

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

*Solanum pseudocapsicum* – JERUSALEM CHERRY, WINTER CHERRY [Solanaceae]

*Solanum pseudocapsicum* L. (incl. *S. capsicastrum*), JERUSALEM CHERRY, WINTER CHERRY. Small shrub, taprooted, not rosetted, initially 1-stemmed at base, branched in canopy or aging bushy with ascending branched with numerous lateral branches, in range < 50 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, foliage  $\pm$  velveteen mostly short, nonglandular branched hairs (dendritic) to 0.3 mm long having an upright axis and diverging arms. **Stems:** cylindric, conspicuously short-pubescent and with inconspicuous sessile glandular hairs. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, sessile appearing short-petiolate, without stipules; “petiole” narrowly winged (= blade tissue); blade ovate, (12–)25–70  $\times$  6–21 mm incl. narrow, long-tapered at base (“winged-petiolate”), entire to subentire often wavy on margins, obtuse to rounded at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins slightly sunken on upper surface and principal veins + some minor veins raised on lower surface, upper surface short-pubescent mostly with 1–3 arms from midpoint, lower surface with more abundant hairs and mostly 3+ arms and having inconspicuous sessile glandular hairs at least along midrib. **Inflorescence:** condensed cyme, “axillary” but arising from internode, 1(–3)-flowered, flowers often drooping below leaves on arching pedicel and at maturity with fruits on the upper side of shoots, lacking bracts or sometimes with leaf at base, green tissues conspicuously short-hairy with branched hairs; pedicel at anthesis arching to deflexed, 5–6 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, star-shaped, in range 8–13 mm across (corolla); **calyx** (4–)5-lobed, at anthesis 4.5–5 mm long, green, short-pubescent with dendritic hairs on outer surface; tube cup-shaped to midpoint, 2 mm wide at top, densely short-pubescent; lobes equal to subequal,  $\pm$  obtuse-triangular, at anthesis 2–3 mm long, in fruit increasing and somewhat inrolled to lower side, having sparse, unbranched hairs on upper surface; **corolla** (4–)5-lobed from below midpoint, ca. 7 mm long; tube+ throat ca. 1.5 mm long, light green, glabrous; lobes acute-ovate (obovate), 3–4 mm wide, white, with midvein raised on upper surface, densely short-puberulent with dendritic and puberulent hairs above midlobe and approaching tip; **stamens** (4–)5, attached at top of corolla tube ca. 0.7 mm from base, with anthers erect and closely touching forming a cylinder surrounding style but not fused; filaments flattened < 1 mm long, light greenish yellow, somewhat fleshy and with shaggy hairs on edges from base to midpoint; anthers basifixed, dithecal, erect, 2–2.4 mm long, bright light yellow inner side pale yellow, glabrous, dehiscent by a pair of pores at top but then splitting longitudinally almost to midpoint; pollen whitish; **nectary disc** surrounding base of ovary, thin, ca. 0.3 mm long, green; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid, 1–1.2  $\times$  0.7 mm, glossy light green, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules attached to center; style erect, exerted ca. 2 mm above anthers, straight, 4.5–5 mm long, greenish, exposed style with scattered short hairs; stigma terminal, capitate, inconspicuously 2-lobed, light green. **Fruit:** berry, fleshy, 70+-seeded, spheric, 10–13 mm, in range glossy orange to red-orange; surface appearing smooth but minutely textured; pulp orange with colorless liquid around seeds, green; calyx 5-lobed, to 10 long, tube to 3 mm long, with scattered branched hairs; lobes unequal, 5–7 mm long. **Seed:** biconvex, weakly kidney-shaped to oval or D-shaped compressed side-to-side, 2.4–3  $\times$  2–2.2  $\times$  0.8 mm, yellowish, hilum mostly off-center, minutely textured (cells concave and convex).

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