

Family: ROSACEAE Genus: <i>Sanguisorba</i> Species: <i>minor</i> Cvs or ssp:	Proper name: <i>Sanguisorba minor</i> Medievally known as: Small Burnet Common Name: Salad Burnet, Minor Burnett, Garden Burnett, Burnet
Average Size: 40-90cm (taller if well irrigated)	Origin: Southern Europe to Asia
Distinctive Features: reddish monoecious globose flowers (Nov-Dec), wind pollinated, dry dehiscent small nutlets in an achene with winged seeds spread by wind & water. Pinnate with coarse-toothed pinnae (9-17) oval to elliptical. Has a prominent tap root that can become rhizomatous.	Habit: hardy herbaceous perennial from a rosette base Conservation status: common
Aspect: full sun	Soils: well-drained & typically found in dry grassy meadows & river flats to 1,200m, often in limestone soils. Drought tolerant & grows all year around. Ph is from weakly saline to weakly acidic. Does not like overly fertile soils.
Pruning: to remove old stalks & stems. If cut back to near the ground in growing season it will produce a flush of new tasty leaves.	Pests & diseases: minimal disease problems,
Usefulness: food, also used in folk medicine to relieve diarrhoea, stop bleeding, treat gout & rheumatism, feed for livestock.	Propagation: by division or readily from seed.
Culinary use: an ingredient in salads & dressings, newer leaves have a flavour described as 'light cucumber'. Leaves become bitter when they are older.	Special features: frost hardy, drought tolerant, fire resistant. Seed viable up to 30 years.
Notes: Use dates back to Roman times. Known to survive up to 20 years. Being investigated for anti-HIV & lowering blood sugar.	Comments: In the 1st planting on 2/12/14. It provides the front border. Our challenge is to see if this plant really can last 20 years or more. It is checked each week & some of the border (about 1/6th is harvested & used as food (fortnightly in the cooler months). Each plant is allowed time to regrow before it is re-harvested. The hope is to supply food all year with this plant.

Photos: #1 http://www.leeuwke.com/kruidentenplanten11/Sanguisorba_minor.gif, #2 http://www.rolv.no/bilder/galleri/medplant/sanguisorba_min.htm

