

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Mentha piperita officinalis

WHITE PEPPERMINT is a perennial. It has small purple (occasionally white) flowers.

It is also known as *Englische Minze* (German), *Menthe anglaise* (French), *Menthe d'Angleterre* (French), and *Pfeffer-Minze* (German).

White peppermint has less pungent flowers and leaves than black peppermint (*Mentha piperita* nm. *piperita*).

Piperita is derived from the genus name *Piper* meaning 'like plants in that (pepper) genus or tasting hot and sharp'. *Officinalis* means 'of the shop (usually the apothecary's or herbalist's)'. Certain plants used for medicinal purposes, whether of actual or legendary value, were kept readily available and acquired this name.

It is one of the two main forms of peppermint – the other being black peppermint (*Mentha piperita* nm. *piperita*).