

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

---

*Rosa arvensis*

[Synonyms : *Rosa candida*, *Rosa repens*, *Rosa sempervirens* subsp. *arvensis*, *Rosa silvestris*]

**FIELD-ROSE** is a trailing, prickly deciduous shrub. Native to western and southern Europe (from Iceland to Greece, including Britain), it has musky scented white flowers with many yellow stamens.

It is also known as Ayrshire rose, *Feld-Rose* (German), *Kriechende Rose* (German), *Rhosyn Gwyn Gwyllt* (Welsh), *Rose des champs* (French), *Růže plazivá* (Czech), *Růže rolní* (Czech), and Trailing rose.

*Arvensis* means ‘of or growing incultivated fields or land’.

The field-rose is held to be a well-known safe haven for rabbits.

In England this species was particularly common in Yorkshire and this has suggested to some authorities that the House of York probably adopted the white field-rose as its emblem (referred to earlier) not *Rosa alba* as other authorities believe likely.

It is believed by some that the ‘musk rose’ referred to by the celebrated playwright/poet and actor/manager, William Shakespeare (1564-1616) in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* that he wrote in 1595 or 1596 was probably this species. It blooms at the right time and was far more familiar in his day than the then rare true musk rose (*Rosa moschata*).