

Bedstraws

| Plant | Cleavers | Corn cleavers | False cleavers |
|---------------------|--|--|---|
| Species | Galium aparine | Galium tricornutum | Galium spurium |
| Threat status | | Extinct in the Wild / Critically Endangered | Near threatened |
| Distribution | Generally distributed | Historically very thinly scattered, mainly central England. Not present in Northern Ireland | Historically very thinly scattered. Not present in Northern Ireland |
| Habit | Climbing annual | Climbing annual | Prostrate annual |
| Leaves | In whorls of 6-8 | In whorls of 6-9 | In whorls of 6-10 |
| Flowers | In clusters of 2-5 | In clusters of 3 | In clusters of 3-9 |
| Calyx (sepals) | Absent | Absent | Absent |
| Corolla (petals) | White with a very short tube | White with a very short tube | Greenish-cream with a very short tube |
| Fruit | 3-5 mm, purplish, with hooked white bristles | >3 mm, hairless with lots of tiny warts. Stalks arch downwards (re-curved) | 1.5-3 mm, blackish, with hooked bristles or smooth |











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| Plant | Field madder | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Species | Sherardia arvensis | |
| Threat status | Least concern | |
| Distribution | Common except in upland areas | |
| Habit | Annual | |
| Leaves | In whorls of 4-6 | |
| Flowers | In dense clusters, each with a ring of 8-10 leaf-like bracts at base | |
| Calyx (sepals) | 1 mm persisting in fruit | |
| Corolla (petals) | Pink. Petal tube is longer than lobes | |
| Fruit | Bristly pair of nutlets with persistent attached calyx | |







