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*Spartium*

*Leguminosae*

[*Fabaceae/Papilionaceae*]

*Spartium* is a corruption of Greek *spárto*, itself derived from Greek *sparton* (esparto grass, in a different family), as the fibre from both had similar uses.

Members of this family absorb nitrogen from the air. Through the bacterial nodules on their deep growing roots they will introduce nitrogen to the soil (and aerate it) to the benefit of neighbouring plants and any following them in the same soil.