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### *Gagea bohemica*

[Synonyms : *Anthericum villosum*, *Gagea aleppoana*, *Gagea andegavensis*, *Gagea billardieri*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *aleppoana*, *Gagea bohemica* var. *andegavensis*, *Gagea bohemica* var. *busambarensis*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *corsica*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *gallica*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *nebrodensis*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *saxatilis*, *Gagea bohemica* var. *szovitsii*, *Gagea bohemica* var. *velenovskiana*, *Gagea bohemica* subsp. *zauschneri*, *Gagea busambarensis*, *Gagea callieri*, *Gagea foliosa* var. *busambarensis*, *Gagea hypanica*, *Gagea lanosa*, *Gagea minaae*, *Gagea nebrodensis*, *Gagea pygmaea* subsp. *saxatilis*, *Gagea saxatilis*, *Gagea saxatilis* subsp. *australis*, *Gagea saxatilis* subsp. *busambarensis*, *Gagea saxatilis* subsp. *corsica*, *Gagea smyrnaea*, *Gagea szovitsii*, *Gagea szovitsii* var. *alepicca*, *Gagea szovitsii* forma *australis*, *Gagea szovitsii* var. *callieri*, *Gagea szovitsii* var. *intermedia*, *Gagea velenovskiana*, *Gagea zauschneri*, *Ornithogalum bohemicum*, *Ornithogalum bohemicum* var. *saxatile*, *Ornithogalum busambarensis*, *Ornithogalum nebrodense*, *Ornithogalum szovitsii*, *Ornithogalum zauschneri*, *Ornithoxanthum bohemicum*, *Ornithoxanthum fistulosum*, *Ornithoxanthum zauschneri*, *Phalangium villosum*, *Reggeria bohemica*, *Solenarium fistulosum*, *Stellaris bohemica*, *Stellaster bohemicus*, *Stellaster nebrodensis*, *Stellaster saxatilis*]

**EARLY STAR OF BETHLEHEM** is a bulbous perennial. Native to central and southern Europe, it has small greenish-tinged beneath, shiny yellow fading to white flowers. It is also known as Bohemian gagea, *Křivatec český* (Czech), *Krivec* (Slovak), and Welsh star of Bethlehem.

In Britain early star of Bethlehem is considered to be endangered in the wild and is protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

*Bohemica* means ‘of or from Bohemia (once western Czechoslovakia now part of the Czech Republic)’.

Authorities believe that although it is not native to Britain it is likely that early star of Bethlehem has been flowering there for over 5,000 years. Apparently a relic population of them was found in the 1990s in the Welsh mountains.