

Latin Binomials

Words that refer to COLOR

incana	grey
argentum	silver
melana	black
nigricans, niger	black
pallida	pale
alba, albicans	white
rubra	red
pupurea	purple
aurantiaca	orange
flava, lutea	yellow
cuprea	coppery
cerula	blue
carnea	flesh-colored
viride	green
aureus	gold
fulva	tawny
diversicolor	various colored

Words that refer to PLACE OF ORIGIN

americana	Americas
chinensis, sinensis	China
orientalis	Orient
indica	India or Orient
californica	California
europaeum	Europe
canadensis	Canada
mexicana	Mexico
helvetica	Swiss Alps
montana	mountains
maritima	seashore
rusticana	remote places
virginiana	Virginia
marianus	Maryland
siberica	Siberia
palustris	meadows
rivale	near rivers
hygros	near wet places
aquatica	near water
salinus	near salt
silvestris, silvatica	of the woods
frigidis	cold, arctic regions

Words that refer to SEASONS

hyemalis	winter
vernalis	spring
aestivus	summer
autumnale	autumn

Words that refer to SHAPE OF FLOWER

umbellata	having umbels
paniculata	having panicles
bracteus	having bracts
armillaris	encircled, collared
racemosa	having racemes
grandiflora	large flowers
microflora	small flowers
tubiflora	tubular flowers
-anthos	flower
polyanthus	many flowers
strobilanthus	strobiles
scutellaria	dish shaped
geminiflorus	twin paired flowers

Words that refer to SHAPE OF LEAVES

angustifolia	narrow
oppositifolium	opposite
parvifolia	small
grandiflora	large
diversifolia	leaves of 2+ forms
obtussifolia	obtuse
oblongifolia	oblong
sagitifolia	arrow shaped
millefolium	thousands of leaves
latifolia	broad
quinquefolium	groups of five
trifolium	groups of three
octaphyllum	groups of eight
hexaphyllum	groups of six
microphylla	small
macrophylla	large
acerfolia	maple like
rhytidiphyllum	wrinkles
podophyllum	foot like
perfoliatus	leaf surrounding stem
perforatum	pierced with holes

Names that refer to USE

tinctoria	used for dye
cibarius	edible
officinalis	medicinal
sativus	cultivated
hortense, hortulens	horticultural
usitatissimum	most useful
somsiferum	sleep inducing
esculentus	tasty, excellent

Misceallaneous prefixes, suffixes,and root words

alienus	foreign	kallos	beautiful
albicornis	like elk/moose horns	karpos	fruit
alternans	alternating plant part	lepto	slender
amara	bitter	maculatus	spotted
amphibius	grows both land and water	majus	largest of species
anthera	anther	minor	smallest of species
alata	winged	mollis	soft
askos	sac	mellifera	honey bearing
aster	star	micans	glittery, sparkling
arboreum	tree like	mirabilis	marvelous
accuminata	grouped, accumulated	musci vorus	fly eating
baccans	bearing berries	mutabilis	fickle, changing
barbatus	barbs, bearded	nyctagineus	night blooming
bella	pretty, beautiful	neglectus	overlooked, slight
benedictus	blessed, well spoken	nervosa	veined, sinewy
binata	paired	noli-tangere	fruit that burst wide
borealis	northern	occultus	secret, hidden
bombyciferum	silky	oderatum	sweet smelling
bon-nox	night flowering	olidus	stinky, smelly
brevis	short	oxycanthus	sharp thorns
calama	reed	praecox	early flowering
campan	bell	pratens	spreading
cereus	waxy	pulcher	pretty
chelone	turtle	repens	creeping
chion	snow	sanguinaria	blood red
cordata	heart like	saxa	near rocks
crispus	crisp or waxy	stachys	spike or stalk
dentata	tooth	sempervirens	evergreen
dendron	tree	splendidissimus	very splendid
decorticans	shedding bark	theca	fruit
dissectum	divided	torus	twisted
dulcamara	bittersweet	undulatum	wavy, undulating
dulce	sweet	uva	like a bunch of groups
erecta	upright	verucosa	warty
excelsior	taller	vilosum	soft, hairy
explodens	exploding	vulgare	common
ferox	spiny, savage, thorny	urens	stinging, burning
festivus	gay, bright, festive		
fetidus	stinking	Sources:	
formosa	beautiful	<u>Cassels' Latin Dictionary</u>	
fragrans	fragrant	<u>Gardener's Latin</u> by Bill Neal	
fugax	fleeting	<u>The American Heritage Dictionary</u>	
furfuraceus	scaly, flaking	<u>A Garden of Words</u> by Marha Barnette	
geniculatus	bent, like a knee		
gibbus	swollen on one side	Compiled by Claire Green, N.D.	
glabra, glabrous	hairless	Heart to Heart Medical Center	
graveolens	strong smelling	175 Airport Blvd, Santa Rosa CA 95403	
hirta	hairy		
helios	sun		