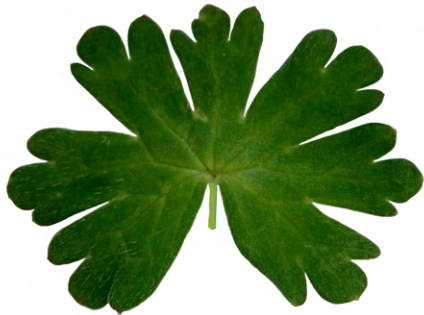


Geraniums, small flowered Crane's-bill's

ID Key Features

Dove's-foot Crane's-bill (*Geranium molle*)

Petals from deep pink through to white.

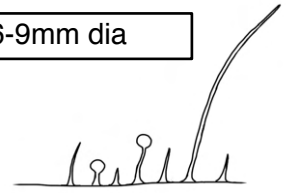


Cut up to 2/3rds towards base.

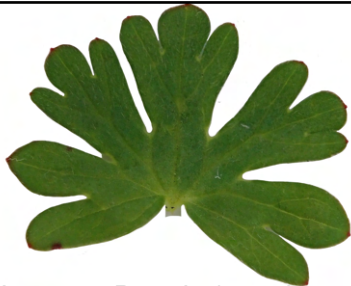


- 1) 98% Deeply notched petals
- 2) **Long hairs** in addition to short hairs (some glandular) on leaf & flower stalk. (X10 lens)

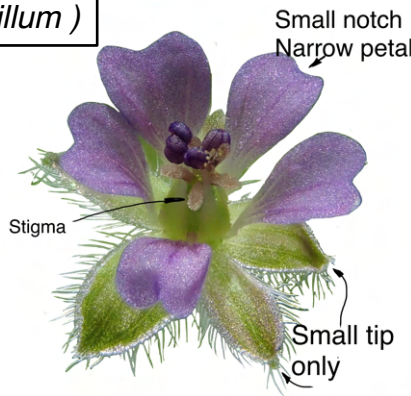
Flower 6-9mm dia



Small-flowered Crane's-bill (*G. pusillum*)



Shape as Dove's-foot above & can be more complex, cut to 2/3rds.



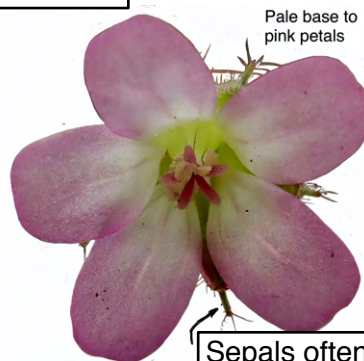
- 1) Small flowers 3-6mm dia
- 2) **No long hairs on stalks.**
- 3) Shallow notch to petals
- 4) Long hairs on sepals as in *G. molle*



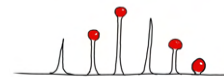
Round-leaved Crane's-bill (*G. rotundifolium*)



Cut up to 1/2 max



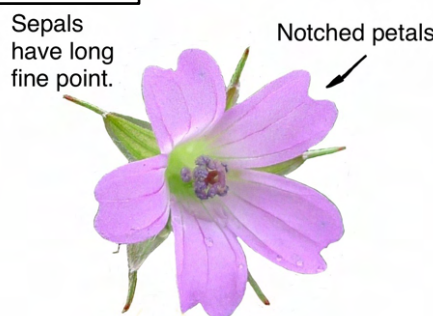
- 1) Pink petals , pale base
- 2) Red-tipped glandular hairs



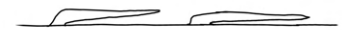
Long-stalked Crane's-bill (*G. columbinum*)



Often cut to base.



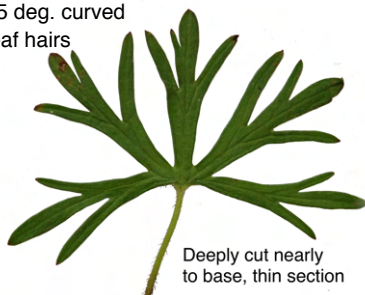
- 1) Long flower stalk 25mm+
- 2) Not always notched petals
- 3) White hairs pressed flat



Hairs on flower and leaf stalks, also on leaves and sepals.

Cut-leaved Crane's-bill (*G. dissectum*)

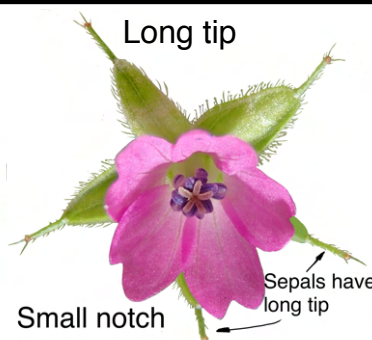
45 deg. curved leaf hairs



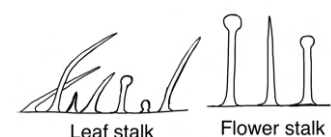
Deeply cut nearly to base, thin section



Winter Leaf

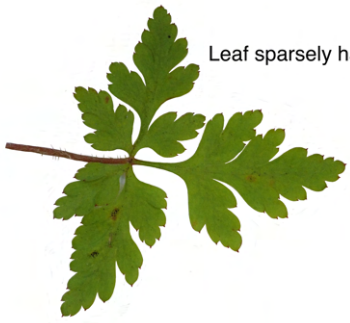

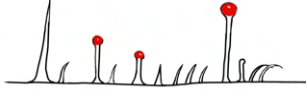






- 1) Small flowers on short stalk
- 2) Leaf/main stalk hairs point downwards to 45 deg.



Leaf stalk

Flower stalk

Geranium, small flowered Crane's-bills		ID Key features
<p>Herb Robert (<i>Geranium robertianum</i>)</p>  <p>Leaf sparsely hairy</p> <p>3-5 leaflets deeply cut</p>	<p>White form not uncommon</p>  <p>11-16mm dia.</p> <p>Sepal</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pink petals with prominent white lines. 2) Orange or purple anthers 3) Sepals have long thin tip and very long hairs with tiny glandular tips. (X15 -X20 mag) 4) Flower and leaf stalk hairs
<p>Little Robin (<i>Geranium purpureum</i>)</p>  <p>No hairs on leaf</p>	 <p>Sepals have long tip</p> <p>Small flowers , typ. 2/3rds of above</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pink Petals have pale white lines. YELLOW anthers. 2) Few or no hairs on leaves gives them a smooth appearance. 3) Stems hairless or hairy. 4) Can hybridise with Herb Robert
<p>Shining Crane's-bill (<i>Geranium lucidum</i>)</p>  <p>Unique sepal structure</p>	 <p>Unique sepal structure</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 5-7 lobed leaf cut 2/3 way to base and normally shiny. Not leaflets like Herb Robert. 2) Pink petals with white lines. Yellow anthers. 3) Sepals have 3-4 triangular protrusions which are unique. 4) Stalk hairs, None or tiny curved, occasionally few glandular hairs.
<p>Note that the colour of the anthers used to separate species is before they have split and the bright yellow pollen has spilled out. Confusion could occur with the colour of the yellow pollen. The anther will then fall off the stamen filament, so many flowers will not have anthers showing. This is the case above for the photo of the <i>G. lucidum</i>, which has yellow anthers like <i>G. purpureum</i>.</p>		

All species can have pale flowering forms. *Geraniums* have been subject to horticulture and non-native introduction, these are not covered here.

All species also can show variation of a particular feature (e.g. leaf shape), so several features should be checked.

In winter, leaf shape can vary (e.g. *G. dissectum*/*G. columbinum*) and glandular hairs may not be present.

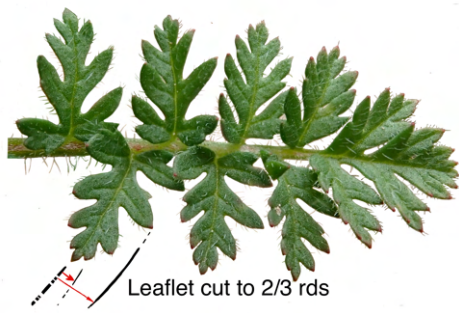
This is a **reduced set of key features** to aid identification and should be used with a standard field guide which will list a more complete description including distribution etc.

***Erodium* , small flowered Stork's-bills**

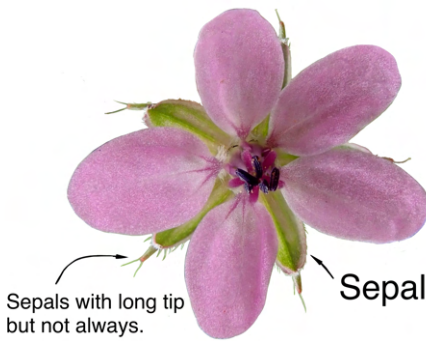
ID Key features

Common Stork's-bill (*Erodium cicutarium*)

Variation of features (Leaf shape reliable vs. Musk)



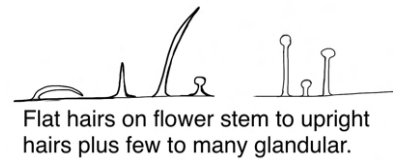
Leaflet cut to 2/3 rds



Sepals with long tip but not always.

Sepal

- 1) Leaflet shape with cuts up to 2/3rds deep.
- 2) Pink to White petals.
- 3) Variably hairy, few glandular to quite glandular.



Flat hairs on flower stem to upright hairs plus few to many glandular.

Musk Stork's-bill (*Erodium moschatum*)



Leaflets usually cut less than half way
Often more robust than Common



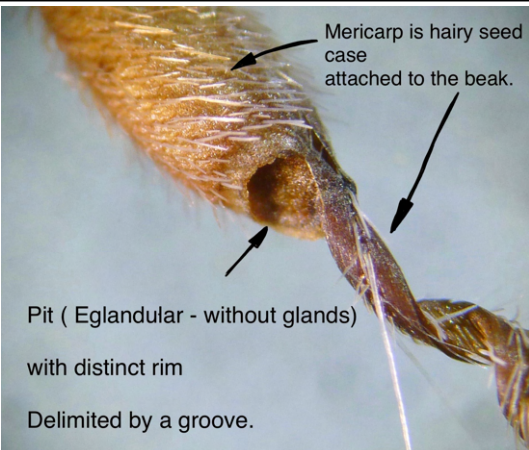
Sepal has long tip.
Sepal has glandular hairs.

- 1) Leaflet shape with cuts less than halfway to stalk.
- 2) Stigma pale off-white but Common is variable from dark to pale.
- 3) Dense glandular hairs on stems and leaf margins.



Sticky Stork's-bill (*Erodium lebelii*)

Very difficult to separate from coastal form *E. cicutarium*



Mericarp is hairy seed case attached to the beak.

Pit (E glandular - without glands)

with distinct rim

Delimited by a groove.



Less than 5mm

No rim to pit

To the left is the mericarp of a *E. cicutarium* with a pit, rim and hairs that only over-reach the pit by a limited amount.
Above is a *E. lebelii* mericarp , no groove, no rim to the pit and over-reaching hairs going at least half way across the pit.

See blog *Erodium lebelii* vs *Erodium cicutarium* on cambridgewildflowers.blogspot.com for details on how to separate this species from the coastal form of *E. cicutarium*. which can have glandular hairs on leaf.

Sea Stork's-bill (*Erodium maritimum*)



Can be lobed to half way



- 1) Leaf simple, has no leaflets
- 2) Tiny flowers only 2mm dia.
No petals (rarely tiny pink ones)
- 3) Low profile to ground.
- 4) Hairs bent towards leaf



Towards leaf. →

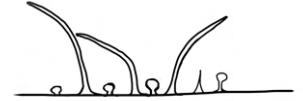
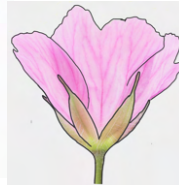
Flower

Geranium, Medium to large flowered Crane's-bill's

ID Key features

Bloody Crane's-bill (*Geranium sanguineum*)

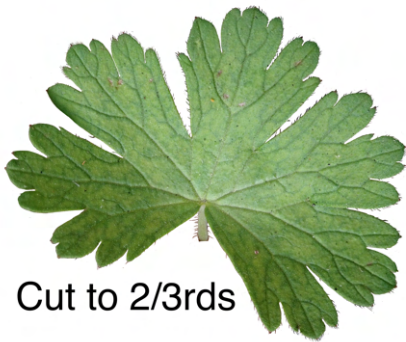
- 1) Large crimson flowers.
- 2) Leaves deeply cut into 5-7 lobes.
- 3) Each sepal has long tip (1.5 -3.5mm).
- 4) Long hairs on flower stalk.



Hedgerow Crane's-bill (*Geranium pyrenaicum*)

- 1) Deep purple flower with notched petals & twice size of *G. molle*. being 10-20mm dia.
- 2) Sepals only 1/2 length of petals. No Tip extension. Short hairs.

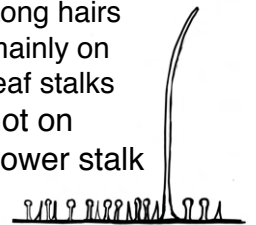
Petals have dark veins



Cut to 2/3rds



Long hairs mainly on leaf stalks not on flower stalk

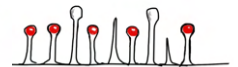
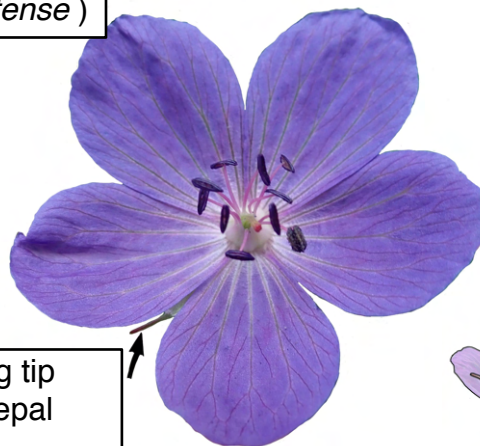


Meadow Crane's-bill (*Geranium pratense*)

- 1) Blue flower
- 2) Leaf cut almost to base and 7(5-9) lobes cut deeply.
- 3) Hairs , flower stalk, mainly red glandular short hairs.



Long tip to sepal

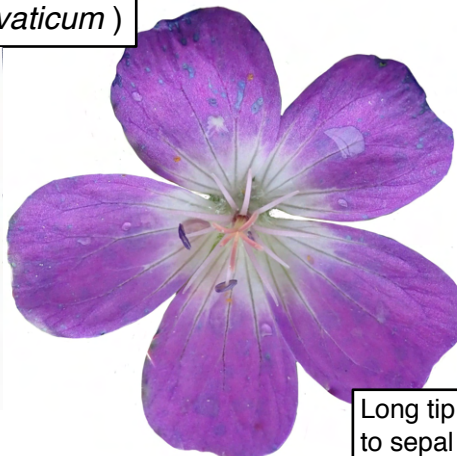


Wood Crane's-bill (*Geranium sylvaticum*)

- 1) Purple-pink flowers have pale centre to some extent.
- 2) Glandular hairy except lower stalks.



Lobes wider and less pointed than in *G.pratense*



Long tip to sepal

