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*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*

[Synonyms : *Ceratostigma larpentae*, *Plumbago larpentiae*, *Valoradia plumbaginoides*]

**BLUE CERATOSTIGMA** is a perennial. Native to western China it has small, deep blue flowers.

It is also known as Blue leadwood, Blue leadwort, False plumbago, Lady Larpent's plumbago, Leadwort, and Plumbago.

*Plumbaginoides* is made up of the genus name *Plumbago* and Greek *-oides* (like) components meaning 'like plants in the *Plumbago* genus'.

Blue ceratostigma is believed to have been first discovered in China in 1831. Seeds were sent back to England in 1844 by the famous plant collector, Robert Fortune (1813-1880), but the plant was not cultivated there successfully from these. A living plant was then introduced in 1846 and this flowered the following year in a garden in Hampshire.