



**Schizocarp:** fruit of a compound pistil (made up of 2 or more chambers); the fruit separate from one another at maturity, but do not split open; each fruit contains 1 seed.

Schizocarps are common in the carrot family (*Apiaceae*), where the compound pistil has two chambers. On the left picture of golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*) we can see the two fruit separating from each other. On the right is wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*). The same thing is happening, but the fruits are just thinner and a little harder to see.



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Schizocarps also occur in some members of the Mallow family (*Malvaceae*). Below are schizocarps in a circular shape similar to a wheel of cheese. They will split apart into a number of sections (each with one seed). The plant on the left is *Malva neglecta*, sometimes referred to by the common name 'cheeses'. The plant on the right is winecups (*Callirhoe involucrata*). On this picture it is easier to see the divisions between the sections of the schizocarp (the wedges of 'cheese').



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