

Depressed shrub with subterranean repent trunk and branches; the assurgent branchlets 3–10 cm. high, pale, glabrous, leafy at the tip: leaves thick, elliptic-rotund, 0.7–2 cm. long, 0.5–1.4 cm. wide, green and glabrous above, with impressed nerves, glaucous-whitened beneath and reticulate-veiny and glabrous, or the young silky-tomentose and glabrate; the margin entire or crenate, somewhat revolute; petioles glabrous 1–4 mm. long: terminal buds olive, glabrous, narrowly ellipsoid, obtuse, 4–5 mm. long, 1.5–2.5 mm. thick: aments terminal, short-peduncled; the fruiting densely flowered, ellipsoid, 5–11 mm. long; the peduncle 1–2.5 mm. long, glabrous: scales olive or somewhat reddish-yellow, rounded-obovate, glabrous, 1 mm. long: capsules subsessile, conic-ovoid, obtuse, 3.5–4.5 mm. long, glabrous, purplish; style very short, the divergent stigmas 2-cleft; the prongs of the nectary 2, filiform, 1 mm. long.—NEWFOUNDLAND: mossy knolls on the limestone tableland, altitude 200–300 m., Table Mountain, Port à Port Bay, July 17, 1914, *Fernald & St. John*, no. 10,825 (TYPE in Gray Herb.).

In habit and foliage closely simulating *S. reticularis* L. and the most dwarfed alpine extreme of *S. vestita* Pursh; but differing from both in the glabrous scales and capsules; also from *S. reticularis* in its short peduncles and thick fruiting aments, and from *S. vestita*, which is the most abundant willow of Table Mountain, in its glabrous or quickly glabrate foliage and the smaller and more slender glabrous greenish terminal buds, the terminal buds of *S. vestita* being obovoid, pubescent and reddish and measuring 6–11 mm. long by 3–5 mm. thick.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

## FORMS OF ARENARIA LATERIFLORA.

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IN a former article (*RHODORA*, 15: 209) the writer called attention to two forms of *Arenaria lateriflora* occurring in Southern New England, a large-flowered form with long filaments and well developed anther-cells, and a second form having shorter petals and imperfectly developed anther-cells borne on very short filaments. Further observations the past summer indicate that the anther-cells of the second form are destitute of pollen. The two forms may be characterized as follows.

Petals averaging 7.5 mm. in length: filaments about twice the length

of the calyx, equalling or exceeding the styles; anther-cells plump, 0.75 mm. long, with copious pollen; calyx 2.5 mm. long. This plant fruits regularly.

Petals averaging 4 mm. in length: filaments shorter than, or barely equalling the calyx, often hidden within it; anther-cells shrunken, 0.25 mm. long, without pollen: this plant is dependent upon the other for pollination, and may, or may not, develop fruit according to circumstances.

Neither form appears to fruit freely, and a vigorous individual does not, as a rule, ripen more than one or two capsules. Both forms show a marked tendency to grow in colonies, consisting exclusively of one form of plant, but neighboring colonies do not vary greatly in fruitfulness, whether consisting of the large-, or small-flowered variety. Mention was made in the previous article of an extensive station in dry, open woods in Franklin, Connecticut, where the small-flowered form seemed to be the only one present and yet fruited well. The writer has since been able to locate several small colonies of the plant with large flowers in the same woods. It is unusual in Franklin to find the latter form in dry soil, as it exhibits a decided preference for meadow lands. Both forms fruit about alike in these woods. But there is a marked difference at another Franklin station, a wet meadow with a border of dry gravel. In the meadow the large-flowered *Arenaria* is abundant and unusually fruitful. On the gravel, however, where the small-flowered *Arenaria* is even more abundant, one needs to search a long time to find a fruiting capsule. This may be due to interference with insect visitations by the dense growth of grass, which springs up on the meadow in early June, and soon overtops and conceals the smaller plants at its base.

In an interesting paper on *A. lateriflora* in RHODORA for March, 1914, Mr. Wilhelm Suksdorf suggests that the long-stamened flower is not fertile and that the two forms are the two sexes of a dioecious species. Very likely the species may prove to be dioecious in some localities, but such have not come under the writers observation. During the past summer he carefully marked many plants with long-stamened flowers and these uniformly produced seeds which appear to be normal. A suite of specimens has been deposited in the Gray Herbarium.

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