Key to Plant Details – Identification, Collectability, Caution, Summary of Use

Key 1

(Other Name) *Botanical name* (*synonym*) (Botanical family)

Common Name

collectability: rating (1-5) main reason category

- **A** plentyful
- **B** as **A**, but more specialised habitat
- **C** availability or safety unknown
- **F** famine – unsafe/rare but nutritious
- **R** rare and of little value as food
- **P** poisonous and of little value as food
- **S** suspect source information

0 1 2 3 4 5

identification

- habitat: type | distribution | prefers | other
- general: growth type | cycle | height | other
- leaf: shape | texture | arrangement | edge | other
- stem: colour | texture | cross section | other
- root: type | colour | size | depth
- flower: shape | diameter | petals/sepals | arrangement | when | other | flower colour
- fruit: shape | colour | size | other
- seed: shape | colour | size | casing | other
- sap

Note on photographs: plants shown may be of closely realted species with very similar features

caution: substance | lookalike | other

Use: culinary | medicinal | other

part used

Also: related plants used in same way

colour blocks in the info section correspond to the same code used for the plant parts, additionally:

- caution
- medicinal

(Goosegrass) *Galium aparine* (Rubiaceae)

Cleavers

* * * * common widespread weed **A**

- hedges, waste places | tnh | - | patch forming
- herb | annual | 2m + | clingy
- lanceolate | coarse | whorl, 6-8 | barbed bristles | -
- - | coarse | square | straggly, tangled
- - | tiny | - | small stalked clusters from base of leaves | May-Sep | -
- round | green | 4mm | - | tiny clingy bristles

- | - | sap may irritate skin of sensitive individuals

Use:

Trifolium pratense (Leguminosae)

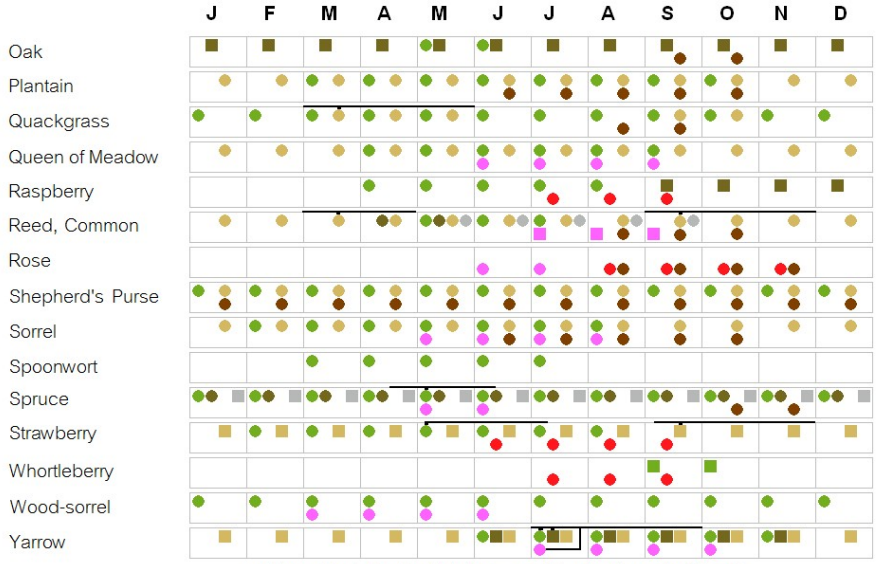
Clover

* * * common widespread **A**

- grassy areas | tnh | alkaline | -
- herb | perennial | >0.5m | -
- trefoil | - | - | - | with white crescent
- - | - | - | deep
- globular | >40mm | - | - | - | - |

contains trypsin inhibitors which can interfere with protein digestion; may be reduced or destroyed by sprouting | - | may be slightly toxic if plant is diseased

Use:



usable parts, but not edible (e.g. medicinal or household use)

edible parts

best time to gather part