

# ANOTHER HERB HERBERT FAVOURITE HERBS

FACT SHEET



## Dogbane

*Plectranthus ornatus syn. caninus*

There are about 300 species of shrubs and perennials belonging to this genus. *Plectranthus ornatus* was originally known as *Coleus canis* before a taxonomic name change took place. Even then it is unclear as the original spelling being *canis* or *canninus*, either being a reference to canine or dog due to the effect it has on the animal in question.

Note: not all dogs are affected by this plant, but it has been shown to be effective with most.

### Ornamental

The showy flower spikes of Dog Bane make this an attractive addition to the flower garden.

### DESCRIPTION

Originating in Eastern India, *Plectranthus ornatus* is a sprawling perennial with thick, round, succulent leaves with small hairs on the upper surface. Large spikes of mauve-blue flowers appear in summer through to autumn.

### CULTIVATION

Prefers a sandy, well-drained soil in sun. Protect from heavy frost by planting in a container and locating in a sheltered position.

### PARTS USED

Leaves

### HARVEST

Plant whole plant where needed or pick leaves when needed.

Height 40cm (16in) x Spread 45cm(1.5ft)

### PROPERTIES

A pungent aromatic herb with pest repellent actions.



### USES OF THE HERB

#### Pest Repellent

As the name Dog Bane suggests, it does have the ability to deter dogs particularly if the plant is located near frequented areas.

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