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Althaea hirsuta

[Synonyms : *Dinacrusa hirsuta*]

ROUGH MARSHMALLOW is an annual or biennial. Native to the Mediterranean (and for some authorities a doubtful native of Britain) it has rosy-pink becoming bluish flowers.

It is also known as Hairy mallow, Hairy marsh mallow, Hispid mallow, Hispid marsh mallow, *Hobbejza sufija* (Maltese), *Proskurnik chlupatý* (Czech), and *Strävmalva* (Swedish).

This plant is a protected species in the wild in Britain under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Hirsuta is Latin (shaggy, rough) meaning 'hairy'.