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Gladiolus illyricus

WILD GLADIOLUS is a bulbous perennial. Native to Turkey, the Mediterranean and western Europe (including Britain where it is rare) it has partially white-marked, reddish-purple flowers.

It is also known as *Mečík ilyrský* (Czech).

It is protected in Britain under Schedule 2 of Conservation of Wild Creatures and Wild Plants Act 1975, and Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Illyricus means ‘of or from Illyria (or Illyricum) near the Croatian coast which was once part of Yugoslavia and known as the Dalmatian coast’.