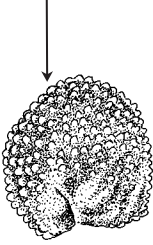


Sessile-leaved scurvy-grass

Cochlearia sessilifolia

Rollins

Seeds densely and evenly covered with white, waxy scalelike trichomes



C. sessilifolia



C. officinalis

Leaves entire, sessile, oblong to spatulate, 5-20 mm long



Flowers white, 4-7 mm long; fruit erect, broadly oblong to elliptical, 8-12 mm long when mature

Stems slender, simple or branched, leafy

Ill. by D. Collet

Annual herb up to 7 cm tall, lacking a basal rosette of leaves

Brassicaceae

Distribution: Endemic to Kodiak and Sitkalidak Islands in south coastal Alaska.

Habitat: Gravel bars in the intertidal zone; submersed at high tide.

Similar Species: Similar to (and possibly conspecific with) *C. officinalis* L. which has distinct rosettes of basal leaves, petiolate basal and lower stem leaves, smaller siliques (usually less than 8 mm long) and seeds with far less abundant (if any) trichomes.

Notes: There remains some question as to the appropriate rank at which to treat this taxon. Rollins (1993) maintains that the seed morphology, large fruits, annual habit and lack of basal rosettes amply distinguish it as a species from *C. officinalis*. Hultén (1941-50, 1968, 1973) and Welsh (1968, 1974) treat the taxon as a variety of *C. officinalis*.

References: Hultén 1941-50, 1968, 1973; Rollins 1941, 1993; Welsh 1968, 1974.

