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Polygala chamaebuxus

[Synonyms : *Chamaebuxus alpestris*, *Polygala alpestris*, *Polygaloides chamaebuxus*]

SHRUBBY MILKWORT is an evergreen shrub. Native to central Europe it has small pea-like, slightly fragrant, white-, pink- or purple-winged, cream and yellow flowers.

It is also known as Bastard box, *Bergmyrte* (German), Box-leaved milkwort, *Buchsblättrige Kreuzblume* (German), *Buchs-Kreuzblume* (German), *Buxušteť alpský* (Slovak), *Faux-buis* (French), Ground box, *Krušpánovec alpský* (Slovak), *Polygale faux-buis* (French), *Vår herres strumpor* (Swedish), *Varpulinnunruoho* (Finnish), *Zimostráček alpský* (Czech), *Zimostráček alpský* (Czech), *Zimostráček horský* (Czech), and *Zimostráček nízký* (Czech).

The flowers turn reddish-brown after pollination.

Chamaebuxus is derived from Greek *chamae*- (dwarf, on the ground, low-growing) and the genus name *Buxus* (box) components with reference to the plant's low, creeping habit and the similarity of its leaves to those of box.

Authorities believe that shrubby milkwort was introduced to Britain in 1658.