

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

---

*Clitoria*

*Fabaceae*

[*Leguminosae/Papilionaceae/Papilionoideae*]

*Clitoria* is a corruption of Latin *clitoris* (the small female equivalent of the penis) with reference to a characteristic of the flower.

Members of this family absorb nitrogen from the air. Through the bacterial nodules on their deep growing roots, they will introduce nitrogen to the soil (and aerate it), to the benefit of neighbouring plants and any following them in the same soil.