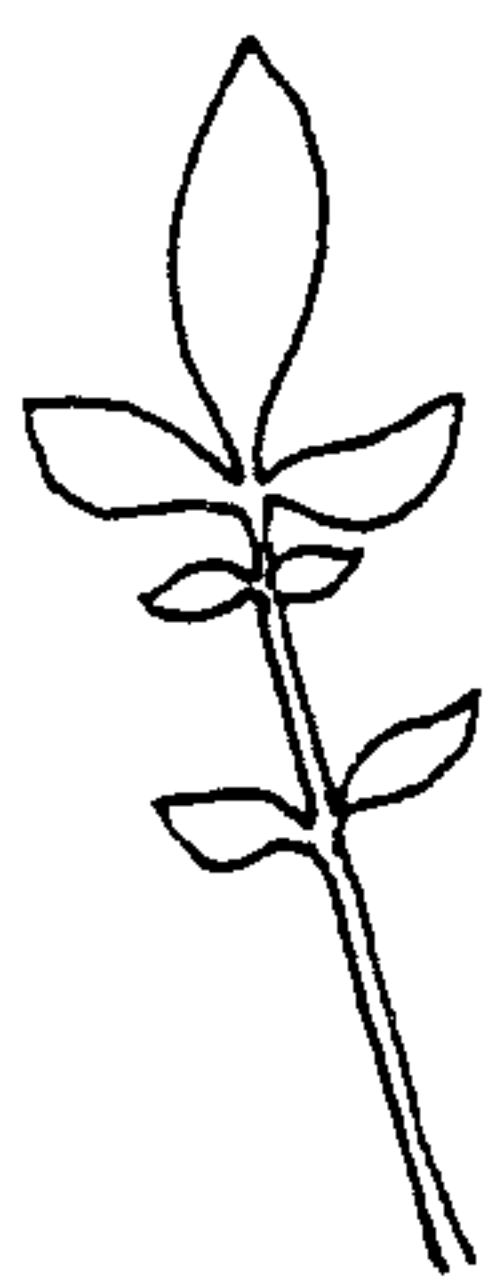


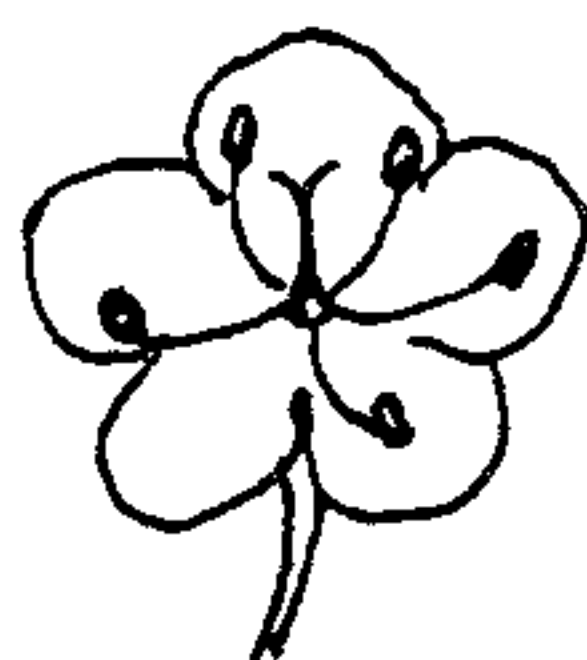
# LOOK AGAIN !

Of all the spectacular displays of spring wildflowers in the southern mountains, perhaps none is as breathtaking as the immense snow-white carpet laid down on the woodland floor by masses of White Fringed Phacelia.

This sprawling little plant--Phacelia fimbriata to botanists-- achieves the effect with countless delicate campanulate flowers that are only one-half inch across. Up close the name becomes apparent, for the corolla lobes are finely but conspicuously fringed.



PHACELIA DUBIA

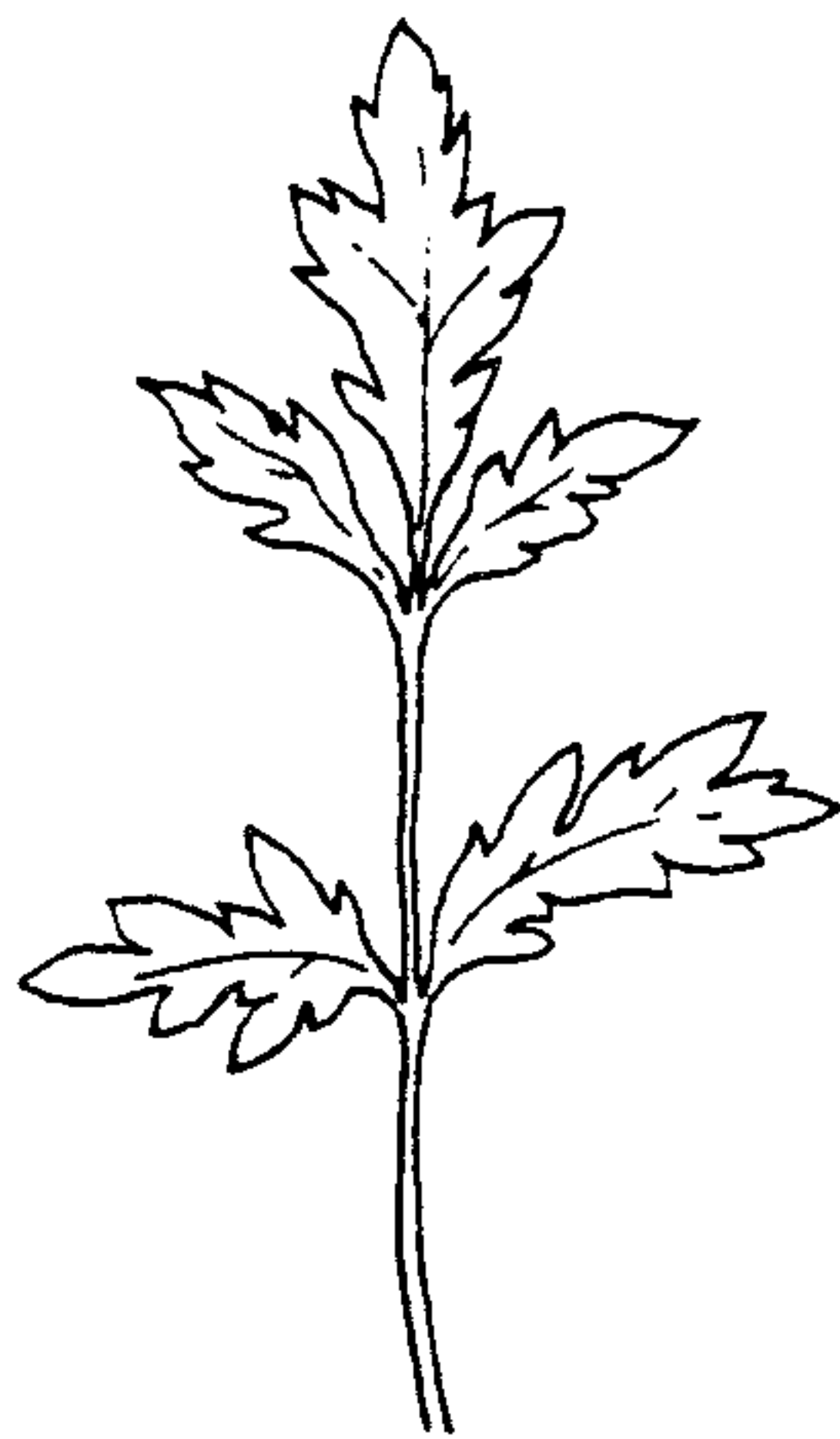


P. FIMBRIATA



Another fringed species, rarer in these mountains but with a wider overall range, is P. purshii, popularly known as Miami Mist. Its flowers are pale blue to almost white; in case of doubt, a diagnostic clue can be found in the hairs of the inflorescence and stems, which are short and incurved rather than spreading as in P. fimbriata.

Also light blue, but with unfringed corollas, is Small-flowered Phacelia (P. dubia). It too has a habit of bursting into bloom over extensive areas.



P. BIPINNATIFIDA

Our last species, Fern-leaved Phacelia (P. bipinnatifida), differs from the others in a number of ways: Its flowers are larger and flatter, with violet-blue unfringed corollas, and each lobe has a pair of narrow appendages near the base; the pubescence in the inflorescence is glandular; the segments of the larger leaves are pinnately divided into coarsely toothed segments; and the upper as well as the lower leaves are stalked.

Dick Smith