

Eupatorium cannabinum

[Synonyms : *Chrona heterophylla*, *Eupatorium allaisii*, *Eupatorium argenteum*, *Eupatorium birmanicum*, *Eupatorium cannabinum* subsp. *cannabinum*, *Eupatorium cannabinum* var. *indivisum*, *Eupatorium cannabinum* subsp. *syriacum*, *Eupatorium caucasicum*, *Eupatorium corsicum*, *Eupatorium dicline*, *Eupatorium finlaysonianum*, *Eupatorium heterophyllum*, *Eupatorium hyrcanicum*, *Eupatorium lambertianum*, *Eupatorium lemassonii*, *Eupatorium longicaule*, *Eupatorium mairei*, *Eupatorium nodiflorum*, *Eupatorium ponticum*, *Eupatorium punduanum*, *Eupatorium simonsii*, *Eupatorium soleirolii*, *Eupatorium suaveolens*, *Eupatorium trifidum*, *Eupatorium trifoliatum*, *Eupatorium variifolium*, *Eupatorium viscosum*, *Eupatorium wallichii* var. *heterophyllum*, *Mikania longicaulis*]

HEMP AGRIMONY is a perennial. Native to Europe and from the Mediterranean to central Asia, it has fluffy heads of numerous small, mauve or whitish flowers.

It is also known as Ague weed, Andurion, Black elder, *Byddon Chwerw* (Welsh), *Canapa selvatica* (Italian), *Chanvrin* (French), Common hemp agrimony, Crow rocket, *Da ma ye ze lan* (Chinese), Dutch agrimony, *Eupatoire à feuilles de chanvre* (French), *Eupatoire-chanvrin* (French), *Eupatório-de-Avicena* (Portuguese), *Eŭpatorio kanaba* (Esperanto), Filaera, *Flocks* (Swedish), *Gemeiner Wasserdost* (German), *Hampflockel* (Swedish), *Hampört* (Swedish), Hemlock parsley, Hemp eupatorium, Hemp weed, *Hjortetrøst* (Danish), Holy rope, Indian ague root, Jack o' lantern, *Jalousie sauvage* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), *Koninginnekruid* (Dutch), *Konopáč obyčejný* (Slovak), *Kunigundenkraut* (German), *Poskonnik konoplevidnyi* (Russian), *Punalatva* (Finnish), Purple boneset, Raspberries and cream, *Sadec konopáč* (Czech), St. John's herb, *Sceachóg Mhuire* (Irish Gaelic), Sweet-smelling trefoil, Thoroughwort, Thread flower, *Tongollati* (Assamese), *Trevo-cervino* (Portuguese), Virgin Mary, *Wasserdost* (German), Water agrimony, Water hemp, and Water maudlin.

The flowers are attractive to butterflies.

Warning – in large doses the plant will act as a laxative and it can cause vomiting. It is recommended that the plant is not taken internally unless prescribed by a qualified practitioner.

Hemp agrimony's leaves have a similar appearance to those of hemp *Cannabis sativa*.

Cannabinum is derived from the genus name *Cannabis* meaning 'like hemp *Cannabis sativa*' with reference to the leaves.

The name Holy rope has Christian connotations. It arose because of the similarity of hemp agrimony's leaves to those of hemp *Cannabis sativa* and it was used in English country districts where they named the plant after the rope that bound Christ.

Country folk believed that laying the leaves under bread would prevent the loaf from getting mouldy.

Hemp agrimony was familiar both to the ancient Greeks and to the Romans for medicinal qualities.

Medicinally, herbalists recommended the plant as a tonic, a treatment for healing wounds and a cure for scurvy. Dutch peasants also took it to cure jaundice. Today it is rarely used although the fresh plant is used in homoeopathy.

