

1	Sepals free, slightly united in Pseudostellaria	(2)
+	Sepals united, at least at the base	(17)
2 (1)	Leaves alternate	16 <i>Telephium</i>
+	Leaves opposite or spuriously whorled	(3)
3 (2)	Leaves stipulate	(5)
+	Leaves exstipulate	(4)
4 (3)	Leaves densely imbricate. Plants forming dense, compact cushions (found above 4400m)	1 <i>Thylacospermum</i>
+	Leaves not imbricate. Plants not as above	(8)
5 (3)	Stipules connate at the nodes	13 <i>Spergularia</i>
+	Stipules free	(6)
6 (5)	Sepals keeled	15 <i>Polycarpon</i>
+	Sepals not keeled	(7)
7 (6)	Axillary leaf fascicles present. Stamens 5-10. Seeds keeled or winged	12 <i>Spergula</i>
+	Axillary leaf fascicles absent. Stamens 5. Seeds neither keeled nor winged	14 <i>Polycarpacea</i>
8 (4)	Sepals 4, unequal. Leaves closely adpressed to the stem	11 <i>Bufonia</i>
+	Sepals 5(-4), equal. Leaves not as above	(9)
9 (8)	Flowers in umbels	7 <i>Holosteum</i>
+	Flowers solitary or in cymes	(10)
10 (9)	Capsule cylindric, dehiscent by small teeth, often reflexed or revolute	8 <i>Cerastium</i>
+	Capsule globose to ovoid, dehiscent by valves or teeth which are neither reflexed nor revolute	(11)
11 (10)	Styles 4-5	(12)
+	Styles 2-3	(13)
12 (11)	Leaves lanceolate to spatulate. Styles 5. Capsule dehiscent by 5 bidentate teeth	9 <i>Myosoton</i>
+	Leaves linear. Styles 4-5. Capsule splitting by 4-5 valves	10 <i>Sagina</i>
13 (11)	Capsule membranous, splitting almost to the base by 2(-4) valves	4 <i>Lepyrodiclis</i>
+	Capsule not membranous, dehiscent by more than 2 valves or teeth	(14)
14 (13)	Capsule dehiscent by as many valves as styles (3)	3 <i>Minuartia</i>
+	Capsule dehiscent by twice as many teeth or valves as styles	(15)
15 (14)	Capsule teeth short, 6 in number	2 <i>Arenaria</i>
+	Capsule teeth usually ½ the capsule length, 4-6 in number	(16)
16 (15)	Tubers absent. Only chasmogamic flowers present. Sepals free	5 <i>Stellaria</i>
+	Napiform tubers present on the rhizome. Cleistogamic and chasmogamic flowers present. Sepals slightly united at the base	6 <i>Pseudostellaria</i>
17 (1)	Fruit a berry, indehiscent	19 <i>Cucubalus</i>
+	Fruit a capsule dehiscent	(18)
18 (17)	Styles 2. Carpophore usually absent	(19)
+	Styles 3-5. Carpophore usually present	(25)
19 (18)	Bracteoles present, adpressed to calyx	25 <i>Dianthus</i>
+	Bracteoles absent	(20)
20 (19)	Calyx with 5 broad wings	23 <i>Vaccaria</i>
+	Calyx without wings	(21)
21 (20)	Leaves acerose, often with a spiny apex. Bract spiny. Calyx often spiny tipped	22 <i>Acanthophyllum</i>
+	Leaves, bract and calyx not as above	(22)
22 (21)	Calyx ribs with hyaline intervals between them. Capsule dehiscent by valves	(23)
+	Calyx ribs without hyaline intervals between them. Capsule dehiscent by teeth	(24)
23 (22)	Seeds peltate without facial hilum. Calyx without druses	24 <i>Petrorhagia</i>
+	Seeds reniform to comma shaped with lateral hilum. Calyx mostly with druses	20 <i>Gypsophila</i>
24 (22)	Calyx long, narrowly cylindrical. Stems rigid, with dichotomous branches	26 <i>Velezia</i>
+	Calyx campanulate or cylindrical, never long and narrow. Stems not branching as above	(25)

- 25 (18) Styles 2. Capsule dehiscing by 4 valves or teeth
+ Styles 3-5. Capsule dehiscing by teeth, 5 or twice the number of styles
- 26 (25) Styles 3(-5). Capsule dehiscing by 6(-10) teeth. Carpophore prominent
+ Styles 5. Capsule dehiscing by 10 teeth. Carpophore very reduced

21 *Saponaria*
(26)

18 *Silene*

17 *Lychnis*