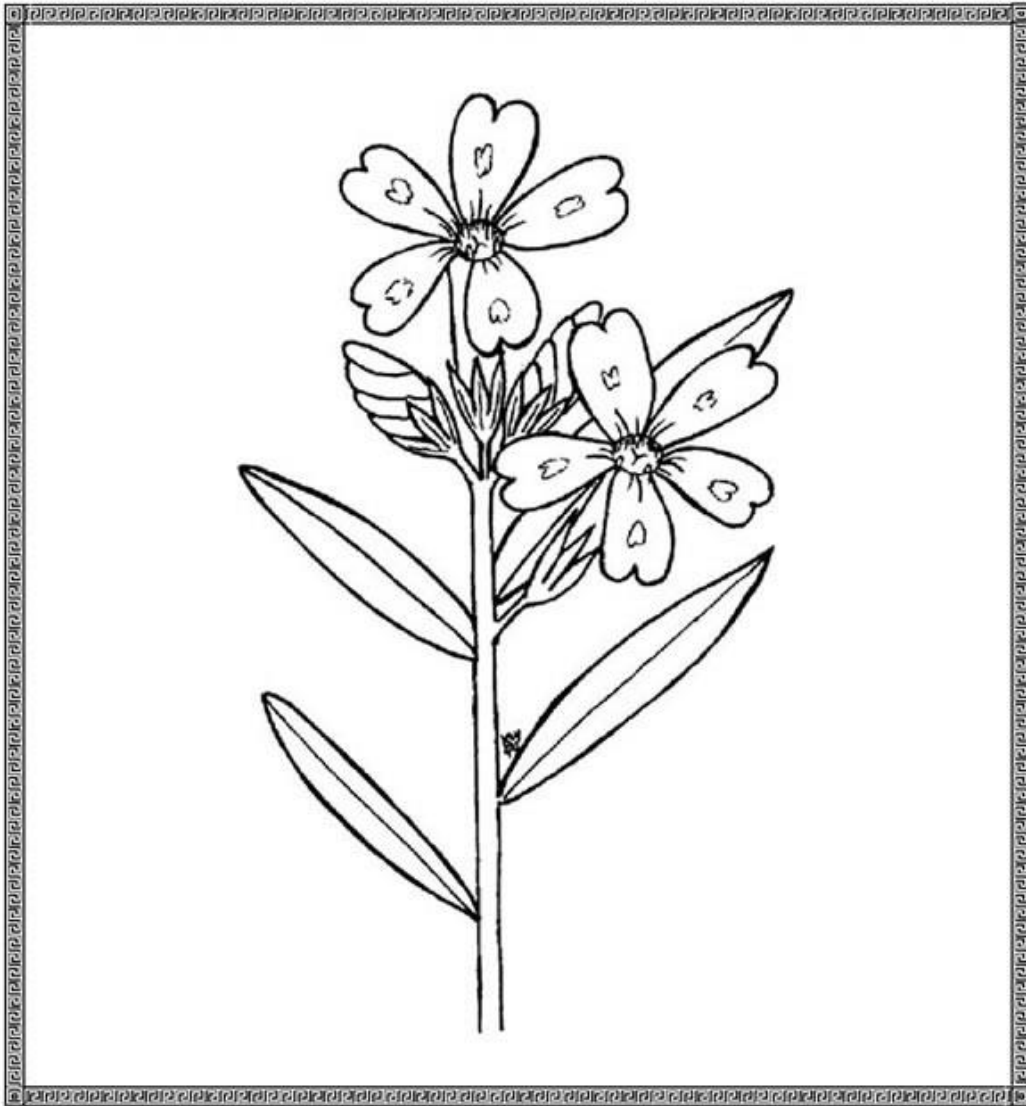


National Forest Wildflower Coloring Pages



Annual Phlox

Microsteris gracilis the Phlox Family

Though very common, this wildflower is easily missed because it is only 1 to 4 inches tall. It is an annual plant (meaning that it grows from seed each year and does not over-winter as an adult plant). Flowering occurs in early spring during April and May.



Choke cherry

Padus virginiana the Rose Family

These are tall shrubs, common along streams and roads in the 7000-9000 feet elevation zone. The flowers are white and fragrant and borne in an arrangement called a raceme. The fruit is similar to a cherry in that fleshy covering surrounds a single seed. When eaten fresh, this sour fruit can produce a puckering of the mouth and throat, thus it was commonly called "Choke" cherry.



Dusky beardtongue

Penstemon whippleanus Scrophulariaceae the Figwort Family

The tube-shaped flowers are grouped in nodding clusters at the top of the flowering stem. The flowers are usually a dingy purple in color. This is a common wildflower throughout the mountains from ponderosa pine to timberline.



Fireweed

Epilobium angustifolium Onagraceae the Evening-primrose Family

The brilliant rose-purple flowers are bundled closely together near the top of the plant. The leaves are long, narrow, and look similar to a willow leaf. Fireweed is usually found in moist areas, but commonly takes over burned areas and along roadsides.



Harebell

Campanula rotundifolia Campanulaceae the Bellflower Family

The purple flowers are bell shaped and hang slightly downward from a slender stem. This plant is very widespread. In the northern hemisphere it can be found from the low elevation foothills all the way to the alpine tundra.



Nuttall's Larkspur

Delphinium nuttallianum the Hellebore Family

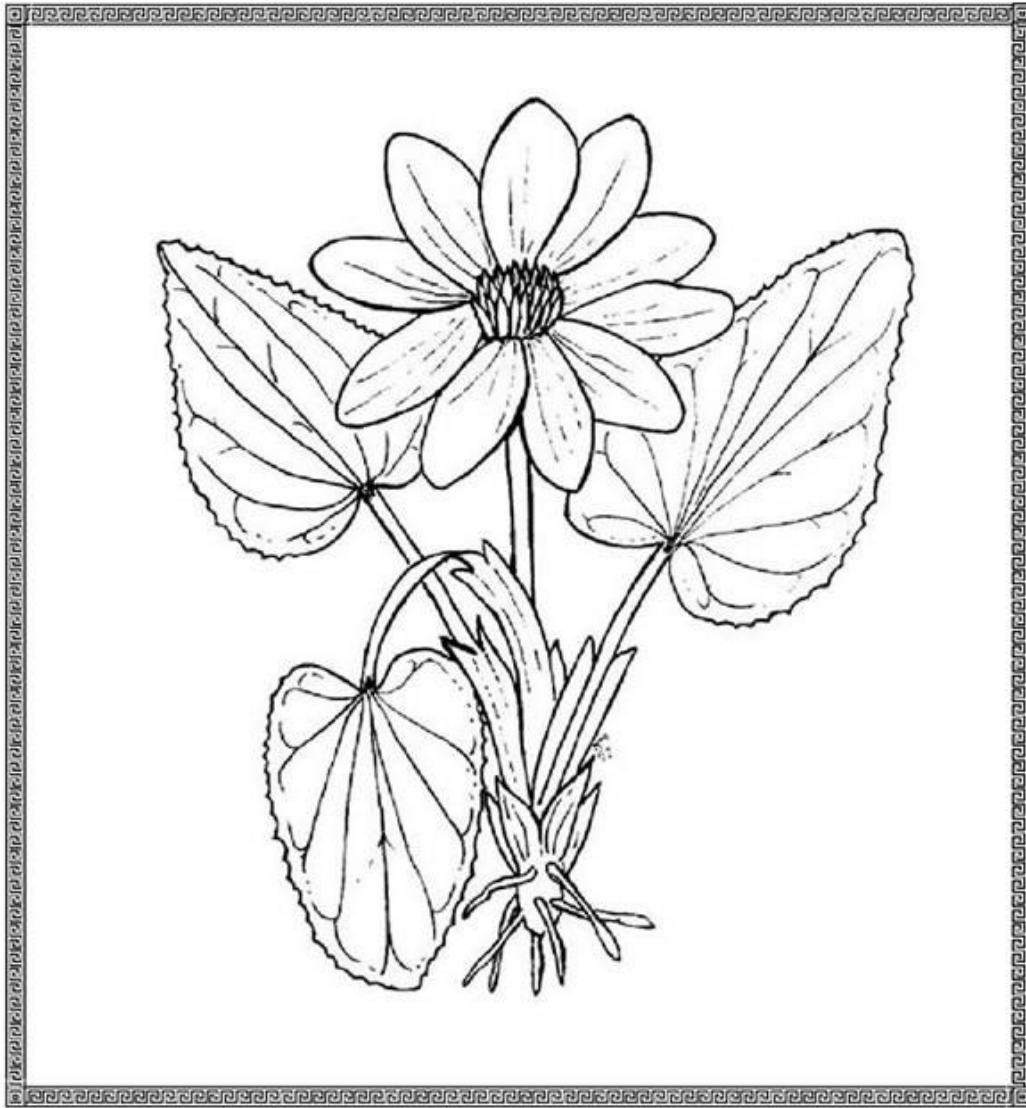
This lovely wildflower occurs from the sagebrush zone up into the ponderosa pine zone. It can be poisonous to cattle if they eat too much, and the poisonous nature of this plant enabled American Indians to make medicinal preparations for killing lice.



Old Man of the Mountains

Hymenoxys grandiflora Asteraceae the Sunflower Family

A grand flower indeed!! This is one of the showiest and most easily recognized alpine plants. Stout woolly stems are topped by bright yellow heads two to four inches across with 3-notched ray flowers. It blooms late in the summer and is very common on high peaks and alpine meadows. The heads of these flowers usually face away from the prevailing winds.



Marsh Marigold

Caltha leptosepala Asteraceae the Sunflower Family

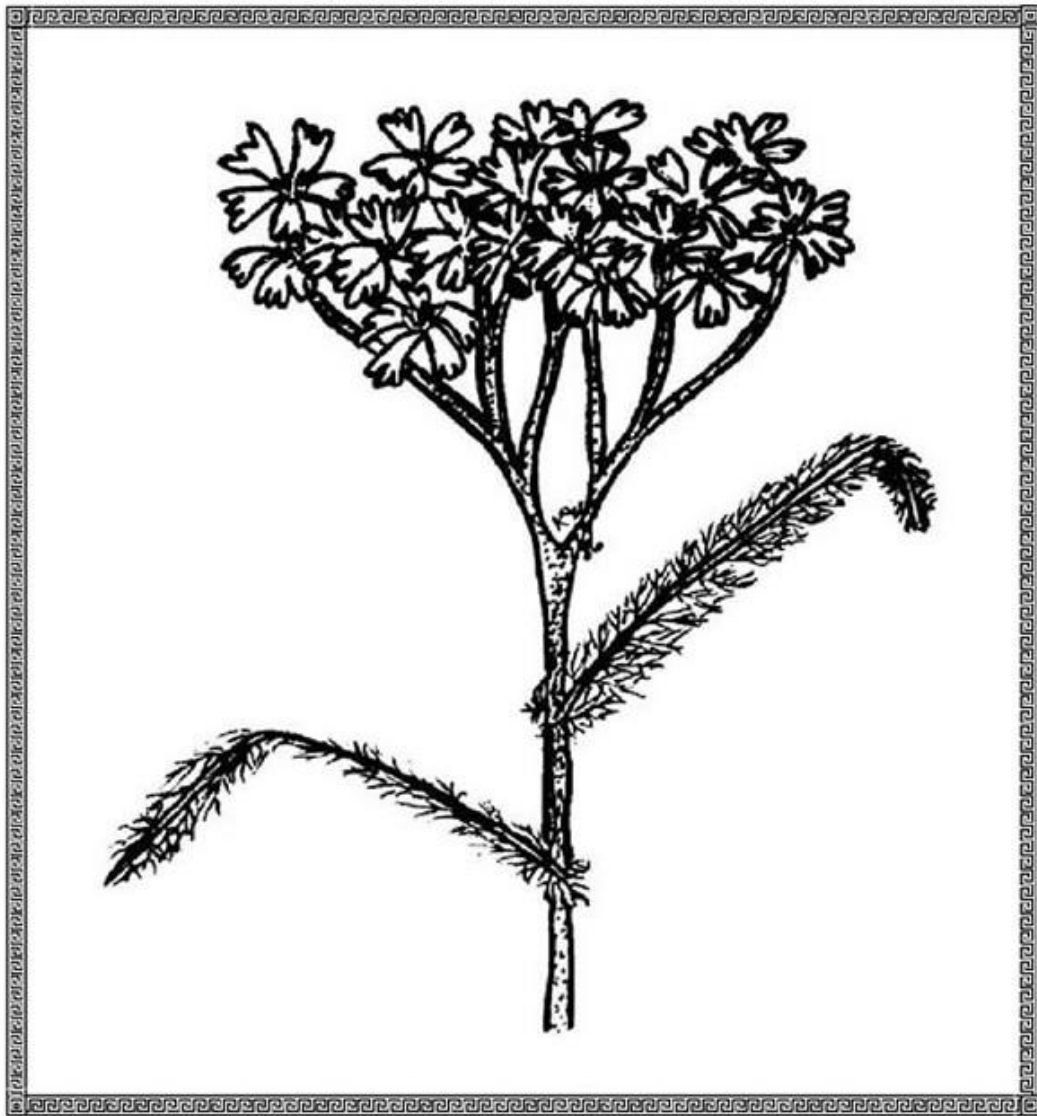
Found on wet ground along streams, in mountain meadows, and in tundra. Flowers very early, often in large patches while snow is still on the ground nearby. "Leptosepala" means slender "sepals" or petals. A related species in the eastern United States was eaten by American Indians, but this species is reported to be much too bitter.



Serviceberry

Amelanchier alnifolia the Rose Family

These are moderately tall shrubs that grow in rocky soil from oakbrush areas up to aspen. The plants have clusters of white flowers and simple, rounded leaves with toothed margins. The dark purplish fruit is like a little apple and is very bitter tasting to people, but is readily eaten by birds and other wildlife species.



Western Yarrow

Achillea lanulosa Asteraceae the Sunflower Family

This flat-topped white flowered species is common in meadows and along roads from the sagebrush to the alpine. It has a long history of medicinal use. It is easy to grow in a flower garden, but can take over if watered too much.



Wood's Rose

Rosa woodsii the Rose Family

This wild rose blooms in early summer with delightfully fragrant, showy, pink blossoms that resemble garden roses. These shrubs have spiny stems and pinnately compound leaves. The fruits are often called “hips” and are a good winter food for wildlife. They contain high levels of vitamin C, and are often made into jelly or dried for tea.

If you want to know the colors of these wildflowers, go to:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/kids/coloring/colorofflowers.shtml>