Onagraceae Key and Characteristics

Onagraceae is a diverse family that can be challenging to key down to species. They typically have 4-merous, perfect flowers with an inferior ovary.

- ❖ 4-merous flowers, 8 Stamens, Simple leaves that are opposite or alternate... *Epilobium*
 - o Leaves always alternate (may be listed under genus *Chamaenerion*)
 - Stem tall, up to 1m high, with glabrous or very slightly pubescent leaves, lateral veins distinct ... E. Angustifolium
 - Stem small, 12-35 cm tall, with pubescent leaves that lack prominent lateral veins... *E. Latifolium*
 - o Leaves opposite or leaves opposite at base and alternate near inflorescence
 - Stem leaves linear, basal leaves oblong to elliptic, leaves pubescent along midvein and margins, lacks filiform stolons, stem green... *E. davuricum*
 - Leaves oblong to elliptic, can be entire or dentate; leaves glabrous, stem can be green or red...*E. anagallidifolium*

Literature Cited

- Cody, W.J. 2000. Flora of the Yukon Territory, ed. 2. Ottawa.
- Hulten, E. 1968 Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories: A Manual of the Vascular Plants. Standford.
- Levin, Rachel A., Warren L. Wagner, Peter C. Hoch, William J. Hahn, Aaron Rodriguez, David A. Baum, Liliana Katinas, Elizabeth A. Zimmer, and Kenneth J. Sytsma. 2004. "Paraphyly in Tribe Onagreae: Insights into Phylogenetic Relationships of Onagraceae Based on Nuclear and Chloroplast Sequence Data." Systematic Botany 29.1: 147-64.
- Mosquin, Theodore. "A New Taxonomy for Epilobium Angustifolium L.(Onagraceae)." Brittonia 18.2 (1966): 167
- Murrell, Zack E. 2010. Vascular Plant Taxonomy. Kendall Hunt.
- Onagraceae. Chamaenerion latifolium. United States. Alaska. Meade river.

 Photo catalog: Pacific Islands and Onagraceae. Photo Source: US National Herbarium,
 Department of Botany, NMNH, Smithsonian Institution. 1977.

 http://collections.mnh.si.edu/media/?i=10241745
- Wagner, W. L. and P. C. Hoch. 2005. Onagraceae, The Evening Primrose Family website. Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. http://botany.si.edu/ /onagraceae/index.fm