



SAXIFRAGA HIRCULUS / RANUNCULUS FLAMMULA, VEGETATIVE

In upland flushes, heavy grazing may reduce flowering of *S. hirculus* and *R. flammula*. *Ranunculus flammula* is very variable, and vegetatively, leaves of the two species can appear very similar. In the field the tufted leaves which are held horizontally should help to pick out possible plants of *S. hirculus* which can then be confirmed from the distinctive long reddish hairs. The hairs in *R. flammula* are scarcely visible.

S. hirculus L.: Stems reddish; petioles hairy at base with long, spreading, wavy, reddish hairs; petioles not sheathing; leaves tufted, held horizontally in open vegetation.

R. flammula L.: Stems green; petioles with short, appressed, straight, white hairs or glabrous; petioles usually with sheathing bases; leaves few, held vertically in open vegetation.

Author T. C. G. Rich & V. Hack, August 2012