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Equisetum variegatum

[Synonyms : *Equisetum hyemale* subsp. *variegatum*, *Equisetum variegatum* var. *anceps*, *Hippochaete variegata*]

VARIEGATED HORSETAIL is an evergreen perennial. Native to Asia, Europe (including Britain), Greenland and North America, it has branched, prominently-ridged and jointed, slender green stems with tiny dark blackish-green spikes (cones).

It is also known as *Bunter Schachtelhalm* (German), *Fjällfräken* (Swedish), *Liden Padderok* (Danish), *Praslička* (Slovak), *Přeslička peřestá* (Czech), *Přeslička různobarvá* (Czech), *Smalfräken* (Swedish), Variegated rough horsetail, and Variegated scouringrush.

Variegatum means ‘variegated or irregularly coloured’.

The North American Mendocino Indian tribe used variegated horsetail to polish their arrows and other wooden objects.

The plant provided forage for Mendocino Indian horses.

As a source of medicine the Yuki Indians used the plant to treat sore eyes.