

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

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

---

*Colutea*

*Leguminosae*

[*Fabaceae/Papilionaceae*]

*Colutea* is for some authorities of unknown origin, for others it is derived from a Greek name for the shrubs *kolutea*, and for yet others it comes from Greek *kolouo* (to amputate) with reference to the brittle branches that can be snapped in high wind.

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.