

FAMILIAR WILD FLOWERS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649581269

Familiar wild flowers by F. Edward Hulme

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Cover @ 2017

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F. EDWARD HULME

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WILD FLOWERS**

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SUMMARY.

- It should be prefaced that this Summary merely professes to give a brief epitome of each of the plants represented in this volume, and that it is principally a condensation from the writings of Hooker, Lindley, Bentham, or other authorities on the subject.*

CLUSTERED BELL-FLOWER, *CAMPANULA GLOMERATA*. *Nat. Ord.*, *Campanulaceae*.—Calyx adherent to ovary, having five teeth. Corolla regular, campanulate, purple, five-lobed. Stamens five, inserted at base of corolla. Anthers distinct. Style single, cleft at summit into three stigmas. Ovary inferior. Capsule opening at base. Flowers closely sessile in the axils of the upper leaves and forming a compact terminal cluster. Radical leaves large and stalked, rough, hairy, ovate, toothed; upper leaves sessile, ovate, toothed, rough, hairy, clasping stem by their bases. Stalk erect, wiry, angular, varying from an inch or two to a foot or more in length, hairy.—Found in dry pasturage and hedge-banks. Flowers throughout the summer. Perennial.

SALLOW, *SALIX CAPREA*. *Nat. Ord.*, *Asventaceae*.—Flowers dioecious, the males in dense cylindrical, sessile, silky, fragrant catkins, the females also in catkins, but green and more openly arranged in the catkin. Flowering before the appearance of the leaves. Stamens two in each flower. Anthers two-celled, bright yellow, conspicuous. Scales of catkins entire. Perianth wanting. Stigmas two. Capsules pedicellate, silky, one-celled, beaked. Stipules large. Leaves stipulate, alternate, roundish-ovate, wrinkled, whitish beneath. A small, bushy tree.—Flowers in early spring. In woods and hedgerows, ordinarily in drier situations than most of the other species of the willow.

* See Prefatory Note to the Summary, Series I.

HOLLY, *ILEX AQUIFOLIUM* *Nat. Ord., Aquifoliaceae.*—Calyx four-toothed. Corolla regular, monopetalous, white, four-lobed, rotate. Stamens four, alternate with corolla-lobes and inserted on corolla. Stigmas four, sessile. Fruit, a scarlet berry, containing four seeds. Flowers in dense clusters in the leaf-axils. Leaves coriaceous, rigid, alternate, evergreen, stalked, shiny, the upper ones sometimes entire and flat, but typically much waved in outline and bordered with strong prickly teeth. A freely-branching shrub or small tree. Bark smooth and greyish.—Woods and hedgerows. Flowers in May and June.

PRIVET, *LIGUSTRUM FULGARE* *Nat. Ord., Oleaceae.* Calyx persistent, four-toothed. Corolla regular, white, four-lobed, tubular at base. Stamens two, inserted at base of corolla. Ovary two-celled, each cell two-seeded. Fruit a fleshy globular, black, shining berry. Inflorescence compact, paniculate, at ends of branches. Leaves nearly evergreen, lanceolate, entire, on short stalks, opposite, crustipulate. Branches long, slender, cylindrical, tough, smooth, pliant. A shrub.—In woods and hedges. Flowers during June and July.

SPOTTED ORCHIS, *ORCHIS MACULATA* *Nat. Ord., Orchidaceae.* Perianth of six segments, superior, irregular, spurred at base of lip. Lip irregularly three-lobed, spotted. Stamen and pistil combined in column in axis of flower. Anther two-celled. Ovary inferior, one-celled. Capsule three-valved. Inflorescence terminal, densely spicate, bracts shorter than the flowers. Stem leafy at base, often a foot or so in height, but very variable. Leaves ovate and lanceolate, entire, parallel-nerved, more or less marked with dark purple blotches. Tubers flattened, lobed.—Perennial. Flowers in June and July. Pasture lands.

PINK CAMPION, *LYCHNIS DIURNA* *Nat. Ord., Caryophyllaceae.* Calyx monophyllous, tubular, five-toothed, swollen after flowering. Corolla of five petals, lamina spreading, pink, two-cleft, scentless, having small two-notched scale at base. Flowers dioecious. Stamens ten, hypogynous. Styles five, linear, stigmatic throughout their length. Capsule globular, ten-toothed, many-seeded. Leaves opposite, entire,

exstipulate, upper sessile, lower ones stalked, slightly rough, hairy, veining prominent. Inflorescence loosely paniculate. Stem cylindrical, swollen at sides. — In moist woods, copses, and hedgerows. Flowers during June and July. Perennial.

SPINDLE TREE, *SCONYMUS EUROPEUS*. *Nat. Ord., Celastraceae.* Calyx small, flattened out, having four broad short lobes. Petals four, pale green, obovate, rising from flat, fleshy disk. Stamens four, alternating with petals, inserted on disk. Flowers in loose, axillary cymes. Ovary immersed in disk, style very short. Capsule four-lobed, pink, containing large seeds in orange-coloured arillobium. Leaves glabrous, opposite, lanceolate, finely toothed. Stems smooth, green, tough. A shrub, about five feet high. — Woods and hedgerows. Flowers in May and June.

BUXBAUM'S SPEEDWELL, *PERONICA BUXBAUMII*. *Nat. Ord., Scrophulariaceae.* Calyx persistent round fruit, four-lobed. Corolla deciduous, monopetalous, rotate, irregular, four-lobed, pale blue. Stamens two, inserted in tube of corolla. Stigma two-lobed. Ovary and capsule two-seeded. Capsule-lobes broad and laterally spreading, twice as broad as long. Inflorescence axillary. Stems procumbent, hairy. Leaves petiolate, alternate, cordate, deeply serrate, much shorter than the flower-stalks that spring from their axils, hairy. — Cultivated ground, rubbish-heaps, and road-sides. Flowers throughout the summer. Annual.

GREEN HELLEBORE, *HELLEBORUS VIRIDIS*. *Nat. Ord., Ranunculaceae.* Calyx of five large, persistent, conspicuous, spreading sepals. Petals eight to ten, very small, tubular. Stamens numerous. Carpels many-seeded. Flowers few in number and drooping. Fruit a follicle. Upper leaves sessile, the lower leaves large, divided into numerous segments, on long footstalks, all palmate and broadly spreading, of a dull bluish green, glossy surface, deeply serrate. Stem short, freely branching. — On pasture-lands, in copses, and often about old walls, ruins, and human habitations, preferably on chalk. Flowers in March and April. Perennial.

SEA CAMPION, *SILENE MARITIMA*. *Nat. Ord., Caryophyllaceæ.*

Calyx monophyllous, tubular and inflated, five-toothed, strongly veined and reticulated. Corolla of five white petals, having two-cleft and spreading lamina. Stamens ten. Styles three. Ovary one. Fruit a dry capsule opening at the top, 6-toothed. Leaves opposite, entire, ovate-lanceolate, small, exstipulate. Flowers few in number. Stems spreading.—On sandy and stony beaches. June, July, August. Perennial.

FURZE, *ULXN EUROPEUS*. *Nat. Ord., Leguminosæ.*

Calyx two-partite, segments slightly toothed, having two small bracts at base, pubescent, yellowish. Corolla papilionaceous, bright yellow, fragrant. Stamens ten, monadelphous. Style and stigma one. Fruit a two-valved legume. Leaves simple, alternate, stipulate, inconspicuous. Stems freely branching, covered with spreading and rigid spines. Growth compact and bushy.—Common on sandy or gravelly heaths, railway embankments and cuttings, open forest land, &c. Flowers more or less throughout the year, but chiefly in the spring. Perennial.

BROAD-LEAVED PLANTAIN, *PLANTAGO MAJOR*. *Nat.*

Ord., Plantaginaceæ.—Calyx minute, scarious, four-partite. Corolla four-lobed, minute, scarious, tubed, reflexed. Stamens four, long, springing from tube of corolla. Style and stigma one. Fruit indehiscent, ovate capsule, many seeded. Inflorescence a long cylindrical and dense spike; bract at base of each flower. Leaves spreading, radical, broadly ovate, conspicuously nerved, dull green. Root-stock short and thick.—Meadows and roadsides. June, July, August. Perennial.

TRAWEL, *DIPSACUS SYLVESTRIS*. *Nat. Ord., Dipsacaceæ.*

Flowers in compact cylindrical heads, having at base an involucre of six to twelve prickly bracts, rigid, unequal, curving upwards. Calyx minute, cup-shaped. Receptacle bearing the florets covered with spinous and hooked scales. Corolla four-lobed, monopetalous, lilac, having oblique limb. Stamens four, inserted in tube. Ovary one-celled. Style one. Fruit small, dry, indehiscent, crowned by calyx. Leaves opposite, the upper leaves connate, undivided, prickles on midribs. Stems rigid,

prickly, angular, four to five feet high.—Hedges and roadsides. August and September. Biennial.

TUBEROUS MOSCHATEL, *ADONIS MOSCHATELLINA*. *Nat. Ord., Acolitaceae.* Flowers irregular in their parts, terminal flower having two sepals and the laterals three sepals. Corolla superior, rotate, four or five-cleft according to position. Stamens eight or ten. Berry fleshy, four or five-seeded. Inflorescence a globular head of four lateral flowers and one terminal one, borne on long peduncles. Leaves radical, on long footstalks, tritermiate, two cauline and ternate, radicals longer than the stem-leaves. Stem slender and herbaceous, and whole plant light green in colour, very delicate and fragile-looking.—Woods and shady banks. April and May. Perennial.

EVERLASTING PEA, *LATHYRUS SILFENSTRIS*. *Nat. Ord., Leguminosae.* Calyx of five sepals, the fifth inferior, mouth oblique. Petals five, papilionaceous, standard large, bright pink, veined. Stamens diadelphous, ten. Ovary one-celled. Style and stigma one. Fruit a two-valved, large, and several-seeded legume. Leaves alternate, stipulate, one pair of leaflets, ensiform, branching tendrils, leaf-stalks flattened, winged. Stems weak, climbing, winged. Inflorescence racemose, on long axillary peduncles.—Thickets and rocky places. June, July, and August. Perennial.

STRAWBERRY, *FRAGARIA VESCA*. *Nat. Ord., Rosaceae.*—Calyx persistent, ten-cleft, the alternate segments being larger than the others. Petals five, equal, perigynous, pure white. Stamens perigynous, numerous, the anthers two-celled. Styles simple, short. Leaves clothed with soft hairs, alternate, chiefly radical, stipulate on stem. Achenes on fleshy crimson receptacle. Calyx reflexed on ripening of the fruit. Stems herbaceous, radical, bearing a small number of flowers.—Woods and copses. May, June, July. Perennial.

UPRIGHT MEADOW CROWFOOT, *RANUNCULUS AGERIS*. *Nat. Ord., Ranunculaceae.* Calyx yellowish green, spreading, five distinct sepals. Petals five, distinct, bright yellow, having nectariferous spot at base. Stamens five, hypogynous, numerous, on receptacle.