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*Alchemilla*

*Rosaceae*

*Alchemilla* is derived for some authorities from Arabic *alkemelych*, and for others it means ‘little magical one’ with reference to the plant’s use in alchemy.

Species in this genus have been used by scientists in explanations of the plumbing mechanism in a plant. This relies on a tissue of thin-walled cells known as phloem which transport energy contained in phloem sap from stores in, in these cases, the roots to enable them to last through the Winter and produce new shoots in Spring. Under close inspection when the humidity is high this phloem sap can be seen as minute droplets oozing out on the very edges of leaves.