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*Adoxa moschatellina*

**MOSCHATEL** is a perennial. Native to the temperate northern hemisphere and the Himalayas it has small pale green flowers.

It is also known as *Bisamkrautchen* (German), Bulbous fumitory, Bulbous whiskers, Common moschatel, *Desmansort* (Swedish), *Desmeknopp* (Swedish), *Desmerurt* (Danish), *Erba del muschio* (Italian), Fairy's clock, Five-faced bishop, Gloriless, Glory less, Good Friday flower, *Herbe du musc* (French), Hollow root, Lady's mantle, *Misk otu* (Turkish), *Moscatelle* (French), *Moschuskraut* (German), *Muscatella* (Italian), *Muscatelline* (French), Musk crowfoot, Musk ranunculus, Musk root, *Muskuskruid* (Dutch), Muskweed, Musk wood crowfoot, *Mysglys* (Welsh), *Myskört* (Swedish), *Petite musquée* (French), *Pižmovka mošusová* (Czech, Slovak), Town clock, Town hall clock, Tuberous moschatel, Whiskers, and Wood alone; and in flower language is said to be a symbol of weakness.

The whole plant (particularly the flowers) has a musky odour which disappears if it is bruised.

The seeds are dispersed by snails.

*Moschatellina* refers to the plant's musky aroma.

Authorities have suggested that common names such as Town clock or Town hall clock refer to the positioning of the flowers in the 'head' which usually has five flowers placed at right angles to each other facing outwards (allegedly north, south, east and west) and one facing upwards. This arrangement is also said to explain references to it in Christian lore according to which the flower represents watchfulness.