

Erysimum cheiranthoides

[Synonyms : *Cheiranthus cheiranthoides*, *Cheirinia cheiranthoides*, *Erysimum cheiranthoides* subsp. *altum*]

TREACLE MUSTARD is an annual (or biennial or perennial). Native to Europe it has small yellow flowers.

It is also known as *Acker-Schöterich* (German), *Åkerkårel* (Swedish), *Fausse giroflée* (French), *Horčičník cheirantový* (Slovak), *Schöterich* (German), Tarrify, Treacle hedge mustard, Treacle wormseed, *Trýzel malokvětý* (Czech), *Ukonauris* (Finnish), Wallflower, Wormseed mustard, and Wormseed wallflower.

Warning – large doses of seeds can be poisonous. They can cause severe purging.

Cheiranthoides is made up of the old genus name *Cheiranthus* (now *Erysimum*, the wallflower genus) and Greek *-oides* (like) components meaning ‘wallflower-like (*Erysimum cheiri*)’.

The plant came to be known to the Chippewa North American Indian tribe and they absorbed it into their range of medicines. A decoction of root was applied to some skin disorders.

Medicinally, in the countryside people used the seeds to treat worms, as well as rheumatism and jaundice. In small doses they were also used as a purgative.