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*Iris xiphium*

[Synonyms : *Iris hispanica*, *Iris latifolia*, *Xiphion sordidum*, *Xiphion verum*, *Xiphion vulgare*]

**SPANISH IRIS** is a bulbous plant. Native to the western Mediterranean, it has slightly fragrant, yellow-streaked, purple (occasionally yellow or white) flowers.

It is also known as Bulbous xiphium, Clouded iris, Dutch iris, and Thunderbolt iris.

*Xiphium* is a Greek name for a *Gladiolus* which itself is derived from Greek *xiphe*- (straight sword) component.

Spanish iris is a parent of the bulbous Dutch iris that is grown for cut flowers and is so popular today with florists.