

***Vigna unguiculata* (L.) Walp. (Fabaceae)**

Seed.

General shape: globular to reniform

Normal size: 4-13 mm L x 3-6 mm W x 3-4 mm D

Color: white, green, buff, red, brown or black, with various speckling, mottling or blotching.

Texture: smooth or wrinkled, dull.

Distinguishing features: The hilum is rather dig, oval, depressed and obscured by a persistent, thick, corky tissue elevated above the surface of the seed. The whitish, inner portion is surrounded by a dark border, usually brownish.

Embryo: curved, accumbent; cotyledons are big and thick.

Note : some varieties have a light-colored band, or a saddle-shaped black area around the hilum



Seeds of *Vigna unguiculata*



Seeds under magnification

Images by SNES-GEVES