

# The flora of alpine and subalpine flushes

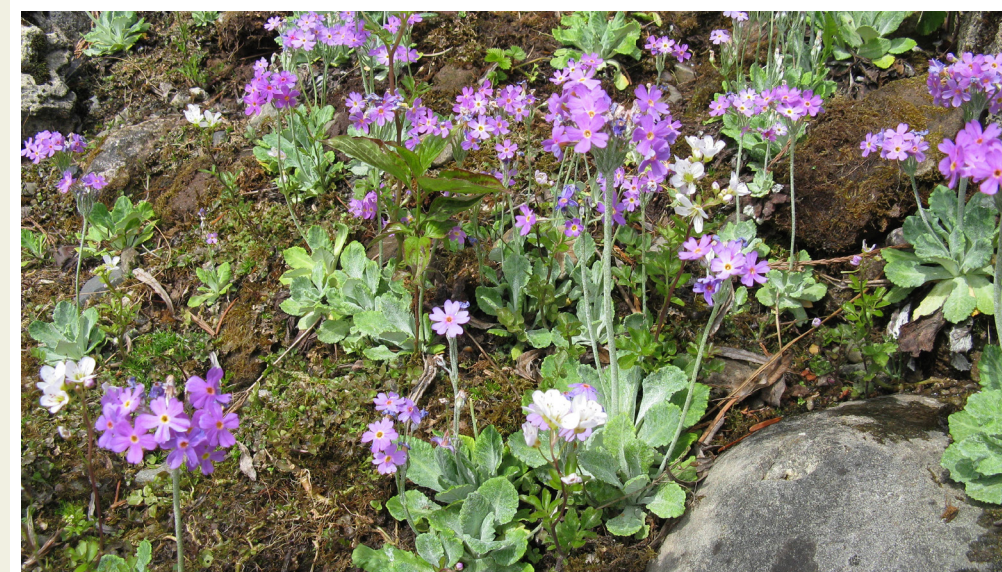


## Mountain flushes

Mountain flushes are steep, rocky slopes with flowing or trickling water. They are characterised by a high and constant humidity, low temperature fluctuations and permanently wet soil due to the constant movement of water.

### Photos:

- 1** Plant species adapted to the wet and cool conditions of flushes flourish next to mountain streams and meadows with springs in the low mountain ranges and the Alps, as here in the Ginalstal (Valais, Switzerland) Photo: D. Hertel
- 2** Mountain flushes support an often colourful community of mosses and flowering plants. The bird's-eye primrose (*Primula farinosa*) with its pink to red-purple flowers is an endangered plant species in Germany. Photo: L. Köhler
- 3** The marsh grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*) is a typical species of mountain flushes. Its flowers have evolved structures that trick its pollinators (mainly flies) into thinking it offers more nectar than is really the case. This is known as floral deception. Photo: U. Hertel



Experimental Botanical Garden

More information

