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Briza media

QUAKING-GRASS is an evergreen grass. Native to Asia, and Europe (including Britain) it has trembling golden to purplish-brown flower spikelets.

It is also known as *Amourette* (French), Common quaking grass, Cow quakes, *Crydwellt* (Welsh), *Darrgräs* (Swedish), Didder grass, Dithering grass, Dithery dock, Dodder, Dodder grass, Doddering dickies, Doddering dillies, Dothery Dicks, *Drzaczka średnia* (Polish), Earthquake, *Gemeines Zittergras* (German), *Gewöhnliches Zittergras* (German), Golden shekels, Granfer griggles, *Hèrbe d'Jâcob* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), *Herbe tremblante* (Channel Islander-Guernsey), *Hjertegræs* (Danish), Jiggle-joggles, Lady's hair, Lady's hair grass, Maiden hair grass, *Niittyräpelö* (Finnish), Pearl grass, Perennial quaking grass, Quake grass, Quaker grass, Quakers, Quakers-and-shakers, Rattle grass, Rattlesnake grass, Shivering grass, Silver spoons, Toddling grass, Tom's tottle, Totter grass, Totty grass, *Trjasunka srednjaja* (Russian), *Traslica prostredná* (Slovak), Trembling grass, *Třeslice prostřední* (Czech), *Vanligt darrgräs* (Swedish), Wigwams, and *Zittergras* (German): and in flower language it is said to be a symbol of agitation.

Media is Latin (middle) meaning 'middle or intermediate'.

The flower clusters are much admired by flower arrangers. They are often dried for use in winter flower decorations. When picked while young they remain pale green when dried but if gathered when mature they will dry to a pale brown.

In some areas the superstitious believed it was unlucky to bring quaking-grass inside, while others arranged dried branches on their shelves to deter mice that were supposed to find the smell unpleasant.