

rose colour, depauperate, dioecious; involucre composed of 4-5 bracts, one of them sometimes bifid.

The abortion of the stamens and the reduction of the petaloid sepals seem to account well for the increased luxuriance of the vegetative organs. Indeed, a mass of observations point to the fact that, in the metabolism of plants, vegetative and reproductive activity behave in inverse ratio.

The affinity of the genus *Hepatica* with *Anemone* is an interesting problem, and observers should be on the lookout for deviations that may open lines of research.

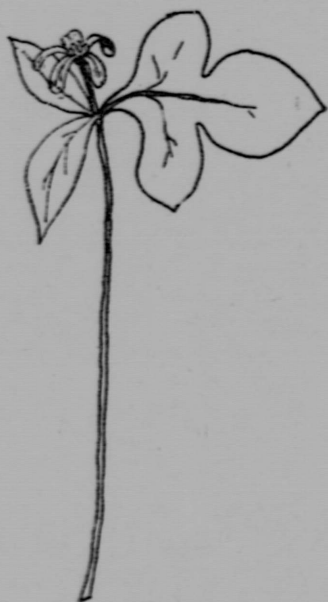


Fig. 1.

Abnormal involucre of *Hepatica acutiloba* DC.