

The Alpine Mouse-ear

During the mountain hikes I again and again stop up to admire the scenery: The mountains, the fiords with icebergs, the turbulent rivers. It is difficult to free myself from this amazing view.

But luckily I become overwhelmed by fatigue and must find a place to sit. Then I notice the small details of the mountain field around me. The little running brook, the barren rocks, each of which appears as small beautiful works of art with their own designs, shapes and colours.

Everywhere I am able to watch small beings which are surviving in a climate and natural conditions which are not particularly friendly.

Everywhere the juniper is creeping along the soil and the rocks. The dead branches of the juniper are located everywhere and are a good basis for a small fire on a cold day in the mountains. The lichens are everywhere. This small growth is able to survive on the rock surfaces.

Even in the smallest crevice the herbs find space for their habitat. Here we also find the Alpine Mouse-ear. The small herb with white flowers is a hardy arctic plant. It is adapted to survive in this harsh climate. The herb is not very high, and its stalks and leaves are covered with glandular hairs and shaggy white hair, sitting as tufts of wool in the tip of the leaves.



The Alpine Mouse-ear, June 2014