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Sansevieria hyacinthoides

[Synonyms : *Acyntha guianensis*, *Aletris guineensis*, *Aloe guineensis*, *Aloe hyacinthoides*, *Cordyline guineensis*, *Cordyline hyacinthoides*, *Sansevieria angustiflora*, *Sansevieria grandis* var. *zuluensis*, *Sansevieria guineensis*, *Sansevieria latifolia*, *Sansevieria metallica*, *Sansevieria roxburghiana*, *Sansevieria spicata*, *Sansevieria thyrsiflora*, *Sansevieria trifasciata*, *Sansevieria zeylanica*]

AFRICAN HEMP is an evergreen succulent perennial. Native to South Africa it has small fragrant, greenish-white flowers with long stamens.

It is also known as African bowstring hemp, Bowstring, Bowstring hemp, Coretor, *Fèy zorèy bourik* (Creole), Iguana tail, Konje hemp, Leopard plant, Mother-in-law tongue, *Murba* (Bengali), *Muruva* (Sanskrit), *Murva* (Hindi), *Oreilles-bourrique* (French), Skip rope, Sword plant, and Zebra plant.

Hyacinthoides is derived from the genus name *Hyacinthus* and Greek *-oides* (like) components meaning 'like plants in that (hyacinth) genus'.

It is believed to have been introduced to Hawaii in the late 19th Century for cultivation for its fibre. Apparently this eventually proved to be unsuccessful commercially but the Islands adopted it widely as an ornamental plant.

The leaf fibre is used commercially today to make string, ropes, paper and matting.