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Smilax regelii

[Synonyms : *Smilax grandifolia*, *Smilax officinalis*, *Smilax ornata*, *Smilax regelii* var. *albida*, *Smilax saluberrima*, *Smilax utilis*]

JAMAICA SARSAPARILLA is an evergreen climber. Native to tropical South America it has greenish-white flowers

It is also known as Brown sarsaparilla, Chainey root, Costa Rican sarsaparilla, Honduran sarsaparilla, Jamaican sarsaparilla, Sarsaparilla (English, Finnish), and True sarsaparilla.

Regelii commemorates a German botanist, Eduard August von Regel (1815-1892). After training as a gardener at various places in Germany, he moved to the Botanic Garden in Zurich (Switzerland) in 1842. Then he became Director of the St. Petersburg Botanic Garden in 1855 remaining there until his death. He published many botanical works including *Gartenflora* and was also a founder of the Russian Horticultural Association.