

Alpine Aquatic Plants

In the summer months, aquatic plants (known as hydrophytes) thrive in the lava-molded, water-filled hollows that cover this area.

The round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) is a bright-colored insectivorous plant. It produces a sugary liquid that attracts insects, which it traps and consumes. The hare's-tail cottongrass (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) is named for the fluffy white tuft that grows at the end of its tips and resembles a hare or rabbit's tail. The plant grows up to 60 centimeters tall. The wind blows its lightweight seed heads over vast areas. *Hosobakischidori* (*Platanthera tipuloides*) is a green plant of the orchid family. Its flowers are yellow-green, and it grows up to 20 centimeters in height.