

Biology of *Cannabis sativa* L.

- Cannabaceae family
 - Also found in NA: *Humulus*, *Celtis*,
- Related to the Urticaceae (nettles) and Moraceae (mulberry, fig) families
- Annual growth habit
- Mostly dioecious
 - some fiber cultivars are monoecious
 - staminate plants are 10-15% taller
- 0.2 to 5 m tall
- Branched tap root



Biology of *Cannabis sativa* L.

- Seeds are achenes – 2-5 mm
- Aboveground parts are pubescent
- Wind- pollinated; prodigious pollen production; attracts bees and flies
- Canadian Seed Growers Association: isolation distance of 5 km (3.1 mile) for certified seed
- Seed dissemination by humans, domestic animals, water
- Short day plant (develops flowers only when the day length is <about 12 hours)



