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### *Cymbalaria muralis*

[Synonyms : *Antirrhinum acutangulum*, *Antirrhinum cimbalaria*, *Antirrhinum cymbalaria*, *Antirrhinum quinquelobum*, *Cymbalaria cymbalaria*, *Cymbalaria flabellifer*, *Cymbalaria gerbaultii*, *Cymbalaria glechomifolia*, *Cymbalaria globosa*, *Cymbalaria toutoni*, *Cymbalaria vulgaris*, *Elatine cymbalaria*, *Linaria cymbalaria*, *Linaria cymbalaria* var. *globosa*, *Linaria cymbalaria* var. *heterophylla*, *Linaria cymbalaria* var. *minor*]

**IVY LEAVED TOADFLAX** is an invasive, trailing, annual or perennial. Native to Europe, it has small, short spurred, snapdragon-like, pale blue and lilac-coloured (occasionally white) flowers with yellow-spotted lower lip.

It is also known as Aaron's beard, Cancer jalap, Cancer root, *Cimbalario mura* (Esperanto), Climbing sailor, Coliseum ivy, Creeping Jenny, Creeping sailor, Creeping seefer, *Cymbalaire* (French), Devil's ribbon, Female fluellen, Fleas and lice, Hen and chickens, Hundreds and thousands, Ivy weed, Ivywort, Kenilworth ivy, Kentucky ivy, Lavender snips, *Llin y Fagwyr* (Welsh), *Mauer-Zimbelkraut* (German), *Mauer-Zymbelkraut* (German), Monkey jaws, Monkey mouths, Mother of millions, Mother of thousands, *Murgrönssporreblomma* (Swedish), *Murreva* (Swedish), Nanny goat's mouths, Oxford-weed, Pedlar's basket, Pennywort, Rabbit flower, Rabbits, Rabbit's mouths, Rambling sailor, Roving Jenny, Roving sailor, *Ruine-de-Rome* (French), Thousand flower, Travelling sailor, *Vanlig murreva* (Swedish), Wandering jack, Wandering Jew, Wandering sailor, *Zimbelkraut* (German), *Zvěšinec zední* (Czech), and *Zymbelkraut* (German).

The flowers are pollinated by bees.

*Muralis* is Latin (of a wall, mural) meaning 'growing on walls'.

In southern Europe the leaves have been eaten in salads.

Some authorities believe that ivy leaved toadflax was introduced to Britain as a salad plant in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, while others suggest it arrived as a garden plant two centuries later.

The flowers have been used to produce an impermanent clear yellow dye.

Medicinally, the plant has been employed in India in the treatment of diabetes.