

Glabrous succulent trees or shrubs, sometimes epiphytic, unarmed. Leaves opposite, drying thickly coriaceous, venation usually not visible; stipules interpetiolar, oblanceolate to obovate, in bud erect and flatly appressed, caducous. Inflorescences terminal, pedunculate to subsessile, umbelliform or corymbiform and few-flowered or with flowers solitary, ebracteate or bracts reduced. Flowers pedicellate, large, showy, homostylous, protandrous, nocturnal, fragrant. Hypanthium ellipsoid to cylindrical. Calyx limb with short tube, lobes (4)5-6(7), without calycophylls. Corolla salverform with the tube well developed, white becoming yellowed with age, internally glabrous, the lobes (4)5-6(7), in bud imbricate with 3 lobes external or sometimes convolute (C. valerioi). Stamens 5-6, inserted just below the corolla mouth; anthers narrowly oblong, basifixed, included, sometimes shortly bicaudate at the base. Ovary 2-locular; ovules numerous in each locule, on axile placentas. Fruit capsular, oblong or cylindrical, woody, septicidal from the apex. Seeds small, flattened, papery, winged, the wings entire to erose.