

V. CERASTUIM, LINN. MOUSE-EAR CHICKWEED.

Calyx of 5, rarely 4 sepals. Corolla of 5, rarely 4 petals, obcordate, or 2-cleft. Stamens generally 10, sometimes 5 or 4. Styles equal in number to the sepals, and opposite them. Capsule 1-celled cylindrical, elongated, bursting at the apex with 10 teeth, with numerous rough seeds. Flowers white, solitary or cymose. (Name from *keras* a horn from the rather long and curved capsules of many species).

(a.) Petals not larger than calyx.

{ *C. vulgatum*.
 { *C. viscosum*.

(b) Petals considerably larger than calyx

{ *C. nutans*.
 { *C. arvense*.
 { *C. oblongifolium*.
 { *C. alpinum*.

1. ***C. vulgatum***, Linn.—*Mouse-ear chickweed*. Annual. Stems ascending, hirsute and clammy-hairy, pale-green. Leaves ovate or obovate, very obtuse, attenuated at the base, (almost petioleless). Flowers in close clusters. Pedicels very short, scarcely as long as the flowers. Sepals acute, rather longer than the petals. Capsule cylindrical, attenuate, twice longer than the calyx, curved upwards. Introduced.

Waste places from Florida to Eastern Canada. Vicinity of Quebec (Brunet). Common among grass at Hamilton's Farm, River Rouge (D'Urban). River du Loup (Dr. Thomas). In gardens at Kingston and at Fort William, Thunder Bay, Lake Superior. Recently reported from vicinity of Hamilton by J. M. Buchan Esq.

This species seems to be of very rare occurrence in Ontario, and as yet, so far as Central Canada is concerned, is almost exclusively confined to the Eastern Province. It is very distinct from the next species in general appearance, though often confounded with it. The shape of the leaves, the erect stems, and the flowers in dense clusters, should enable the most commonplace observer readily to distinguish it. May—July.

2. ***viscosum***, Linn.—*Larger mouse-ear chickweed*. Perennial. Stems hairy, viscid, spreading, much branched, greener than the last, and as a rule a much larger plant. Leaves lanceolate-oblong, rather acute. Bracts much smaller than in the last species. Flowers in loose cymes which are dichotomous—the solitary flower in the fork