

Helleborus

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae
Class: Magnoliopsida
Family: Ranunculaceae
Genus: Helleborus

Helleborus' flowers are formed by 5 different coloured sepals which often have a petaloid appearance. These sepals surround and protect the nectar derived from the real petals.



Medicinal Properties

Really poisoning plant, both for ingestion and for external use:

the powder obtained from dried roots and ryzoms collected in spring or in autumn, have cardiotonic, narcotic and hermetic properties .It also useful for treating edemi , and many other skin illnesses.

Roots

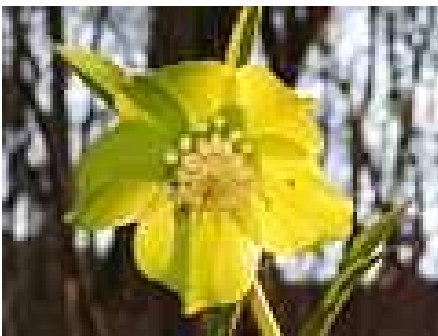
The root system (secondary to the ryzom) is fibrous.



Leaves

Basal leaves : the main leaves are radical and deciduous yearly. They are palmate and divided in different segments with perforated borders up to 1/3 from its base.

The other side of the leaves have little preminent midribs . their colour is dark emerald green.



Flower

Each H. viridis has some big pedunculated flowers . At the base of the flower there are some bracts with a palmate shape divided in three segments : the one in the middle is complete, while the lateral twos can be divided in lanceolate segments.

Curiosities

Thanks to its beautiful aspect ,this plant is often used to decorate gardens and flats.