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*Fumaria*

*Papaveraceae*

[*Fumariaceae*]

*Fumaria* is derived for some from medieval Latin *fumus terrae* (smoke from the earth) with reference to a view expressed by Pliny the Elder (23-79), the Roman natural historian, that like smoke the plant applied to the eyes makes them water. For others it is a reference to the smoky scent of some species, for yet others it is a recognition of some resemblance of plants in the genus to smoke (when seen from a distance) and, not least, other authorities have suggested that it might even be a reference to the colour or smell of the fresh roots.