Wood-sorrel
Oxalis oregana

Range
Washington, Oregon and northern California, rare in alluvial forests of western Vancouver Island and Queen Charlotte Islands (4).

Climate, Elevation
Temperate climates at low to medium elevations (4).

Local occurrence (where, how common)
In deep shade of mature alluvial forests.

Habitat preference
Productive forest sites with high precipitation and fertile soil (2, 4).

Plant strategy type/successional stage
Requiring moist conditions, it forms understory groundcover in late successional conifer forests (1).

Associated species
Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), western trillium (*Trillium ovatum*), salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), and deer fern (*Blechnum spicant*). In northern California, coastal redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) associated overstory conifer species (1).

May be collected as
Divisions in mid September (5).

Collection restrictions or guidelines
Remove all but one or two leaves from plant division. Each division must contain a root or rhizome mass. (5).

Seed germination
Seeds require no seed pretreatment. Other members of the *Oxalis* genus are weedy pests in

greenhouse environments (6). Seeds planted in cold frame in late winter to early spring. Transplant seedlings into individual pots when large enough to handle and plant in late spring or early summer (3).

Seed life
Short shelf-life, best if sown as soon as ripe (3).

Propagation recommendations
In restoration practices, propagation of divisions from vicinity of site is recommended. Seeding is also an option, but no success rates were found.

Soil or medium requirements
In field, moist humus. In nursery environment, standard potting mix of peat moss, fir bark, perlite, and sand (5).

Installation form
Transplanting divisions is cheap and survival averages 90% (5).

Care requirements after installed
Water transplanted divisions in well. No additional watering requirements specified (5).

Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan
Can be an aggressive groundcover in appropriate growth conditions (3).

Sources

1. Fire Effects Information System, USDA FS. www.feis.org
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4. Pojar, J. and A. MacKinnon. Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast-Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska. B.C. Ministry of Forest and Lone Pine Publishing. 1994.
5. Young, Betty. Oxalis oregana protocol information. NPS, Golden Gate National Park. http://www.nativeplantnetwork.org/network/view.asp?protocol_id=655,656
6. Young, J. and Cheryl G. Young. Collecting, Processing, and Germinating Seeds of Wildland Plants. Timber Press, Portland, Or: 1986.

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