Small to large shrubs and trees, unarmed, terrestrial, without raphides in the tissues, sometimes resinous at stem apices. Leaves opposite, petiolate, with tertiary and quaternary venation not lineolate, on the lower surface often with pubescent and/or foveolate domatia in the axils of the secondary veins; stipules quickly deciduous, interpetiolar or sometimes shortly fused around the stem, triangular to ligulate, generally held erect and flatly pressed together in bud. Inflorescence terminal and in axils of the uppermost leaves, thyrsiform to paniculiform, multiflowered, pedunculate, with bracts developed to reduced. Flowers sessile to pedicellate, distylos, protandrous, medium to large, fragrant, apparently diurnal; hypanthium ellipsoid to turbinate; calyx limb truncate short, 5-lobed, without calycophylls; corolla salverform, white to pink, purple, or red, densely pubescent internally in throat and on lobes, lobes 5, triangular, valvate in bud; stamens 5, inserted in corolla tube, with anthers narrowly ellipsoid, dorsifixed near base, included to partially exserted; ovary 2-locular, with ovules numerous in each locule, imbricated and ascending on axile placentas; stigmas 2-lobed, included or exserted. Fruit capsular, cylindrical to ellipsoid or ovoid, septicidally dehiscent from the base and/or sometimes from the apex, chartaceous to woody; seeds flattened, small, irregularly elliptic to oblong, marginally winged and often erose.