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*Potentilla fruticosa*

[Synonyms : *Dasiphora fruticosa*, *Pentaphylloides floribunda*, *Pentaphylloides fruticosa*, *Potentilla friedrichsenii*]

**SHRUBBY CINQUEFOIL** is a deciduous shrub. Native to northern circumpolar and temperate regions (including Britain) it has small yellow or white flowers.

It is also known as Barren strawberry, *Blekgul tok* (Swedish), Bush cinquefoil, *Chinyaphal* (Nepalese), Finger bush, Fivefingers, Fiveleaf, *Gewöhnlicher Fingerstrauch* (German), Golden hardhack, *Hanhenjalkapensas* (Finnish), Hardhack, *Mochna křovitá* (Czech), *Mochnovec křovitý* (Czech), *Nátržník kerovitý* (Slovak), *Nátržník křovitý* (Slovak), *Nátržníkovec křovitý* (Slovak), *Pensashanhikki* (Finnish), *Potentilo arbusta* (Esperanto), Prairie weed, Shrubby potentilla, *Spangjha* (Punjabi), *Strauch-Fingerkraut* (German), *Tok* (Swedish), Widdy, and Yellow rose.

The flowers are pollinated by small bees and butterflies.

Shrubby cinquefoil is considered to be threatened in the wild in Britain.

It is a parent of many cultivated varieties.

*Fruticosa* is Latin (bushy, become bushy).

The leaves have been used to make a tea in Siberia and in some parts of India, as well as by Alaskan and Arctic Inuits and North American Blackfoot Indians.

The North American Blackfoot also used the leaves as a pillow stuffing – and when dried and powdered they were rubbed over the body for ceremonial dances.

Shrubby cinquefoil is said to have been discovered first on the 1914-1915 expedition made by Reginald John Farrer (1880-1920), an English botanist and author, and William Purdon, an Englishman who had already collected plants on the Chinese/Mongolian borders for the famous English Veitch nurseries. This journey took the two men via Peking to the same Chinese border area where they found various species including this one before they went their separate ways.