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*Crotalaria*

*Leguminosae*

[*Fabaceae/Papilionaceae*]

*Crotalaria* is derived from Greek *crotalo-* (rattle, clapper, castanet) component with reference to the sound of the seeds in the ripe fruit pod.

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.