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*Smilax*

*Smilacaceae*

*Smilax* is a classical Greek name of obscure meaning. For some authorities the ancient Greeks used the word *smilax* in connection with poisonous plants, and for others it is derived from *smile* (cutting, scratching) with reference to the plant's prickles. Sometimes mis-named flowers sold by florists belong to the related *Asparagus* genus.