

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

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Dianthus armeria

DEPTFORD PINK is an annual or biennial. Native to Europe (including Britain) and to western Asia, it has fringed-petalled, white-dotted deep pink flowers framed by erect narrow leaf-like bracts that are as long as the flowers.

It is also known as *Büschel-Nelke* (German), Grass pink, *Hvozdík svazčitý* (Czech), *Klinček* (Slovak), *Knippnejlika* (Swedish), *Knippnejlika* (Swedish), *Oeillet arméria* (French), *Oeillet velu* (French), *Penigan y Porfeydd* (Welsh), *Ruige anjer* (Dutch), *Saronsnejlika* (Swedish), and Wild pink.

It is protected in England and Wales under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

The flowers are pollinated by butterflies, bees and moths.

Armeria is not only a corruption of an old French name *armoires* for a species of *Dianthus* (a genus that includes the pink and carnation, *Dianthus plumarius* and *Dianthus caryophyllus* respectively) but also an unspecified species of *Dianthus* and/or an old Latin name for this species.

The plants were once prolific at Deptford (a place in London) which explains its common name and it has been cultivated in England since at least the 16th Century as an ornamental plant.

Deptford pink has been introduced elsewhere, including North America where it has become naturalised in some areas and is viewed as invasive in some southern States.