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Myrica cordifolia

[Synonyms : *Morella cordifolia*, *Myrica cordifolia* var. *microphylla*]

WAX BUSH is an often prostrate shrub. Native to South Africa (particularly the Cape of Good Hope) it has tiny white flowers.

It is also known as Myrtle, *Wasbes* (Afrikaans), and Wax berry.

Cordifolia is derived from Latin *cordis* (heart) and *-folia* (leaved) components meaning 'with heart-shaped leaves'.

The Hottentots are believed to have eaten the wax, and medicinally the shrub has also provided a remedy for the treatment of diarrhoea.