

Persicaria maculosa Gray (*Polygonaceae*)

One seeded achene with or without perianth.

General shape: pyriform, almost round, flattened, rarely trigonal.

Normal size: diameter 2.5-3.0 L x 2.5-3.0 W x 1.5-2.0 D mm

Color: black or deep purple

Texture: smooth and shiny

Distinguishing features: one side is usually convex with a ridge in the middle. Base rounded, often covered by the remains of papery perianth, that may envelope the achene completely. Apex shortly pointed.

Embryo: curved and lies underneath one side. The nutritive storage tissue fills in the remaining interior space of the seed.



Normal seeds of *Persicaria maculosa*



Seeds under magnification

Species of similar seeds of the genus (normal size seeds)



Fallopia convolvulus



Polygonum aviculare



Persicaria maculosa



Persicaria lapathifolia