

Plant Propagation Protocol for *Anagallis arvensis*

ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

URL: <https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/2025/ANAR.pdf>

North America Distribution (CABI)

Washington State Distribution (USDA)



TAXONOMY	
Plant Family	
Scientific Name	<i>Primulaceae</i> Batsch
Common Name	Primrose family
Species Scientific Name	
Scientific Name	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L.
Varieties	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L. var. <i>caerulea</i> (Schreb.) Gren. & Godr.
Sub-species	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L. ssp. <i>arvensis</i> <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L. ssp. <i>foemina</i> (Mill.) Schinz & Thell.
Cultivar	-
Common Synonym(s)	<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i> (L.) U. Manns & Anderb.
Common Name(s)	Poor man’s weather glass, scarlet yellow-loosestrife, blue pimpernel, poison chickweed, mouron rouge
Species Code (as per USDA Plants database)	ANAR (USDA)
GENERAL INFORMATION	
Geographical range	Native to Europe, Asia, and North Africa, but introduced throughout the world (Keener). See maps above for distribution globally and in Washington State.
Ecological distribution	Broad range of ecological conditions, primarily preferring open, disturbed sites (Cholewa). Grows best in full sun and sandy or rocky soil (Everwilde)
Climate and elevation range	Grows in diverse climates and elevations (0-1200 m), mostly thriving in temperate conditions (Cholewa).
Local habitat and abundance	Roadsides, fields, wastelots, and other open, disturbed sites (Giblin)

Plant strategy type / successional stage	Depending on the conditions, can act either annually (typical) with determinate heteroblastic growth or perennially with homoblastic growth (rarely) (Trippi) . Often considered a weed in introduced locations, and is an early successional stage species.
Plant characteristics	Flowering forb (0.5-1.5 ft) with opposite, ovate leaves and multiple stems, glabrous, prostrate, or ascending (Burke Herbarium). The 5-petaled flowers, usually found in pairs, are typically red, scarlet or occasionally white. However, variety <i>A. arvensis</i> L. <i>caerulea</i> exhibits blue flowers (Seiler) Bee and fly pollinated, with flowers closing under cloudy conditions and as evening approaches. Can also self-pollinate as petals close. Seed pods are round (4-6 mm) with 12-45 seeds within.
PROPAGATION DETAILS (Lipp, Everwilde Farms)	
Ecotype	-
Propagation Goal	Seeds
Propagation Method	Seed
Product Type	Propagules (seeds)
Stock Type	-
Time to Grow	N/A
Target Specifications	Mature seeds
Propagule Collection Instructions	<i>A. arvensis</i> flowers from spring through fall, primarily during summer, but capsule maturation happens within a shorter period mid-late summer. Pods should be collected individually before becoming fully ripe so that the pods will not split and drop their seeds.
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics	Spread seed pods out and dry away from direct sunlight. Once capsules are dry and brittle, thresh them to harvest the seeds, separate out shrivelled or abnormal seeds, and store in screw-top jars at laboratory temperatures. Seeds should be dark brown or black.
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	None necessary. Seeds can be stored in a cool dry place until needed, up to around 8 years.
Growing Area Preparation / Annual Practices for Perennial Crops	N/A
Establishment Phase Details	N/A
Length of Establishment Phase	N/A
Active Growth Phase	N/A

Length of Active Growth Phase	N/A
Hardening Phase	N/A
Length of Hardening Phase	N/A
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	N/A
Length of Storage	N/A
Guidelines for Outplanting / Performance on Typical Sites	N/A
Other Comments	Traditionally used for medicinal purposes, but discouraged currently because of toxic compounds within the leaves. (Everwilde farms).
INFORMATION SOURCES	
References	<p>CABI. 2021. "Anagallis arvensis (scarlet pimpernel)." <i>CABI Compendium</i> 5352. https://doi.org/10.1079/cabicompendium.5352</p> <p>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). n.d. "Anagallis arvensis L." Natural Resources Conservation Service. Accessed May 26, 2025. https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/plant-profile/ANAR</p> <p>Keener, B.R., A.R. Diamond, T.W. Barger, L.J. Davenport, P.G. Davison, S.L. Ginzburg, C.J. Hansen, D.D. Spaulding, J.K. Triplett, and M. Woods. 2025. "Anagallis arvensis." Alabama Plant Atlas. Accessed May 26, 2025. http://www.floraofalabama.org/Plant.aspx?id=5345</p> <p>Trippi, Victorio S. and Jeanne Brulfert. 1973. "Photoperiodic Aging in Anagallis arvensis Clones: Its Relation to RNA Content, Rooting Capacity, and Flowering." <i>American Journal of Botany</i> 60(10) p. 951-955. https://doi.org/10.2307/2441508</p> <p>Giblin, David and Don Knoke. n.d. "Lysimachia arvensis." Burke Herbarium Image Collection. Accessed May 26, 2025. https://burkeherbarium.org/imagecollection/taxon.php?Taxon=Lysimachia%20arvensis</p> <p>Cholewa, Anita F. 2020. "Anagallis arvensis." Flora of North America. Accessed May 26, 2025. https://floranorthamerica.org/Anagallis_arvensis</p> <p>Seiler, Gerald Joseph. 1980. "THE TAXONOMY OF THE PRIMULACEAE FOR THE GREAT PLAINS." North Dakota State University ProQuest Dissertations & Theses. https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/taxonomy-primulaceae-great-plains/docview/303043990/se-2</p> <p>Everwilde Farms. n.d. "Scarlet Pimpernel Seeds." https://www.everwilde.com/store/Scarlet-Pimpernel-Wildflower-Seeds.html</p>

	<p>RP Seeds. n.d. “Anagallis arvensis [syn. Lysimachia] (Scarlet Pimpernel) seeds.” https://www.rpseeds.co.uk/products/anagallis-arvensis-scarlet-pimpernel-seeds</p> <p>Grant Lipp, A.E. . and L. A. T. Ballard. 1962. “GERMINATION PATTERNS SHOWN BY THE LIGHT-SENSITIVE SEED OF ANAGALLIS ARVENSIS.”</p> <p>https://www.publish.csiro.au/bi/pdf/bi9630572</p>
Other Sources Consulted	
Protocol Author	Vivi Kondrat
Date Protocol Created or Updated	05/26/2025