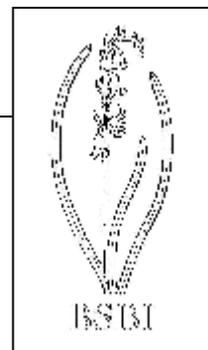


# Plant Crib



## TRAGOPOGON PRATENSIS / SCORZONERA HUMILIS / PLANTAGO LANCEOLATA

In grazed pastures flowering specimens of these three species may be absent. The similarity between leaves of *P. lanceolata* and *S. humilis* was noted by Druce (1929) "Its [*S. humilis*] leaves might be mistaken by a cursory observer for those of *P. lanceolata*". It is also possible to overlook *Scorzonera* as *Tragopogon*. In flower *P. lanceolata* is of course clearly different from the other two species.

The first Table lists vegetative characters, some from published floras, others from field observations. Key differences in flower structure are described for *T. pratensis* and *S. humilis* in the second Table. It is inadvisable to record *S. humilis* without flowers and fruits from sites where it has not been recorded previously.

### Vegetative characters for *T. pratensis*, *S. humilis* and *P. lanceolata*

	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i> L.	<i>Scorzonera humilis</i> L.	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.
Hairiness of leaves	Glabrous and slightly glaucous	Grey-woolly at first (arachnoid-lanate), becoming glabrous	More or less softly hairy, often with long, white, woolly hairs at base of leaves
Texture	Rubbery	Slightly rubbery	Not rubbery
Venation	Obvious central midrib, with longitudinal veins not apparent	Central midrib with two to several longitudinal veins	Central midrib with 3-5(-7) longitudinal veins (raised on underside of leaf)
Latex	White latex produced when damaged when fresh	(white?) latex produced from damaged areas turning dark orange/red on drying	No latex produced
Leaf shape	Linear-lanceolate with long, acuminate tip	Elliptical to narrowly lanceolate	Elliptical to lanceolate with short, pointed tips

# Plant Crib

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## Floral characters for *T. pratensis* and *S. humilis*

	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	<i>Scorzonera humilis</i>
Involucral bracts	Long, lanceolate-acuminate; glabrous	Outer bracts ovate, inner oblong-lanceolate, blunt with scarious margins and tips; woolly (floccose) at base
Flowers	Outer ligules shorter than (rarely equalling) involucral bracts	Outer ligules 2 × length of involucral bracts

*Reference* Druce, G. C. (1929). *Journal of Botany* **67**: 26-27.

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