

Vascular Plants of Williamson County
Callirhoe pedata – FINGER POPPYMALLOW [Malvaceae]

Callirhoe pedata (Hooker) A. Gray, FINGER POPPYMALLOW. Perennial herb, with storage taproot, rosetted, several-stemmed at base, with ascending to spreading branches, in range to 50 cm tall; shoots with to 5 basal leaves and < 5 cauline leaves, sparsely hairy mostly with unbranched hairs to 2 mm long; taproot of large plant sometimes 15+ mm diameter. **Stems:** initially inconspicuously low-ridged aging cylindric, to 4 mm diameter, ridges descending from stipules, tough, green tissue and often glaucous (appearing grayish green), upper portion often glabrous and lower portion with widely spaced pilose or approaching inflorescence pilose and with short stellate hairs having appressed arms (to 4-armed). **Leaves:** helically alternate, deeply palmately lobed with 5 or 7 (3) principal lobes, long-petiolate (most leaves) to subsessile or sessile (the uppermost cauline leaf and bracts), with stipules; stipules 2, attached diagonally at node beneath petiole, suberect later relaxed, asymmetric to symmetric ovate, 5.5–9 × 2.3–7 mm, often unequal in pairs, green and glaucous, large side with basal lobe and often having a shoulder below midpoint, ciliate on margins with unbranched hairs, acute at tip, with 7+ veins at base, ± persistent; petiole channeled, to 120 mm long (basal leaves) decreasing upward, on lower plant petiole > blade, tough, glabrous or with pilose hairs on edges; blade mostly roundish in outline with radiating principal lobes, in range 22–60 mm, appearing cordate at base, lobes somewhat fan-shaped with sublobes to 10 mostly arising at midpoint, most leaves with lobes and sublobes linear, slender, and channeled, sublobes on lower basal leaf oblong if long and obtuse at tip, terminal lobe to 35 × 25 mm, adjacent lobes similar but not as wide, short-ciliate to pilose-ciliate on margins, palmately veined at base with principal vein to each lobe raised on lower surface, surfaces glabrous or with scattered, short stellate hairs having appressed arms. **Inflorescence:** panicle and terminal and lower axillary, solitary flowers, in panicle open flower overtopping bud and solitary flower ascending and > leaf, bracteate, with scattered nonglandular hairs; pedicel cylindric except with 5 ridge approaching flower, to 100 × to 2 mm diameter, tough, to midpoint glabrous or with pilose like stem eventually having short stellate hairs increasing to dense stellate hairs approaching flower, at top with a whorl of 3 equal bracteoles (bractlets), bracteole subtending calyx but not tightly appressed, linear, 11–13 × 1.2–1.5 mm, green, stiff ciliate and short-ciliate on margins, with midvein or 3 veins, upper surface glabrate with some unbranched short hairs approaching tip, lower surface short-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 30±45 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, 14–22.5 mm long, green, outer (lower) surface densely short-tomentose and one ridges longer, unbranched hairs having swollen bases (pustulate); tube funnel-shaped, 4–5 mm long, strongly 20-veined, veins parallel with the 5 principal veins to lobes raised; lobes acute-triangular or lanceolate to acuminate-ovate, (8.5–)13–17 × 3.3–6 mm, inner (upper) surface short-hairy above midpoint, 3-veined, sometimes crimson between veins to midpoint; **petals** 5, fused to domelike fused bases of filaments covering ovary, overlapping, fan-shaped to obovate, clawed, claw to 2.5 mm long, glossy white, ciliate on margins, limb ascending-spreading, 17–25 × 13–21 mm, glossy white at base, magenta to wine red above (rarely all white), with many fine veins radiating from base, jagged on outer margin, glabrous; **stamens** many (± 100), fused into column (monadelphous) concealing ovary and fused to bases of petals, the individual filaments arising above 4 mm from base; filament column to 15 mm long, white, lower portion

inversely funnel-shaped, with several minute glandular hairs, cylindrical portion ca. 1.2 mm diameter, filaments spreading to ascending (or aging reflexed), 2–6 mm long, white; anthers monotheical, 0.6–1.3 mm long, cream-colored, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen cream-colored; **pistil** 1, 10–14 mm long, completely included within and concealed by staminal structures; ovary superior, tightly covered by flaring white base of filament tube, wheel-like, ca. 1.5 × 3 mm, light green lower portion and dark green upper portion, with depressed center covered by stiff hairs pointing toward center around base of style, 13–15-chambered, each chamber with a ovule in lower portion (cell) and a smaller, sterile upper portion bent toward the center and covered with the hairs; style difficult to isolate from filament column, branched below midpoint with 1 branch for each locule, white at base to just below branches, branches included, slender, straight and tightly packed within filament column, 7–8.5 mm long, rose, stigmatic at tips ca 2 mm from the closest anthers. **Fruit:** schizocarp, breaking into 11–15 dry, 1-seeded, indehiscent segments (mericarps), partially concealed by suberect, dry, veiny calyx, when intact tire-shaped, ± 11 mm across, outer side with 2 lobes per chamber (e.g., 30-lobed) and with a triangular upper portion oriented toward center, immature seed-bearing portion light green and upper portion dark green with short hairs; mericarps = wide D-shaped wedges, mericarp ca. 4.5 × 4.5 × 2.2–2.5 mm, light brown with darker upper portion, lateral (radial) faces tannish. **Seed:** D-shaped, ca. 3 × 2 × 1 mm, fitting tightly within chamber, brown.

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