

## Common chickweed

*Stellaria media* L. Vill.



### Life cycle

Patch-forming, prostrate winter annual.

### Leaves

Opposite, light green, rounded to egg-shaped leaves with pointed tips and smooth margins are hairless and short, hairy petioles.

### Stems

Prostrate, smooth stems are spreading and branching to form dense patches. Stems are slender with upper portions growing erect.

### Flowers and fruit

Small, white flowers have five petals.

Each petal is notched deeply, resembling a pair of petals. Green, hairy sepals surround petals. Fruit are slightly curved, cylindrical-shaped capsules that contain many tiny, brown seeds.

### Reproduction

Seeds.



Common chickweed flower.



Common chickweed plant.



Common chickweed foliage and flowers.

**Caryophyllaceae (Pink family)**

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### Similar weeds

#### Mouseear chickweed

(*Cerastium fontanum* ssp. *vulgare*  
[Hartman] Greuter & Burdet)

Differs by having a perennial habit with densely hairy, stalkless leaves and dark green foliage.



Mouseear chickweed seedling.



Mouseear chickweed plant.



Mouseear chickweed flowers.



Mouseear chickweed flowering stem.