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Leucojum aestivum

SUMMER SNOWFLAKE is a bulbous perennial. Native from Europe (including southern Britain) to Iran, it has small, faintly chocolate-scented, white flowers with green-tipped segments.

It is also known as *Akçabardak* (Turkish), *Bledul'a* (Slovak), *Bledule letní* (Czech), *Eiriaidd* (Welsh), *Karçiçeği* (Turkish), Loddon lily, St. George's violet, Snowflakes, *Sommarsnöklocka* (Swedish), *Sommerglöckchen* (German), *Sommer-Hvidblomme* (Danish), *Sommer-Knotenblume* (German), Spring snowflake, Summer snowdrop, *Vaso de marzo* (Spanish), and *Zomerklokje* (Dutch).

The flowers are pollinated by bees. The swollen ripe fruit pods will float in water which thus disperses the seeds.

Summer snowflake is considered to be threatened in the wild in Britain.

Aestivum means 'flowering, ripening or developing in Summer or of Summer'.

The flowers are cultivated in Europe as ornamental plants.

Some records suggest that the bulb has been cooked for food but the accuracy of this is uncertain.

Medicinally, the fresh bulb has been used locally to cause vomiting.