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*Lathyrus pratensis*

**MEADOW VETCHLING** is an invasive, scrambling perennial. Native to Europe (including Britain) and to the Mediterranean it has pea-like, yellow flowers.

It is also known as Angle-berry, Common vetchling, Fingers and thumbs, *Gesse des prés* (French), *Gul Fladbælg* (Danish), *Gulvial* (Swedish), *Hrachor luční* (Czech), *Hrachor lúčny* (Slovak), Lady's fingers, Lady's slipper, Meadow pea, Meadow peavine, Mouse pea, *Niittynätkelmä* (Finnish), Old granny's slipper-sloppers, *Platterbse* (German), Slipper-sloppers, Tom thumb, *Wiesen-Platterbse* (German), Yellow tare-tine, Yellow tar-fitch, Yellow thatch, Yellow vetchling, and *Ytbysen y Ddôl* (Welsh).

Warning – meadow vetchling is poisonous. It is said to be a cause of lathyrism eg. paralysis of the larynx, excitability, convulsions and ultimately death.

*Pratensis* is derived from Latin *pratium* (meadow) meaning 'of or from meadows'.

Medicinally, folk medicine has used an infusion of stems and leaves to ease coughs and bronchitis.