisne in D. C. prodr. 8. p. 567; A. pulchra, Ehrh.; Willd. sp. 1. p. 1207; Bigel. fl. Bost. p. 163; Sweet, Brit. fl. gard. (Ser. 2.) t. 18.*

Stem 2-4 feet high, with erect branches, either nearly smooth (except two pubescent lines), or hairy—tomentose. Leaves 3-6 inches long, smoothish above, more or less pubescent (sometimes woolly) underneath, very acute; the base obtuse or somewhat cordate: petioles 3-5 lines long, umbels on hairy peduncles: pedicels three-fourths of an inch long. Flowers half as large as in *A. Cornuti*. Corolla bright purple (or sometimes pale); the lobes lanceolate. Lobes of the crown truncated obliquely inward: horns erect, slightly curved. Tube of the stamens contracted into a slender neck under the crown. Follicles linear—lanceolate, acuminate, pubescent.

Low grounds, particularly on the borders of brackish marshes, but not confined to the sea-board; common, July–August. This is the most abundant species next to *A. Cornuti*. It affords but little milky juice when wounded. (*Torrey Nat. Hist. of New York*).

It is sometimes employed in domestic practice, and is considered anodyne, and diaphoretic.

The hoods of the crown in this plant are of a flesh color, hence its specific name—*incarnata*. Like *A. Cornuti*, it is an herbaceous perennial, growing naturally in rich moist ground, and on low banks of streams.

Robert Bell, Esq., of Carleton Place, has successfully tested its adaptation to cultivation on dry ground. The plants, from seed sown in spring, grew most luxuriantly, flowering, and coming to maturity the second year. When about half grown, Mr. Bell observed large numbers of caterpillars of the *Archippus* butterfly (*Danaus Archippus*) making their appearance, and destroying some of the plants. This caterpillar lives on the common milk-weed in June and July, as does also the leaf beetle, called *Chrysomela trimaculata*, from the middle of June till September. A little party-colored hairy caterpillar belonging to the genus *Aretia*,