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Polygonatum verticillatum

[Synonyms : *Convallaria verticilata*, *Evallaria verticillata*, *Polygonatum erythrocarpum*,
Polygonatum kansuense, *Polygonatum macrophyllum*, *Polygonatum minutiflorum*]

WHORLED SOLOMON'S-SEAL is a perennial. Native to temperate Asia, Europe (including Britain – where it is rare), and from Afghanistan to south-eastern Tibet, it has small hanging, green-tipped white flowers.

It is also known as *Kokorik* (Slovak), *Kokořík přeslenitý* (Czech), *Kransrams* (Swedish), and *Quirlblättrige Weisswurz* (German).

The flowers are pollinated by bees or self-pollinated.

Warning – the foliage and berries may be poisonous.

It is a protected plant in Britain under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Verticillatum means "whorled (round an axis)".

Young shoots have been eaten locally as an alternative to asparagus (*Asparagus officinalis*).