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*Mentha requienii*

[Synonyms : *Mentha corsica*]

**CORSICAN MINT** is a creeping or mat-forming perennial. Native to southern Europe it has tiny mauve flowers.

It is also known as Corsican thyme, *Korsische Minze* (German), and Spanish mint.

*Requienii* commemorates a French naturalist, malacologist and palaeontologist, Esprit Requier (1788-1852) from Avignon. He was interested in most scientific fields and, botanically, studied in particular the flora of Corsica and southern France. He also built up an internationally acclaimed herbarium containing about 300,000 plant specimens, as well as a collection of fossils and minerals, much of which is now housed in the Musée Requier in Avignon. The Museum's library was initially developed by Requier too. During his lifetime there were plans to demolish Avignon's ramparts which today are a popular tourist feature. It is said that they only exist now however because of the opposition of several prominent citizens in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, including Esprit Requier who happened to be the inspector of historical monuments.

Corsican mint's size enables it to be laid as a lawn, planted in between paving stones or grown in hanging baskets.