## **Plant Identification Glossary**

achene

one-seeded, one-celled, dry, hard fruit that doesn't open when ripe

acuminate

taper-pointed

acute

sharp

adnate

unlike plant parts united in growth or fused

alternate ament

one branch or leaf per node catkin (as of a willow)

androecium

complete set of stamens

annual

plant that completes its life cycle in one growing season

anther

flower organ that produces pollen

apex

tip end

arcuate

curved like a bow; arched

ascending

growing upward

auricle

small, projecting lobe or appendage slender bristle or spine (grasses)

axil banner

awn

angle formed by a stem and its leaf upper, upright petal of a pea-type flower (also called a standard)

barb basal

short, stiff point or short bristle at lower end, or base, of a plant

biennial

plant that requires two years to complete its life cycle

blade

broad, flat part of a leaf or petal

bloom bract

a waxy powder on the surface of a plant modified leaf below a flower or inflorescence

bracteole

small bract

bulb

underground bud or storage organ made of layers of fleshy, overlapping leafy

scales (modified leaves)

caespitose

growing in turflike patches or tufts

callus

firm, thickened base of a lemma (grasses)

calyx

collective term for sepals of a flower, usually green and enclosing other flower

parts when still in bud

campanulate bell-shaped

capsule

dry fruit with more than one chamber

carpel catkin seed-bearing chamber at the base of a pistil scaly, linear spike of small flowers lacking petals

caudex

persistent, thickened stem of a perennial plant

chaffy

thin, dry, scaly

ciliate

having a fringe of hairs along the margin or edge

claw

narrow stalk of a petal or sepal

cleft

deeply cut or lobed

coma cordate

corm

tuft of silky hairs at the end of a seed heart-shaped with the notch at the base thickened, vertical, underground stem

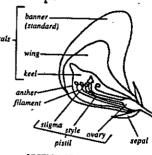
corolla

collective term for the petals of a flower

corymb

flat or round-topped flower cluster, flower stalks arise from different points on

stem, outer flowers open first



SECTION OF A PEA FLOWER (an irregular flower with a superior ovary

ALTERNATE LEAVES



WILLOW

CATKIN

cotyledons

seed leaves: first leaves

crenate

with rounded teeth; scalloped

culm

stem of of grasses, sedges, and rushes

cuneate cvme

triangular or wedge-shaped with the narrow end at the base loose flower cluser in which the central flowers open first

decumbent

bent at the base; prostrate but with ascending tips

deltoid dentate triangular toothed

dihiscent

bursting or splitting open when ripe

disk flower

tubular flowers (of Compositae or Aster family)

dorsal

on the upper or outer side

drupe

pulpy or fleshy fruit with one seed contained in a hard shell or stone

elliptic(al)

oval with rounded ends. broadest in the middle

entire

continuous: smooth

epiphyte

plant growing on another plant

exserted

protuding out of

fascicle filament

small bundle of needles, spines, or bristles stalk-like part of stamen that supports anther

filiform

floret

single (small) flower of many that make up a composite flower head

follicle

fruit with single chamber that opens along one side

forb

broad-leaved, non-woody plant that dies back after each growing season

fruit

ripened ovary and associated ripened structures

glabrous

leaves or stems that lack hairs; smooth

glaucous

covered with a whitish, waxy powder (bloom)

globose

spherical or nearly spherical

globular

globe-like

glochid glumes

tiny, sharp, hairlike growth with nearly invisible barbs on surface (cactus)

hellicoid

two outer husks or bracts of a grass spikelet spirally coiled, unrolling with maturity

herb

flowering plant with an aboveground stem that does not become woody transluscent; membranous

hyaline

imbricated overlapping

imperfect

either lacking stamens or lacking pistils

inferior

below; lower

inflorescence collective term for the flowers on a stem; cluster of flowers

internode

part of a stem between two nodes

involucre

ring of leaf-like bracts below a flower cluster

keel

ridge or spine; fused lower petals of a pea-type flower

lanceolate

narrow, broadest at base and tapering to the tip, much longer than wide

lateral

to/on the side

leaflet lemma one of the divisions or blades of a compound leaf outer (usually larger) bract of a grass flower

lenticel

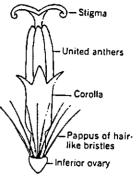
slightly raised pore on root or stem bark

ligule

strap-shaped corolla of a ray flower; flat projection from the top of a grass sheath

linear

narrow and long with mainly parallel margins

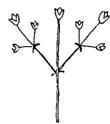


DISK FLOWER

Stigma

Style

Ovary



INFERIOR

locule small chamber in an ovary, anther, or fruit Ioment a pod with constrictions between the seeds internode **lvrate** pinnatifid with tip lobe largest and rounded midrib middle or main rib of a leaf midvein central vein of a leaf moniliform resembling a string of beads nerve vein of leaf (or of other plant part) OPPOSITE, PETIOLATE a point on a stem where branches or leaves arise (joint) node oblanceolate upside-down lanceolate oblong more or less rectangular with rounded corners obovate egg shape with the broader end tward the tip arranged in pairs at the nodes of a stem (branches or leaves) opposite orbicular rounded or circular like an orb oval egg shape with ends equally tapered ovary part of a flower's pistil that contains the cells that become seeds ovate egg shape broader toward base (ovoid) ovule structure in the ovary that becomes the seed palea inner bract of a grass flower simple or compound leaf divided into finger-like parts or leaflets palmate Panicle much-branched inflorescence of stalked flowers, lower branches longer panicle bristly or scale-like appendage on fruits of Compositae (Aster) family pappus pedicel stalk of a flower peduncle stalk of a flower cluster peltate shield-shaped Reak pendent hanging plant with a life cycle that lasts more than two years perennial perfect having both stamens and pistils perianth 'envelope' of a flower- sepals and petals collectively (bipinnate) separate part of inner floral ring (corolla), usually brightly colored or white petal petiole stalk of a leaf phyllary individual lower bract on the head of a flower from family Compositae pinnate feather-like, compound with leaflets on each side of the stalk pinnatifid pinnately cleft seed-producing organ of a flower pistil plicate folded like a fan plumose having fine hairs; plumed, feathery pod dry fruit, opening when mature Receptacle pome fleshy fruit involucre bracts Chaffy bracts prostrate growing flat along the ground covered with fine hairs (leaves or stems) pubescent COMPOSITE HEAD cluster of stalked flowers that arise at different points along a stem raceme ray flower outer flower of a composite flower head (asters, etc) Corolla recurved curved under reflexed bent or turned abruptly backward or down reniform kidney-shaped Stigma rhizome underground, root-like stem; rootstock United anthers

Inferior ovary

RAY FLOWER

RACEME

rhombic slightly diamond-shaped

rosette ring or cluster of bracts or leaves; basal leaf cluster

rotate wheel-shaped

dry, usually one-seeded, winged fruit (eg, maple) samara

saprophytic living on dead organic matter

scale thin, transparent or membranous part of a plant

flowering stem growing from root crown, doesn't have proper leaves scape

scurfy covered with small, scale-like particles (leaves or stems)

part of a calyx, usually green and leaf-like sepal serrate margin cut into teeth pointing forward

sessile without a stalk

simple of one part, not compounded or divided

spadix dense or fleshy spike of flowers

large leaf-like bract enclosing a flower cluster, often colored spathe spatulate shaped like a spoon or a pear-narrowing toward the base

spicate arranged in or resembling a spike

inflorescence with stalkless individual flowers along a common stem spike

spikelet small flower clusters of grasses and sedges

spur usually hollow projection, usually at base of flower

stamen pollen-bearing part of a flower- consists of filament and anther

staminode streile stamen or plant part resembling a sterile stamen

stellate star-shaped

stigma upper part of the pistil where pollen is received small, leaflike appendage at the base of a leaf stipule stolon horizontal shoot that puts down roots; runner striate marked with stripes, streaks or furrows (striations) style stalklike part of the pistil, joins stamen and ovary

subtending closely underlying or attached below succulent soft, fleshy, and full of juice (eg, cactus)

superior upper, above

main root descending downward and giving off small lateral roots taproot

tendril slender, clasping appendages (modified leaf or leaflet) sepals and petals that are indistinguishable from each other tépals

terminal at end, or top of ternate arranged in threes

trifoliate three leaves attached to a common stalk

fleshy, rounded, thick outgrowth of an underground shoot or stem (eg, potato) tuber

rounded protuding body attached to some part of a plant tubercle

tuft tight cluster of stems, bristles, or hairs

umbel flower cluster whose stalks radiate from a common point

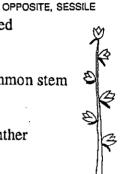
utricles small, thin-walled, one-seeded, inflated fruits

ventral on the lower or inner side

group of three or more leaves arising from same node whorl

thin, flat extension; one of the lateral petals of a pea-type flower wing

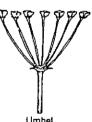
woolly covered with tangled, soft hairs



blade

SPIKE

1



WHORLED LEAVES

