Keying Potentilla: it's a little hairy

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Potentilla

- Rosaceae family
- Linnaean name
- 3-5 foliolate compound leaves with dense white tomentum
- Woody base; perfect flowers, petals often larger than sepals
- 10 or more stamens, carpels 10-many
- Fruit is an achene
- Styles are tubular or conical that detach from achene at maturity

Key from Rosaceae

- A: Shrubs or a dwarf trees, leaves are simple
- A: Herbs with a woody base, leaves are compound
 - B: Inflorescences a dense, spike like head, petals lacking but sepals petaloid
- B: Inflorescences is not spike like; both petals and sepals are present
 - C: flowers are not perfect
- C: flowers are perfect
 - D: 5 stamens; 5-20 carpels; petals and sepals are equal length
 - D: 10 or more stamens; 10-many carpels; petals larger than sepals
- E: Basal leaves ternate
- E: Basal leaves with more than 3 leaflets
- F: Style is deciduous and not plumose

.....Potentilla

Key From Potenilla

- A: Petals purple to red
- A: Petals white to yellow
- B: Petioles <u>with</u> short tomentum of floccose hairs; central leaflet <u>not</u> distinctly stipitate
-P. nivea
- B: Petioles <u>without</u> floccose hair; upper layer of long straight verrucose hairs; central leaflet <u>is</u> distinctly stipitate
-P. arenosa

Potentilla nivea

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- Petioles with floccose hair & central leaflet is not stipitate.
- Widespread northern N.A., continuous from Bering Strait east to Greenland.



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Potentilla arenosa



- Formerly P. hookeriana.
- Petioles with long straight verrucose hairs & central leaflet is stipitate.
- Widespread northern N.A. from AK to Greenland

P. nivea VS. P. arenosa









P. arenosa 94268A

P. nivea V127387



P. Arenosa V131426

P. nivea 52474A







P. nivea V127387

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