

Galanthus Nivalis

Scientific Classification

Kingdom: Plantae
Class: Liliopsida
Family: Amaryllidaceae
Genus: Galanthus

The genus' name ("Galanthus") comes from two Greek words: "gala" = milk and "Anthos" = flower. The name ("nivalis") refers to its early flowering in the snow.

Roots

The roots are generated at the bottom of the bulb and are contractile.

Leaves

The linear leaves are all radical.

The plant has two different kind of leaves:

Lower leaves: the leaves (those closest to the bulb) are reduced to membranous sheaths.

Upper leaves: long, their apex is rounded with a single midrib. They are green-blue and occur in pairs.



Flowers

the flowers are hermaphrodite and white:

Perigonium: the perigonium consists of 6 petaloid tepals: three external and three internal.

The outer tepals are willing to star and thy are concave.

The inner tepals are shorter, the lower side is green (sometimes are yellowish), while on the upper side have an inverted V.

Androecium: there are 6 stamens.

Gynoecium: they are all one as the other and it has a "stigma" which protrudes above the cone. In this way the vibrations emitted by insects pollinate the flower.

