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*Lobularia maritima*

[Synonyms : *Alyssum halimifolium*, *Alyssum maritima*, *Alyssum maritimum*, *Clypeola maritima*, *Konig maritima*]

**SWEET ALISON** is an annual or perennial. Native to southern Europe it has tiny fragrant, white flowers.

It is also known as *Alysson* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), Alyssum (Dutch, English), *Buttunijra* (Maltese), *Cyddlin* (Welsh), *Duftsteinrich* (German), Madwort, *Riz* (Channel Islander-Guernsey), Sea alyssum, Seaside lobularia, Snowdrift, Snow-in-harvest, Snow-in-Summer, Snow-white carpet, *Steinkraut* (German), *Strandkrassing* (Swedish), *Strand-Silberkraut* (German), Sweet alyssum, *Tařicovka řřimořská* (Czech), *Tuoksupielus* (Finnish), and White money; and in flower language is said to be a symbol of ‘excellence beyond beauty’, exemplary modesty, and ‘worth beyond beauty’.

The flowers attract bees and other insects.

There are many cultivated varieties from this species.

*Maritima* is Latin (of the sea) meaning ‘coastal, or of the sea or seaside’.

Sweet alison has long been popular with Western gardeners as an edging plant.

After it came to the attention of some North American Indian tribes, the Costanoan Indians ate the raw stems as food.

Medicinally, at one time it was thought to be a cure for rabies – even by laying the plant on the hand.