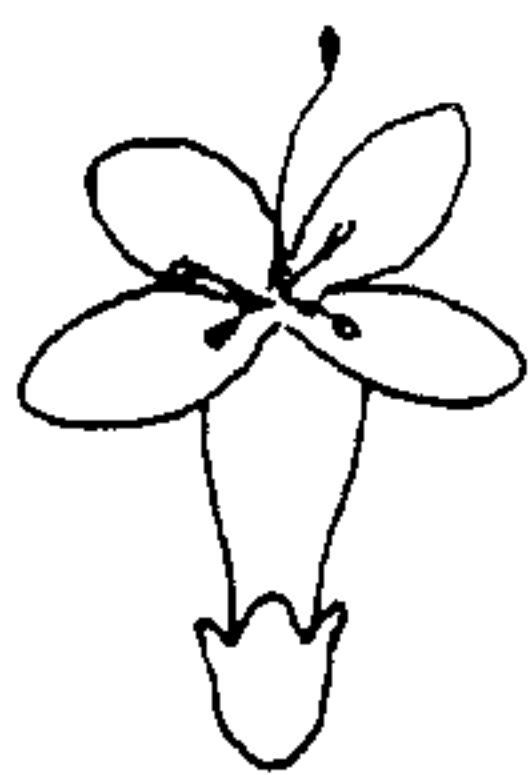


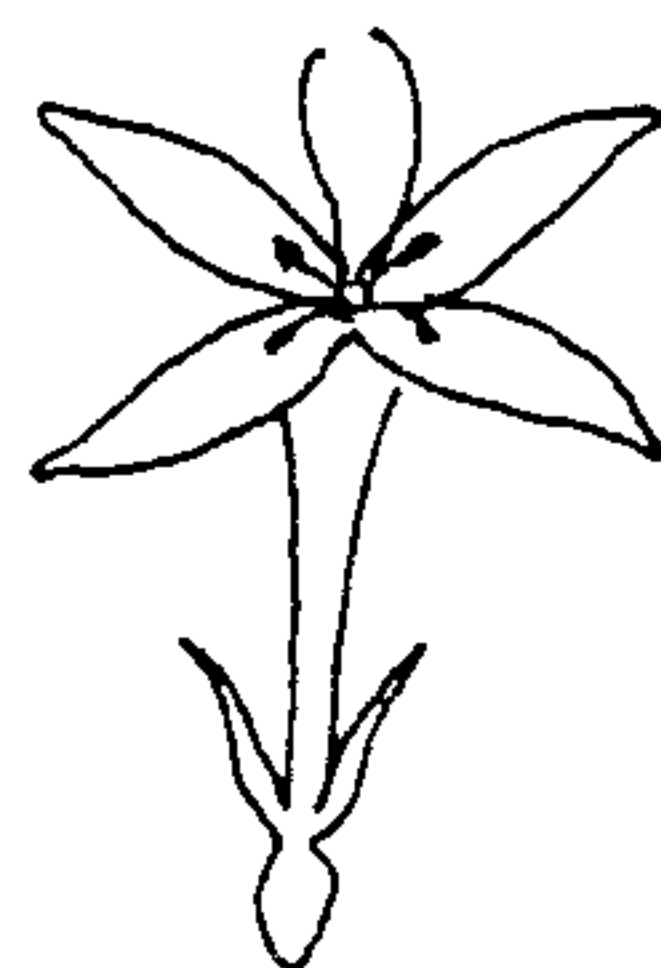
LOOK AGAIN!

The Madder Family (Rubiaceae) is a largely tropical group of plants which include those that gave us quinine and coffee, as well as many ornamentals such as Gardenia and Bouvardia. Among our wildflowers it is represented chiefly by the Bluets (Houstonia), Bedstraws (Galium) and Partridge Berry (Mitchella), all of which are familiar to most of us and are amply treated in the literature.

There are, however, several species that are just as attractive but apparently are considered too insignificant to be included in most field guides. Two are so widespread as to be almost impossible to overlook. They are Diodia teres and D. virginiana, commonly called Buttonweeds; both are low herbs with narrow, opposite leaves and 4-lobed flowers in the axils. In D. teres the corollas are funnelform, $\frac{1}{4}$ " long and pink, subtended by 4 short sepals. D. virginiana has white salverform flowers and 2 more elongate sepals.



D. TERES



D. VIRGINIANA

Field Madder, Sherardia arvensis, is a sprawling weed of European origin with a more sparse distribution in our region. Its flowers resemble those of Bedstraw but are pink or lavender, have a slender tube $\frac{1}{8}$ " long, and are crowded into heads. Its leaves are linear, mostly in whorls of 6.

Dick Smith