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Persicaria affinis

[Synonyms : *Bistorta affinis*, *Fallopia aubertii*, *Polygonum affine*, *Polygonum brunonis*, *Polygonum donianum*]

DENSE-FLOWERED WALL KNOTGRASS is a mat-forming perennial. Native to the Himalayas it has small, pink or red flowers with prominent stamens and leaves that turn reddish-bronze in Autumn.

It is also known as *Bergormrot* (Swedish), Fleece flower, Himalayan bistort, Himalayan fleece flower, Knotweed, *Lähis-kirburohi* (Estonian), *Li ga dur* (Tibetan), *Renouée ornementale* (French), and Smartweed.

It is not allowed to be planted or its growth encouraged in the wild either in Northern Ireland under the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 or on the British mainland (the latter under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981).

Affinis is derived from Latin *adfinis* (related, connected with) meaning ‘related to, allied to or similar to’.

This knotgrass was cultivated as ornamental ground cover.

Medicinally, the roots have been used occasionally in Tibetan medicine for treating some lung disorders.