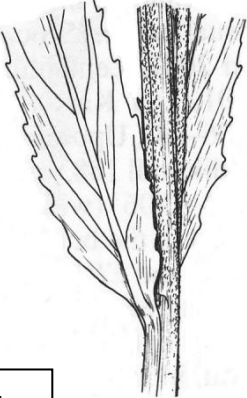



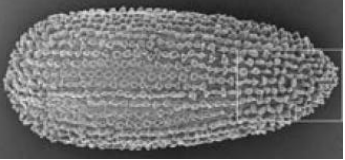



<b><i>E. tetragonum</i> ssp. <i>tetragonum</i></b>	<b><i>E. obscurum</i></b>	<b><i>E. tetragonum</i> ssp. <i>lamyi</i></b>
Capsules (5.5-) 6.5 – 8.5 (-10) cm long. If there is at least one capsule 7 cm long, this should (almost always) be definitive.	Capsules (3-) 4 – 6 (6.5) cm long.	British material 5 – 5.5(7.5) cm long.
No glandular hairs on any part of the plant.	Normally glandular hairs on base of calyx only (frequently obvious; but sometimes very short and few, and then may require microscope). Rarely some on capsule, but this is usually a sign of hybridity (e.g. <i>E. obscurum</i> x <i>ciliatum</i> ).	Ostensibly no glandular hairs (but - and this is not generally acknowledged - rarely the odd one may be seen around base of calyx only).
Leaves sessile, said to be decurrent onto stem-ridges, but may not always be clearly so.	Leaves varying from shortly petiolate to sessile and sometimes shortly decurrent.	Leaves not decurrent onto stem ridges. Leaves shortly petiolate (up to 2 mm).
Leaves narrowly lanceolate, somewhat parallel-sided, marginal teeth fairly prominent.	Leaves generally ovate-lanceolate, marginal teeth not very prominent.	Leaves narrowly lanceolate to oblong, margin remotely dentate.
<p>Upper leaves glabrous above; glabrous or subglabrous beneath ('only a few' hairs on midrib).</p>  <div data-bbox="331 946 495 1010" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;">                     Illustrations. Flora Nordica                 </div>	<p>Upper leaves subglabrous to sparsely hairy, with hairs concentrated on margins and underside veins.</p> 	<p>Upper leaves with hairs at least on the margins and on the underside veins (densely hairy on midrib).</p> 
Leaves mostly mid green.	Leaves mostly dull mid green.	Leaves grey-green.
Flowers 6-10 mm in diameter (petals 5-7mm).	Flowers 6-10 mm in diameter (petals 5-7mm).	Flowers 10-12mm in diameter (petals 7-8mm).
<p>Papillae of seed surface prickly (supposedly, per Bomble*).</p> 	<p>Papillae of seed surface set in rows more distinctly than <i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>, but many papillae are deformed, and the rows may often seem narrow and wavy.</p>  <div data-bbox="1122 1353 1424 1425" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;">                     B. Saxen (2011). <i>Mermoranda Soc. Fauna Flora Fennica</i> 87: 29-40                 </div>	<p>Papillae of seed surface smooth-humped (supposedly, per Bomble*).</p>  <div data-bbox="1861 1294 2123 1425" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;">                     *F. W. Bomble (2008). Ein wenig beachtetes Merkmal von <i>Epilobium lamyi</i> F.W. SCHULTZ. <i>Kochia</i> 3: 51-54                 </div>
Limited stoloniferous growth (not more than 10cm spread) with rosettes at stem base.	Stolons spreading up to 25cm above and/or below ground from late summer, resulting in matted spread by spring.	As ssp. <i>tetragonum</i> .

**What is 'Epilobium lamyi'?** Early determinations by British botanists will have followed Carl Haussknecht's key (1884):

Pale green, with mid-stem leaves gradually narrowing from the wider base to an acute apex, sharply denticulate, flowers flesh-coloured, flower buds gradually tapered on both sides, ellipsoidal. *Epilobium adnatum* [=*E. tetragonum* ssp. *tetragonum*].

Glaucous-green, with leaves shortly petiolate to narrowly sessile, having very small remote teeth, with light rose-coloured flowers, flower buds obovoid with their base abruptly attenuate. *Epilobium lamyi* [*E. tetragonum* ssp. *lamyi*].

From 1952, CTW offered a key:

10. Glandular hairs present on calyx tube; capsule 4-6cm; elongating epigeal stolons arising from the base of the stem in summer, *E. obscurum*  
Plant wholly without glandular hairs; capsule 7-10cm [**N.B. this doesn't work for lamyi**]; subsessile rosettes arising from the base of the stem in autumn, **11**
11. Leaves strap-shaped to narrowly oblong-lanceolate, sessile; petals 5-7mm, *E. adnatum* [=*E. tetragonum* ssp. *tetragonum*] (cf. Stace, 2010, leaves slightly decurrent onto stem-ridges)  
Leaves lanceolate, at least the upper short-stalked; petals 8-12mm, *E. lamyi* [=*E. tetragonum* ssp. *lamyi*] (cf. Stace, 2010, leaves shortly petiolate)

***Epilobium tetragonum* ssp. *lamyi* is in many respects intermediate between *E. obscurum* and *E. tetragonum* ssp. *tetragonum* and may have a stabilised hybrid origin.**



***Epilobium lamyi***, (possible) type specimen from Limoges with enlargement of an upper leaf (herb. Jardin botanique de Lyons). Note: **petiole present, remote marginal teeth and hairy midrib underside.**

### White-flowered *Epilobium* in the British Isles.

Any *Epilobium* species may have white flowers by exception, but two have them as a matter of course: *E. roseum* and *E. lanceolatum* (white in bud and when opening, turning pink after fertilisation). It is worth using this character in the field in order to pick up *E. roseum* and *E. lanceolatum* records, these species being less common than most.

**INFORMAL KEY:** Plant has white flowers, at least in bud. Are there conspicuous impressed veins on the leaves?

**Yes.** Check for other relevant characters, e.g. long petioles, cuneate leaf base, entire stigma, hairs in upper parts rough and frequently glandular. If OK, then ***E. roseum***.

**No.** Does it have long petioles, cuneate leaf bases, 4-lobed stigma, hairs in upper parts mostly short appressed without glands but often a few glandular ones mixed in (leaves may have red blotches)?

**Yes *E. lanceolatum***

**No** Follow a standard key to identify. The most frequent species which have white flowers by exception are *E. ciliatum* (can comprise whole populations), *E. montanum*, *E. hirsutum*.