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*Indigofera*

*Leguminosae*

[*Fabaceae/Papilionaceae*]

*Indigofera* is derived from Latin *indigo* and *-fer* (bearing, carrying) components with reference to the blue dye that can be obtained from several of the species.

This genus has been known in India for over 4,000 years.

Members of the 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.