

Stellaria mcclintockiae

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About *Stellaria mcclintockiae*:

- It is the new species belongs to the **genus *Stellaria*** (family Caryophyllaceae).
- **Features**
 - This is an **annual herb** growing up to 15 cm in height. Known to be found only in the Nelliampathy hills as of now, and that too at an elevation of 1,250-1,400 metres.
 - It differs from other species of this genus with respect to the features of its petals, pollen morphology, bracts, sepals, and seed architecture.
 - This is the first species of the genus *Stellaria* reported from south India.

The researchers have recommended that *Stellaria mcclintockiae* be classified as critically endangered under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria.

Q1: What is pollen?

It is a powder produced by the male part of a flower that causes the female part of other flowers of the same type to produce seeds.

Source: New plant species from Kerala's Nelliampathy named after Nobel laureate Barbara McClintock

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/stellaria-mcclintockiae/>

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