

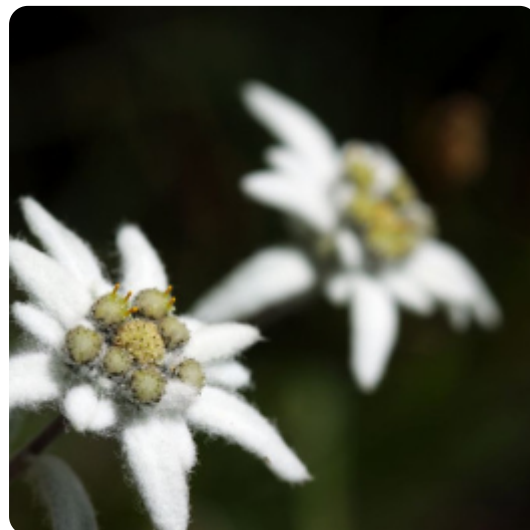
# Edelweiss

*Leontopodium nivale* subsp. *alpinum* (Cass.)  
Greuter, 2003

The Edelweiss is an upright, fully tomentose plant, often forming small clumps. Each stem bears a few narrowly lanceolate leaves, with the famous floral star at the top! This is made up of white, cottony bracts\*, simulating petals. The heart is composed of 4 to 10 small flower heads\* (small grey to yellow "rounds") which are themselves formed by tiny tubular flowers.

\*Bract: a bract is a leaf-like organ of different sizes and shapes, located at the base of a peduncle, flower or inflorescence.

\*Flower head: in Asteraceae, flowers inserted side by side on the enlarged tip of the peduncle.



## Common names

Edelweiss

## Environment

Rocky slopes, screes & Alpine and subalpine grasslands

## Altitude

1300-3220 m

## Season

- may-october

## Size

5 to 20 cm

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