

AMAZING ADAPTATIONS

Laying dormant during winter, melting snow triggers the plant to flower, often while still covered in snow.

SURVIVING THE ALPINE ZONE: ALPINE MARSH MARIGOLD

The Alpine Marsh Marigold (*Psychrophila introloba*) can flower under snow!

A master of surviving the alpine zone – with its strong winds, frost and snow – this plant is **small and low to the ground**, which minimises wind exposure and maximises contact with the warmer soil.

Growing in a **greenhouse-like microclimate** between melting snow and warmer soil means the plant can flower even when ambient temperatures remain comparatively low.

As water is often locked up in snow and ice, many alpine plants have **small, rolled leaves** to prevent water loss, similar to desert plants.



Small, rolled leaves reduce surface area for wind exposure and prevent water loss.

