

A Field Guide to Spring Flora at Windy Corner

The Windy Corner trailhead is located at milepost 106 along the Seward Highway heading south from Anchorage, and is a good spot for viewing Dall sheep and early spring flowers. More than 70 different plants can be found here, including three rare ones, before trees sprout leaves. Many Anchorage neighborhoods are still buried in snow when wildflowers are blooming at Windy Corner. The Turnagain Arm Trail is considered moderately challenging and connects Windy Corner to other trailheads along the Seward Highway. It is very popular, especially in spring while other trails are inaccessible. Bears are also frequent at this time of year, deterrents advised for any outing.

This booklet is formatted to fit on a phone and intended to help ID most flora at Windy Corner in early spring. Photos are sorted by scientific names consistent with the 2020 Flora of AK Project and cross-referenced to Hulten's 1968 *Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories*.

A complete checklist of plants and small booklet of general information about Windy Corner are available at the Alaska Native Plant Society website: <https://aknps.org>. AKNPS is a non-profit organization founded in 1982 to promote awareness, education and preservation of Alaska native flora.

All photos and field ID notes are copyrighted to Dennis Ronsse. This booklet is a work in progress, to improve it with corrections and additions please contact dennis@ronsse.com.

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Achillea millefolium borealis

Northern Yarrow

Asteraceae

Northern Yarrow (*A. millefolium borealis*)- Leaves pinnatifid w/ narrow rachis Common in most of AK. Gwich'in people used yarrow tea to relieve coughs and ulcers vs. Siberian Yarrow (*A. alpina*)- Leaves serrate or pinnatifid w/ very broad rachis. Interior AK. Rare in Anchorage area (meadows & woods).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Asteraceae

*Achillea borealis**

888

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Actaea rubra

Baneberry

Ranunculaceae

Baneberry (*A. rubra*)- Leaves sharply toothed & deep veined, the ultimate segment cleft and toothed. Highly poisonous, as few as 6 berries have been known to kill a small child vs. Goatsbeard (*Aruncus*) leaves double toothed, not cleft.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Ranunculaceae

Actaea rubra

456

yes

Amelanchier alnifolia

Saskatoon Serviceberry

Rosaceae

Saskatoon Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)- Leaves alternate, blades nearly round w/ coarse teeth at the apex. Flowers white, in fragrant clusters. Fruits purple, nearly black, covered w/ bloom, sweet juicy & edible. Planted for landscape in Interior AK, used by wildlife.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rosaceae

*Amelanchier florida**

599

no

Androsace septentrionalis

Pygmy-flower rock-jasmine

Primulaceae

Pygmy-flower rock-jasmine (*A. septentrionalis*)- Early delicate inconspicuous white / pink flowers on long flowering stalks branching near the top vs Alaska Dwarf Primrose (*Douglasia alaskana*)- Flowering stalks very long, **arising from basal rosette, no primary scape**. More alpine.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Ericaceae***Androsace septentrionalis*

745

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Anemone multifida

Cut-leaf Anemone

Ranunculaceae

Cut-leaf Anemone (*A. multifida*)- **Flowers 1-7 small, creamy white, underneath rosy or lavender. Achenes villous.** Leaves finely cut. vs. *A. drummondii* **Flowers 1** (rarely 2) white often blueish outside.



Hulten Family

Ranunculaceae

Hulten Name

Anemone multifida

Hulten page

465

Accepted

yes

Antennaria in SC AK

Pussytoes (in SC AK)

Asteraceae

Pussytoes- 4 in SC AK have small gray spatulate basal leaves w/ mucronate tips.

2 w/ very dark involucre bracts: Alaskan Pussytoes (*A. friesiana*)- **Flowering stems w/ glands.** vs.

Alpine Pussytoes (*A. alpina*)- **Flowering stems w/o glands.**

2 w/ light colored involucre bracts (pink, white or cream): Littleleaf Pussytoes (*A. microphylla*)-

distally stipitate-glandular and white phyllaries vs. *A. rosea*-stems without glandular hairs and phyllaries only occasionally white



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Asteraceae

Antennaria

875

Anticlea elegans

Death Camas

Melanthiaceae

Death Camas- Leaves appear in early spring, sedge-like appearance. Poisonous, Okanagan people used the mashed bulb as arrow tip poison.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Liliaceae***Zygadenus elegans**

305

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Aquilegia formosa

Western Columbine

Ranunculaceae

Western Columbine- Early spring growth a cluster of blue-green, bi-ternate leaves. flowers orange-red vs. *A. brevistylla* bluish flowers (the only other wild columbine in AK).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Ranunculaceae

Aquilegia formosa

457

yes

Arabidopsis kamchatica

Kamchatka Rockcress

Brassicaceae

Kamchatka Rockcress- Basal leaves are lyrate (somewhat like dandelion) stem leaves entire. Flowers small white. Dry open woodlands. Young leaves have a radish-like flavor and have been eaten raw or boiled by Alaska Native peoples for centuries.



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Hulten Family

Brassicaceae

Hulten Name

*Arabis lyrata**

Hulten page

545

Accepted

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

Kinnikinnik

Ericaceae

Kinnikinnik- Evergreen spatulate leaves, smooth edges not rolled under. Dry places, birch forest. vs Lowbush Cranberry evergreen leaves, rolled under and more round (not spatulate).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Ericaceae

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

729

yes

Artemisia furcata

Forked Wormwood

Asteraceae

Forked Wormwood (*A. furcata*)- Faintly aromatic. **Caespitose (not matted), Receptacle glabrous. stem leaves reduced, 1-3x palmately lobed, tips w/o tufts of hair. Bracts long, linear, entire** vs Fringed Sage (*A. frigida*)- **Strongly aromatic. Silvery mats or mounds, basal & stem leaves similar, divided into 3's, silvery-silky-hairy, fine segments** vs. Boreal Sage (*A. borealis*)- Caespitose (not matted). **Receptacle pubescent. Leaves mostly basal gray-green to white, silvery-hairy, tips often w/ long tufts of hair. Lower bracts 2-3 forked tips.**



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Hulten Family

Asteraceae

Hulten Name

Artemisia furcata

Hulten page

910

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Artemisia tilesii

Tilesius' wormwood

Asteraceae

Tilesius' wormwood (*A. Tilesii*)- **Leaves deeply cut 3-5 lobes smooth & green on top & silvery beneath. Very aromatic.** Frequently used by Yup'ik people for respiratory problems, sore throats, colds, and incense (called Caiggluk). Also called Caribou Weed in some places because leaf shape resembles antlers.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Asteraceae

Artemisia Tilesii

902

yes

Aruncus dioicus acuminatus

Goatsbeard

Rosaceae

Goatsbeard- Leaves + or - long pointed, and **double toothed, not lobed and toothed**. Old flowering stalks are very unique, male & female plants vs. Baneberry- Leaves sharply toothed & deep veined. **The ultimate segment cleft and toothed.**



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Rosaceae**Aruncus sylvestris**

595

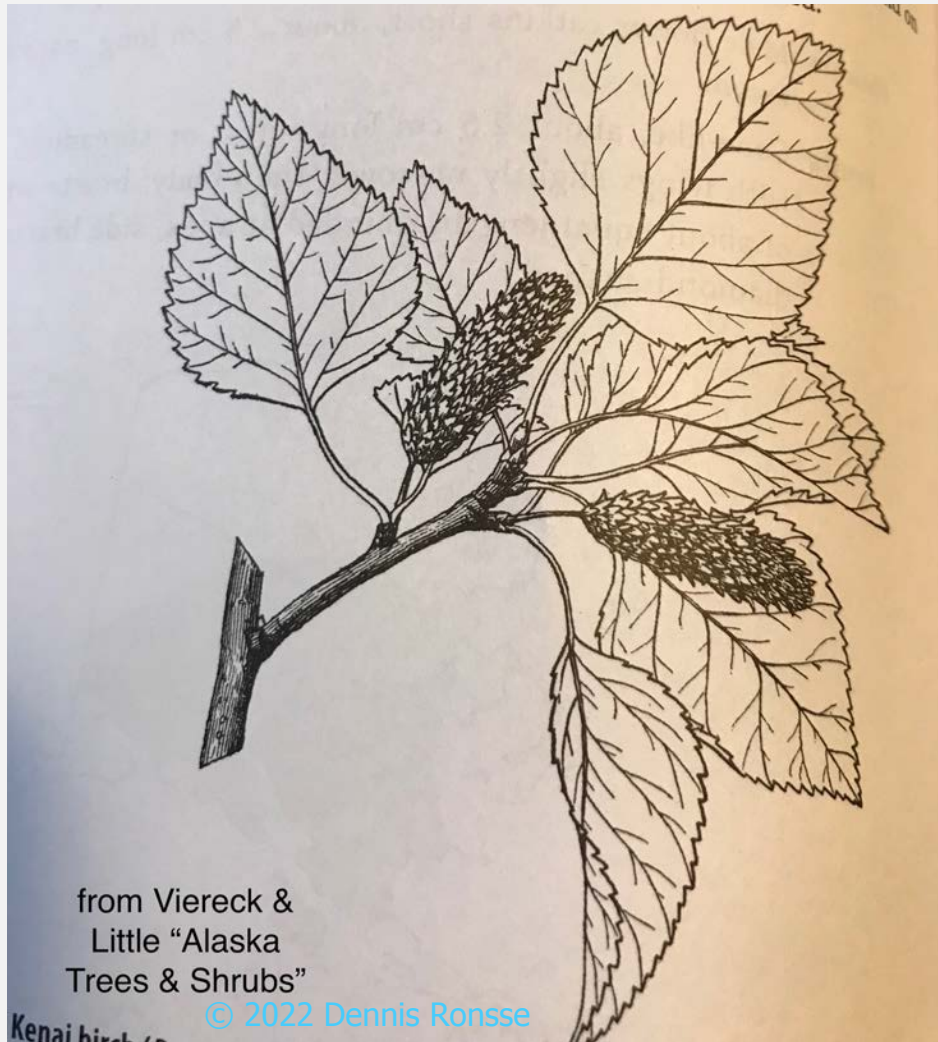
no

Betula kенаica

Kenai Paper Birch

Betulaceae

Paper Birches- (2 in SC AK) *B. kенаica*-Leaf w/ 2--6 pairs of lateral veins; Twigs slightly to moderately pubescent, often with scattered resinous glands; Infructescences erect to nearly pendulous; scales ciliate, lobes diverging at middle vs. *B. neolaskana*- Leaf w/ 5--18 pairs of lateral veins; Twigs glabrous, covered with conspicuous resinous glands; Infructescences pendulous; lobes diverging distal to middle. Moose eat upper branches of older trees when available not younger branches. Young twigs have coarse texture & contain an antibiotic.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Betulaceae

Betula kенаica

366

yes

Boechera grahamii

Spreadingpod rockcress

Brassicaceae

Spreading Rockcress (*B. grahamii*)- **Fruits spreading**. Basal leaves oblanceolate to spatulate 2-10 mm wide. **Petals usually white** (rarely lavender). Stems glabrous or pubescent proximally.

vs Reflexed Rockcress (*B. retrofracta*)- **Fruits reflexed**. **Basal leaves narrow, entire, somewhat acute**. **Petals smaller white (to lavender)**. **Stems densely pubescent proximally**. vs. Drummond's Rockcress (*B. stricta*)- **Fruits ascending**. **Basal leaves lance-shaped, tapering to a stalk**. **Flowers 8-40 or more, petals larger white (pinkish w/ age), 7-11 mm long**.



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Hulten Family

Brassicaceae

Hulten Name

*Arabis divaricarpra**

Hulten page

548

Accepted

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Campanula rotundifolia

Harebell

Campanulaceae

Harebell (*C. rotundifolia*)- **Flowers usually many & nodding. Basal leaves usually withered. Calyx lobes entire** vs. Mountain Harebell (*C. lasiocarpa*)- **Flowers usually single, upright, very large for the size of plant. Leaves mostly basal. Calyx lobes with slender teeth.** Stony tundra & cliffs.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Campanulaceae

Campanula rotundifolia

850

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Carex obtusata

Blunt Sedge

Cyperaceae

C. obtusata **Spikes single terminal, male above** female flowers. Culms in rows from long dark rhizome. **Leaf tips not curly, sheaths w/ red dots.** Sandy soil, **dry ridges.** vs. *C. rupestris*- **leaf tips curly, no red dots on sheaths.** vs *C. circinata* has no long rhizomes.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Cyperaceae

Carex obtusata

224

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Castilleja unalaschcensis

Coastal Paintbrush

Orobanchaceae

Coastal Paintbrush- Leaves long pointed & hairy. **Clusters of yellow "flowers" (bracts) at stem tips** conceal small flowers (resemble a brush dipped in paint).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Scrophulariaceae**

Castilleja unalaschcensis

807

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Cerastium arvense strictum

Mouse-eared Chickweed

Caryophyllaceae

Mouse-eared Chickweed (*C. arvense*)- Leaves narrow, hairy, silvery **w/ small axillary tufts (of leaves) at base up uppermost leaves** vs Bering Chickweed- Leaves wider, less hairy, **w/o small axillary tufts (of leaves) at base up uppermost leaves.**



Hulten Family

Caryophyllaceae

Hulten Name

Cerastium arvense

Hulten page

425

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Conioselinum pacificum

Hemlock Parsley

Apiaceae

Hemlock Parsley- **Leaves dark green & finely cut (like parsley) show very early in spring.**
Later, smaller flower heads.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Apiaceae

*Conioselinum chinense**

704

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Corydalis aurea

Golden Corydalis

Fumariaceae

Golden Corydalis- Yellow flowers, w/ unique odd shaped tube-like. Two other Corydalis in AK have blue or pink flowers.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Fumariaceae

Corydalis aurea

495

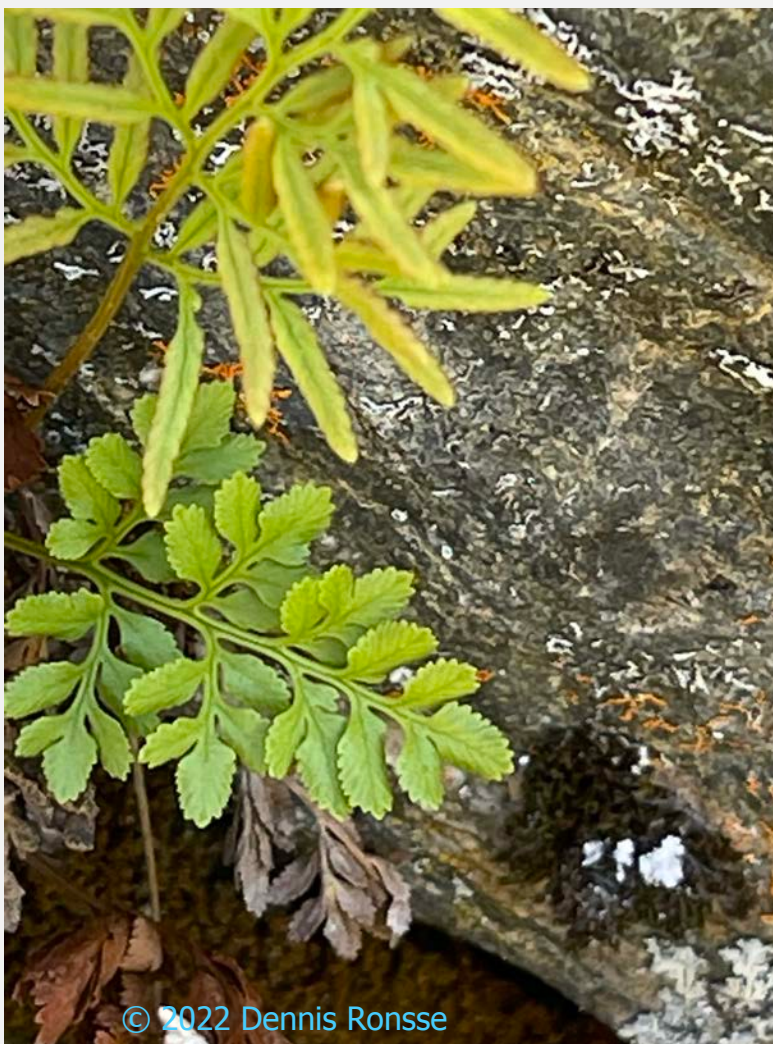
yes

Cryptogramma acrostichoides

Parsley Fern

Pteridaceae

Parsley Fern (*C. acrostichoides*)- **Segments with 6–12 or more teeth or shallow lobes**, oblong to ovate-lanceolate vs. Sitka Parsley Fern (*C. sitchensis*)- **Segments with 2–6 deep lobes** more dissected, obovate. Hybrids occur in SC AK.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Cryptogrammaceae***Cryptogramma crispa* var *acrostichoides**

44

no

Cryptogramma sitchensis

Sitka Rockbrake

Pteridaceae

C. sitchensis- Segments with 2–6 deep lobes more dissected (not merely toothed), obovate vs. *C. acrostichoides*- Segments with 6–12 or more teeth or shallow (not deep) lobes, oblong to ovate-lanceolate. Hybrids occur in SC AK.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Pteridaceae

Cryptogramma crispata var *sitchensis**

44

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Cystopteris fragilis

Fragile Fern

Woodsiaceae

Fragile Fern- **Indusium hoodlike (attached on one side)** Stipe medium length, **glabrous or w/ few scales** at base. Fronds w/ quite variable dissection. small, 7" vs. *Woodsia*- **indusium is a ring of hairy scales.**



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Athyriaceae*

Cystopteris fragilis

49

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Dasiphora fruticosa

Shrubby Cinquefoil

Rosaceae

Shrubby Cinquefoil- **Stems are reddish-brown w/ shedding bark.** Leaves thick, bluish-gray above, 5-parted. Large flowers, Common throughout AK, wet and dry ground, prefers limestone.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rosaceae

*Potentilla fruticosa**

609

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Draba aurea

Golden Draba

Brassicaceae

Coast Mountain Draba (*D. aurea*)- **Petals yellow. Stem leaves 10-20 w/ densely star-like-hairy on both surfaces.** perennial. vs *D. stenoloba* **yellow flowers. few stem leaves.** Annual usually. Upper leaf w/ 2-4 rayed & simple hairs. (only 2 *Draba* locally w/ yellow flowers & 1-2 to several stem leaves).



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Brassicaceae

Draba aurea

536

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Draba borealis

Northern Draba

Brassicaceae

Northern Draba (*D. borealis*)- Petals white, 4-6 mm long. Stem leaves 3-8 usually coarsely toothed in upper 1/3.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Brassicaceae

Draba borealis

534

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Draba ruaxes

Coast Mountain Draba

Brassicaceae

D. ruaxes & *D. incerta*- Both have yellow petals, stem leaves 0 (or 1 bract). To ID need magnification of hair on leaves (top and bottom-sides). *D. incerta*- both leaf surfaces w/ comb-like hairs. tops sometimes glabrous. lower surface sometimes also has 4-6 rayed trichomes vs. *D. ruaxes*- upper leaf surface w/ simple & 2 rayed forked hairs. leaf undersides w/ 2-10 rayed stellate trichomes (no comb-like hairs). Both can have ciliate margins w/ simple or forked hairs. Often *D. incerta* leaves are more elongated, but leaf hairs are the most reliable features for ID.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Brassicaceae

Draba ruaxes

525*

yes

Dryopteris fragrans

Fragrant Shield Fern

Dryopteridaceae

Fragrant Shield Fern (*D. fragrans*)- Leaves green all winter. **Dead fronds turn gray and remain attached. Stipe short, caffy w/ brown scales. indusia kidney shaped (not hairy). Blades tapering from middle to base.** Sunny dry, rocky outcroppings & boulder fields. vs. Rusty Fern (*Woodsia ilvensis*)- **no persistent dead fronds. Blades not tapering from middle to base. indusia hairy.**



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Hulten Family

*Aspidiaceae**

Hulten Name

Dryopteris fragrans

Hulten page

56

Accepted

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Erigeron compositus

Dwarf Mountain Fleabane

Asteraceae

Dwarf Mountain Fleabane- **Narrowly divided ternate leaves.** Very early leaves & flowers.



Hulten Family

Asteraceae

Hulten Name

Erigeron compositus

Hulten page

862

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Galium boreale

Northern Bedstraw

Rubiaceae

Northern Bedstraw (*Galium boreale*)- Erect branching 12-20" tall. Square stem, early spring leaves pale green often, whorled lanceolate to elliptic, blunt, not mucronate.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rubiaceae

Galium boreale

837

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Galium triflorum

Sweetscented Bedstraw

Rubiaceae

Sweetscented Bedstraw (*G. triflorum*)- **leaves mucronate (needle-like tip)** in whorls of 6, moist woods & thickets vs. Small Bedstraw **leaves blunt** in whorls of 4 - 6, wet places.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rubiaceae

Galium triflorum

838

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Geranium erianthum

Woolly Geranium

Geraniaceae

Cranesbill- tall plant. Petals lavender w/ dark stripes. **Leaves large coarse, deeply toothed, palmately lobed.** Mostly forests & meadows, to just above tree line. An attractive ornamental in Anchorage gardens.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Geraniaceae

Geranium erianthum

674

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Heracleum lanatum

Cow Parsnip

Apiaceae

Cow Parsnip- *Heracleum*, named for Hercules, who was supposed to have used it first for medicine, and because he was considered a mortal of great size and strength much like the plant. Caution: sunlight and skin contact may cause severe rash.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Apiaceae

Heracleum lanatum

707

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Heuchera glabra

Alpine Heuchera

Saxifragaceae

Alpine Heuchera- Basal leaves cordate-ovate, 3-5 lobed, the lobes coarsely crenate-dentate. Stem leaves 1 or 2, reduced in size. Usually on moist rocks, cliffs, slopes. Native people used as astringent & poultice on cuts & sores, and stop bleeding & promote healing.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Saxifragaceae

Heuchera glabra

584

yes

Juniperus communis depressa

Mountain Juniper

Cupressaceae

Mountain Juniper (*J. communis*)- prostrate shrub up to .6 m tall. **leaves stiff, sharp spines. Wonderful fragrance.** vs. Creeping Juniper (*J. horizontalis*)- **Leaves scale-like, not small sharp spines & not fragrant.** (Rare Plant on AK Nat Heritage Program S3, G5.)



Hulten Family

Cupressaceae

Hulten Name

*Juniperus communis nana**

Hulten page

65

Accepted

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Juniperus horizontalis

Creeping Juniper

Cupressaceae

Creeping Juniper (*J. horizontalis*)- **Leaves scale-like, not small sharp spines & not fragrant.**
(Rare Plant on AK Nat Heritage Program S3, G5) vs Mountain Juniper (*J. communis*)- prostrate shrub up to .6 m tall. **leaves stiff, sharp spines. Wonderful fragrance.**



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Cupressaceae

Juniperus horizontalis

65

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Oplopanax horridus

Devil's Club

Araliaceae

Devil's Club- Most widely used of all North American plants by Indigenous cultures for medical benefits (rheumatism, arthritis, tea from roots used exclusively several days, and other use). New spring growth has excellent flavor. In fall, berries are heavily used by bears.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Araliaceae

*Echinopanax horridum**

696

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Orthilia secunda

Sidebells Wintergreen

Ericaceae

Sidebells Wintergreen (*O. secunda*)- **thinner more pointed leaves** than other Wintergreens, **very small green bell-shaped flowers on one side of curved stem** vs. Pink Pyrola w/ round leaves and pink flowers.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Pyrolaceae

*Pyrola secunda ssp secunda**

713

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Osmorhiza depauperata

Wild Licorice

Apiaceae

Wild Licorice (*O. depauperata*)- **Flowering pedicels spreading.** Flowers white or greenish vs. *O. purpurea* pedicels **not spreading.** Flowers greenish to purplish. Grizzly bears eat wild licorice roots in the spring. Kodiak to SE AK (not Anchorage area).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Apiaceae

Osmorhiza depauperata

698

yes

Oxytropis varians

Field Oxytrope

Fabaceae

Field Oxytrope (*O. varians*)- **tan colored stipules** at the base of the stem vs. *O. Maydelliana* **rusty colored stipules** at the base of the stem. Both have leaflets w/ pointed tips vs. Jacob's Ladder w/ rounded tips. *Oxytropis* and *Astragalus* can absorb selenium and molybdenum from the soil. If ingested causes staggering, labored breathing and convulsions.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Fabaceae

*Oxytropis campestris gracilis**

664

no

Picea glauca

White Spruce

Pinaceae

White Spruce- **Cones shorter, 3-6 cm, scales rounded, margins w/o teeth. Needles square in cross-section, skunk-like fragrance when crushed.** Most common tree of interior AK. vs Sitka Spruce- **Cones longer (5 - 9 cm) scale shape more pointed, margins rough / shaggy. Needles flattened on one side, slightly keeled on the other** vs. Lutz Spruce- Hybrid, frequent in SC AK has a mix of features.



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Hulten Family

Pinaceae

Hulten Name

Picea glauca

Hulten page

61

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Picea sitchensis

Sitka Spruce

Pinaceae

Sitka Spruce- **Cones longer (5 - 9 cm) scale shape more pointed, margins rough / shaggy. Needles flattened on one side, slightly keeled on the other vs. White Spruce- Cones shorter, 3-6 cm, scales rounded, margins w/o teeth. Needles square in cross-section, skunk-like fragrance when crushed.** Most common tree of interior AK. vs. Lutz Spruce- Hybrid, frequent in SC AK, has a mix of features.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Pinaceae

Picea sitchensis

62

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Plantago canescens

Gray Plantain

Plantaginaceae

Gray Plantain (*P. canescens*)- very early basal leaves, gray fuzzy, 'canescens' refers to hairy.



Hulten Family

Plantaginaceae

Hulten Name

Plantago canescens

Hulten page

833

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Polemonium pulcherrimum lindleyi

Beautiful Jacob's Ladder

Polemoniaceae

Beautiful Jacob's Ladder (*P. pulcherrimum*)- 8-14" tall. Dry rocky places. **Flowers w/ yellow centers. Leaflets w/ rounded tips and sort of like miniature staircase.** vs Tall Jacob's Ladder (*P. caeruleum* / *acutiflorum*)- Tall (10-36") w/ sticky hairy stems. **Leaves glabrous on both sides (or nearly so). Petals blue w/ white centers, acute, ciliate in margin.** Wet meadows, along streams. vs. *Oxytropes* w/ more pointed leaflets and usually some leaflets abruptly twisted.



Hultén Family

Hultén Name

Hultén page

Accepted

Polemoniaceae

Polemonium pulcherrimum

769*

yes

Polypodium sibiricum

Licorice Fern

Polypodiaceae

Licorice Fern (*P. sibiricum*)- **Rachises and segment midribs essentially glabrous on top**; segment margins entire or crenulate (rarely serrate). Rare plant (S3) in AK vs. *P. glycyrrhiza*- **Rachises and segment midribs puberulent on top**; segment margins serrate, apex acute to attenuate.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Polypodiaceae**Polypodium vulgare ssp columbianum**

57

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Populus tremuloides

Trembling Aspen

Salicaceae

Trembling Aspen- leaf blades small & round w/ flattened petiole. Very early flowering. vs. Balsam Poplar & Black Cottonwood both w/ blades longer than wide, and round petioles.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Salicaceae

Populus tremuloides

332.3

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Populus trichocarpa

Black Cottonwood

Salicaceae

Black Cottonwood (*P. trichocarpa*)- seed capsules **rounded, hairy, three-parted**, leaves whitish beneath (coastal forests). vs Balsam Poplar- seed capsule **pointed, hairless, two-parted**, leaves pale green / brownish beneath, interior & SC AK. Hybrids occur where ranges overlap (Anchorage area).



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Salicaceae

*Populus balsamifera ssp trichocarpa**

332.2

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Potentilla gracilis

Graceful Cinquefoil

Rosaceae

Graceful Cinquefoil (*P. gracilis*)- **Basal leaves digitate w/ 5-7 coarsely toothed leaflets. Green above, white tomentose below.** Plants 30-80 cm tall. **Roadsides / wasteplaces**, probably introduced.



Hulten Family

Rosaceae

Hulten Name

Potentilla gracilis

Hulten page

620

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Potentilla pensylvanica

Pennsylvania cinquefoil

Rosaceae

P. pensylvanica- Basal leaves pinnate w/ 7-10 leaflets, cut to middle. Green above, white tomentose below; **Styles conical, incrassated & glandular at base**) vs. *P. bimundorum*- leaves similar; **Styles filiform, papillate-swollen at very base, if at all.**



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rosaceae

Potentilla pensylvanica

619

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Potentilla rubricaulis

Red-stemed Cinquefoil

Rosaceae

Red-stemed Cinquefoil (*P. rubricaulis*)- **Usually 5-7 leaflets white wooly on lower surface, middle leaflet not stalked.** Calyx mini-bracts very narrow. Stems less than 15cm.



Hulten Family

Rosaceae

Hulten Name

Potentilla Hookeriana ssp *Hookeriana**

Hulten page

615.1

Accepted

no

Pyrola asarifolia asarifolia

Pink Pyrola

Ericaceae

Pink Pyrola (*P. asarifolia*)- **Flowers pinkish**, Spike 8-10" w/ nodding flowers. Leaves round, wintergreen. Styles protruding vs. *P. chlorantha* smaller leaves, flowers greenish-white vs *P. grandiflora* large leaves, **Flowers large white or greenish-white** vs. Sidebells Wintergreen- **thinner more pointed leaves, very small green bell-shaped flowers on one side of curved stem**. All these **Wintergreens** can photosynthesize under shallow snow.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Pyrolaceae*

Pyrola asarifolia

711

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Ribes triste

Red Currant

Grossulariaceae

Red Currant (*R. triste*)- **Usually upright (not sprawling). Bark shredding.** Sepals very small reddish to purplish. Ovary w/o stalked glands. Racemes drooping vs. **All other Ribes have strong odor & bark not shedding.**



Hulten Family

*Saxifragaceae**

Hulten Name

Ribes triste

Hulten page

592

Accepted

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Rosa acicularis

Prickly Rose

Rosaceae

Prickly Rose (*R. acicularis*) **Very prickly stems** vs. Nootka Rose (*R. nutkana*)- larger and fewer spines **paired at stem nodes**). **Hybrids occur where ranges overlap (like SC AK)**. **Rose hips are high vitamin C. & Petals make good tea.** Caution: don't eat the seeds, they have 2 spines and might lodge in your intestines.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rosaceae

Rosa acicularis

634

yes

Rosa nutkana

Nootka Rose

Rosaceae

Nootka Rose (*R. nutkana*)- only a **few spines (usually paired at stem nodes)** vs. Prickly Rose (*R. acicularis*) **Very prickly**. Hybrids occur where ranges overlap (like SC AK). Caution: don't eat the seeds, they have 2 spines and might lodge in your intestines. Hips are high vit C. Petals make good tea.



Hulten Family

Rosaceae

Hulten Name

Rosa nutkana

Hulten page

635

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Rubus idaeus ssp. melanolasius

Wild Raspberry

Rosaceae

Wild Raspberry- A bristly shrub 2-4 feet tall. Five white petals w/ many stamens. Can be abundant at forest openings & roadsides. Cultivated plant from Europe.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Rosaceae

Rubus idaeus ssp. melanolasius

604

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Sabulina rubella

Reddish Sandwort

Caryophyllaceae

Reddish Sandwort (*S. rubella*)- **Stalks glandular. Leaves small thin linear-subulate w/ 3 nerves** (most easily seen on last year's remnants). **Sepals pointed** vs. Large-pod & Arctic Sandworts w/ **rounded sepals** & marscescent leaves not 3 nerved.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Caryophyllaceae

*Minuartia rubella**

433

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Salix scouleriana

Scoulers Willow

Salicaceae

Scoulers Willow (*S. scouleriana*)- Tree size. Leaves dark green above nearly hairless, beneath white or gray and hairy, becoming rusty & hairy when older. Three willows provide most moose browse in SC AK: *S. scouleriana*, *S. alaskensis*, and *S. barclayi* because they produce less salicylic acid (less bitter).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Salicaceae

Salix scouleriana

361

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Sambucus racemosa pubens

Red-berried Elder

Adoxaceae

Red-berried Elder- A shrub, with opposite leaves. Twigs are warty, soft and pithy inside. Flowers and juice edible. **Caution:** seeds are poisonous, causing diarrhea & vomiting.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Caprifoliaceae**

Sambucus racemosa

841

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Saxifraga tricuspidata

Prickly Saxifrage

Saxifragaceae

Prickly Saxifrage (*S. tricuspidata*)- White flowers w/ lavender spots. **"Evergreen leaves"** Leaf tips w/ **3 sharp spiny teeth**. become very red in winter, return to green in summer. vs Yellow Spotted Saxifrage- Densely caespitose, **clusters of small single spine tipped leaves in a sausage-like shape**. Petals white or cream-colored w/ yellow spots.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga tricuspidata

571

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Shepherdia canadensis

Soapberry

Eleagnaceae

Soapberry- Distinctive scurfy, brownish scales (like sandpaper) on young twigs, underside of leaves & sepals causes new buds to look copper colored. In places where salmon are not available, the berries are important bear food. Flowers appear very soon after snow melt, before leaves emerge. Berries are fleshy and edible, but poor flavor.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Eleagnaceae

Shepherdia canadensis

684

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Silene acaulis ssp subacaulescens

Moss Champion

Caryophyllaceae

Moss Champion- Cushions of very small leaves covered w/ pink flowers, usually found in dry rocky high alpine places, but also low elevations on Turnagain Arm.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Caryophyllaceae

Silene acaulis subacaulescens

440

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Solidago multiradiata

Northern Goldenrod

Asteraceae

Northern Goldenrod (*S. multiradiata*)- **Flower clusters flat topped, leaves more basal than on stems** vs. Elegant Goldenrod w/ more elongated flower clusters and crowded stem leaves. Solidago, latin from Solidus means "to make whole" alluding to healing properties. Multiradiata means many rays. Historic use externally for injuries or as a wound herb and taken as a drink.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Asteraceae

Solidago multiradiata

852

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Solidago multiradiata multiradiata

Northern Goldenrod

Asteraceae

Northern Goldenrod (*S. multiradiata*)- **Flower clusters flat topped, leaves more basal than on stems** vs. Elegant Goldenrod w/ more elongated flower clusters and crowded stem leaves. *Solidago*, latin from *Solidus* means "to make whole" alluding to healing properties. *Multiradiata* means many rays. Historic use externally for injuries or as a wound herb and taken as a drink.



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Hulten Family

Asteraceae

Hulten Name

Solidago multiradiata ssp multiradiata

Hulten page

852

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Sorbus scopulina

Greene Mountain Ash

Rosaceae

Greene Mountain Ash (*S. scopulina*)- **Leaflets 11 or more and more pointy tipped.** vs. Sitka Mountain Ash (*S. sitchensis*)- **Leaflets 7-11, toothed in upper part, entire in lowest 1/3, blunt at tip.**



Hulten Family

Rosaceae

Hulten Name

Sorbus scopulina

Hulten page

598

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Trifolium repens

Name Common

White Clover

Family

Fabaceae



Hulten Family

Fabaceae

Hulten Name

Trifolium repens

Hulten page

642

Accepted

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Viburnum edule

High Bush Cranberry

Adoxaceae

High Bush Cranberry- **Opposite leaves, large clusters of white flowers** vs. Red Currant- **berries hanging in chains, and leaves alternate, maple shaped leaves. Twigs w/ peeling bark.**



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

*Caprifoliaceae**

Viburnum edule

842

no

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Viola adunca

Dog Violet

Violaceae

Dog Violet (*V. adunca*)- **dry rocky areas, flowers numerous short stemmed purple**; beard of lateral petals white; Stipules jagged or sharp-toothed vs. Alaska Violet (*V. langsdoeffii*)- stipules entire. Snowbeds, meadows & streams; beard of lateral petals not white vs. White Violet (*V. renifolia*)- woodland clumping type. Flowers small white.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Violaceae

Viola adunca

682

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Viola renifolia

White Violet

Violaceae

White Violet (*V. renifolia*)- woodland clumping growth. Flowers small white. Leaves glabrous w/ open sinus (flowers before others).



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Violaceae

Viola renifolia

683

yes

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Woodsia ilvensis

Rusty Fern

Woodsiaceae

Rusty Fern (*Woodsia ilvensis*)- **no persistent dead fronds. Blades not tapering from middle to base. indusia hairy** vs. Fragrant Shield Fern (*D. fragrans*)- Leaves green all winter. **Dead fronds turn gray and remain attached. Stipe short, caffy w/ brown scales. indusia kidney shaped (not hairy). Blades tapering from middle to base.** Sunny dry, rocky outcroppings & boulder fields.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

Athyriaceae*

Woodsia ilvensis

51

no

Plagiomnium**Tooth moss*****Mniaceae***

Tooth Moss (*Plagiomnium*)- thin round leaves w/ teeth. *Plagiomnium cuspidatum* & *P. medium* are difficult to field id, need magnification to see leaf cells.



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Hulten Family**Hulten Name****Hulten page****Accepted**

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NA

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Rhytidium rugosum

Wrinkle-leaved Feather-moss

Rhytidiaceae

Wrinkle-leaved Feather-moss- leaves look feather edged & clawed, yellow-green & golden-brown & curve at the tip. Grows in moist, but not wet places along Turnagain Arm, often on cliff ledges, sometimes called clifftop moss.



Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

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Yes

*Tortula***Tortula Moss***Pottiaceae*

Flora of North America shows differences based on thickness of leaf edge cells, **not likely to field ID to species.**



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Hulten Family**Hulten Name****Hulten page****Accepted**

Name Scientific

Name Common

Family

Parmelia sulcata

Hammered Shield Lichen

Parmeliaceae

Hammered Shield Lichen (*Parmelia sulcata*)- Very common world wide. "Probably in every backyard of Anchorage" per Dr. Irwin Brodo. Seven species of this genus occur on Alaska's south coast.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

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Yes

Puccinia monoica

Parasitic Rust Fungus

Pucciniaceae

Parasitic Rust Fungus (*Puccinia monoica*)- the fungus sterilizes the host plant, preventing it from producing true flowers. Instead, it forces the infected plant to grow clusters of leaves into brilliant yellow "pseudoflowers" bearing the fungal spermatogonia. Insects visiting the pseudoflowers transfer spermatia from one host plant to another, in the same way that pollinators transfer pollen between the true flowers of uninfected plants.



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Hulten Family

Hulten Name

Hulten page

Accepted

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yes