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*Glycine*

*Leguminosae*

[*Fabaceae/Papilionaceae*]

*Glycine* is derived from Greek *glyco-* (sweet) component with reference to the sweetness of the leaves and roots of some species.

Authorities note that, like other species such as coffee (*Coffea*) or cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*), some members of the soya genus are becoming extinct in the wild mainly because of land reclamation. This is serious as their loss could threaten the future potential of the cultivated crop. Their genes are needed for revitalization.

Members of this family absorb nitrogen from the air. Through the bacterial nodules on their deep growing roots, they will introduce nitrogen to the soil (and aerate it), to the benefit of neighbouring plants and any following them in the same soil.