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Lilium superbum

[Synonyms : *Lilium canadense* subsp. *superbum*, *Lilium carolinianum*, *Lilium gazarubrum*, *Lilium mary-henryae*]

TURK’S-CAP LILY is a bulbous perennial. Native to eastern North America it has fragrant orange-scarlet flowers with red-spotted centres and a green star at their bases and separated petals that curl back like the toe of a traditional Middle Eastern slipper.

It is also known as American martagon, American turk’s-cap lily, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Lily royal, Martagon, Meadow lily, Nodding lily, Royal lily, Supen’s lily, Swamp lily, Turk’s head, Turban lily, Wild nodding lily, and Wild tiger lily.

Superbum is Latin (haughty, exalted, proud) meaning ‘superb, splendid, brilliant or magnificent’.

Some authorities have noted that local North American Indian tribes used the edible bulb for thickening soups.