**SAGINA NODOSA / MINUARTIA Verna**

A superficial glance can lead to misidentification of this pair of species:

*Sagina nodosa* (L.) Fenzl: Petals nearly twice as long as the sepals; styles 5; leaf clusters in the axils of the upper leaves give the stem a knotted appearance. Generally in the damper places on sand, peat, etc.

*Minuartia verna* (L.) Hiern: Petals little longer than the sepals; styles 3; anthers red; stems lacking dense axillary clusters of leaves. Plant of the drier places, on base-rich rocks, screes, open pastures, and particularly characteristic of old lead spoil heaps.

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