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*Allium carinatum*

[Synonyms : *Allium carinatum* subsp. *carinatum*, *Allium flexum*, *Allium violaceum*]

**KEELED GARLIC** is a bulbous perennial. Native to southern and central Europe (including Russia) and north-western Turkey, it has purple flowers with protruding stamens (and usually tiny bulbils).

It is also known as *Česnek kýlnatý* (Czech), *Garlleg Fynyddig* (Welsh), *Gekielter Lauch* (German), *Punalaukka* (Finnish), and *Rosenlök* (Swedish).

The flowers are pollinated by bees and other insects.

Warning – although this is a potentially poisonous plant for both humans and animals if consumed in large quantities authorities believe that dogs are particularly susceptible.

*Carinatum* means ‘keeled (like a boat) or ridged’.

Despite its overall poisonous nature the bulbs, tiny bulbils and stems can be eaten raw or cooked and the flowers can also be eaten raw.

There are claims that the whole plant will repel moles and insects – and the plant juice has been used as a moth repellent.