

Arable Plant Crib Glossary

Adressed (or apressed) – pressed close to another organ, such as hairs that are pressed along a stem or leaf.

Axil – the upper angle between a leaf or bract and the stem.

Beak – a terminal projection, often at the tip of a fruit such as in cornsalads and buttercups, or the stalk between the fruit and the pappus hairs on a daisy flower.

Bifid – forked or cleft in two.

Cordate – heart-shaped.

Elliptical – widest at the middle and tapering to the tip and base.

Glandular – with the functions of, or bearing glands. For example, glandular hairs often have a globule at the end as this is where the gland is located.

Inflorescence – a grouping of flowers on a stem, on a receptacle or in a leaf-axil.

Lanceolate leaf – a long narrow leaf tapering to a point - spear-shaped.

Mucronate – a bristle-like point at the tip.

Palmate leaf – a compound leaf with more than three separate leaflets arising from the same point on the leaf stalk.

Palmately-lobed leaf – an entire leaf with the main veins radiating from a central point out to the tips of the leaf. This type of leaf often looks like a palm of a hand.

Petiole – a stalk of a leaf.

Pinnate leaf – a compound leaf made up of separate leaflets along the leaf stalk. The leaflets are usually arranged in opposite pairs with a terminal leaflet at the end of the stalk. The carrot family may have 2, 3 or more pinnate leaves referring to the number of subdivisions that the leaves are dividing into.

Pubescent – covered with soft short hair or downy.

Reflexed – sharply bent backwards, outwards or downwards on itself.

Truncate – square-ended, as if cut off at right-angles.

Whorled leaves – three or more leaves or flowers arising from the same point or level on a stem.