

WILD

MUSTARDS



Mustard Family Characteristics

4 petals (look for the X)

may be deeply split appearing as 8 petals

6 stamens - 4 tall, 2 short

Mustard smell when crushed



HAIRY BITTERCRESS

Cardamine hirsuta

Diminutive, rarely exceed 6" tall and 8" across

Compound basal leaves, 5-9 round leaflets

Cauline leaves more narrow

Cauline stalk terminates in raceme of small white flowers

Narrow, cylindrical silique (seedpods)

WINTERCRESS

Barbarea vulgaris

8-24" tall

Basal leaves are deeply lobed, large rounded lobe at the tip

1-4 pairs of cauline leaves, small lobes widely spaced on the stalk

Dense cluster of yellow flowers at top and along top of stalk



GARLIC MUSTARD

Alliaria petiolata

Kidney or heart shaped leaves with overlapping bottom lobes

Rounded irregular teeth on margin

Cauline leaves become more triangular toward top of stalk

Terminal clusters of white flowers



DAME'S ROCKET

Hesperis matronalis

Cauline leaves up to 5 inches long and 1½ inch wide, tapering to a sharply pointed tip

Leaves rounded at the base with fine teeth on margins

Branching clusters of purple or white flowers occurring in the upper leaf axils or top of plant

Harvesting Mustards

Greens: Harvest in early spring, while still tender

Crowns: Harvest flower crowns before buds fully open

Seeds: Harvest when silique (seed pods) have turned yellow/brown

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