

ANOTHER
HERB HERBERT FAVOURITE HERBS
FACT SHEET

Dogs Bane

Plectranthus ornatus syn. Coleus canis

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.

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.

PARTS USED

Leaves

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.

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.

CULTIVATION

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

HARVEST

Plant whole plant where needed or pick leaves when needed.

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



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