



## Geranium

Latin names: Pelargonium X asperum Ehrhart ex Willdenow

French names : Pélargonium rosat, Géranium rosat

Other English names : Rose-scent Geranium, Pelargonium graveolens, Pelargonium

Extracted from : flowering aerial parts (India)



If work is eating into your time, nibbling at your heart and gnawing your emotions, it's surely time for a Pelargonium break.

When your mind has squashed your emotions: Pelargonium (Geranium), Davana and a few whiffs of Fir to balance it all out!

### **The plant, its legends and its botany**

A beautiful flower for a relatively magical essential oil.

Pelargonium is, contrary to popular belief, not a European species. It actually comes from southern Africa and has colonised the balconies of alpine chalets only later. Besides, what is it doing there on balconies? It certainly makes them beautiful, but its primary function is to hunt mosquitoes and wasps fleeing its smell.

They are beautiful coloured flashes, but what is it botanically?

Geraniaceae make bouquets. The petals are lined with "veins" of a colour that draws pictures on the background colour. They have succulent stems and succulent leaves. Look how fleshy they are, it seems that the leaves are water pockets. And they are strongly pubescent (hairy).

The leaves and stems contain lots of essential oil and smell nicely. It is interesting to note that we have had fun cultivating, crossing and selecting species for very different smells. Pelargoniums can thus smell of Nutmeg, Rose, Lemon, Mint, Almond, Apple, Coconut ...

They are used fairly for their culinary taste (leaves) or for decoration (edible flowers) in ice, cakes, jams and jellies.

Differentiating true Geraniums from Pelargoniums is easy. Even if Charles Linnaeus classified them early as one species (Erodium included). Of course, they are all a seed-shaped beak at the end of their flowering. They were re-divided into three categories by Charles Louis, the heir of Brutele in 1789. Indeed, they are botanically quite different.

\* The Pelargoniums (Stork's beak: pelargos in Greek) come from the southern hemisphere. They have more than two flowers per head. The flowers are zygomorphic (bilateral symmetry) with 4-7 stamens and a nectar spur.

\* The Geranium (Crane's beak: geranios in Greek) come from the northern hemisphere. They have one to two

flowers per head. The flowers are actinomorphic (radially symmetrical) with 5 petals and regular with 10 stamens.

\* The Erodium also come from the northern hemisphere. They have 5 stamens, 5 petals and usually actinomorphic, irregular and pinnate leaves (palmate leaves for Geranium).

### **Energetic properties**

Brings you closer to your Yin , feminine, side.

Stimulates receptivity.

Stimulates intuition, imagination and the right side of the brain.

Helps to balance relationships.

Helps those who forgot to live their lives.

Supports workaholics.

Diminishes feelings of humiliation and helps to absorb the melancholy linked to it.

### **Chakras**

1st chakra

3rd chakra

### **Doshas**

Tends to make Vata go emotional; calms it down to be more functional about one true self.

Calms Pitta's flashes.

Helps one enter Kapha's cosiness.

### **Elements**

Earth

Water

### **Standard chemotype**

Monoterpene alcohols (citronellol, sometimes exceeding 50%, 25% geraniol, linalool)

Esters (formate citronellyle up to 20%, geranyl formate, butyrate, acetate and Tiglath)

Sesquiterpene alcohols (10-epi-gamma-eudesmol)

Acids (not often) (decanoic acid)

Ketones: none

Furanocoumarins: none

### **Batch chromatography**

Batch, GERB445N63 (PDF, 538 Ko, French) from Egypt

Batch, GER501A124395 (PDF, 315 Ko, French), from India

### **Contraindications and limitations of use**

No contraindication within physiological dosage.

Keep out of reach of children.

Children and pregnant women: no contraindication within physiological dosage

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The information on these page is only intended to provide trained professionals with suggestions on how to use our products. They are solely responsible for any advice they may give. It rests with them to consolidate their skills and to keep ut to date with the latest advances in aromatherapy. Also, trained professionals must know their patients' state of health well enough to propose an appropriate treatment accordingly. The total responsibility for interpretation and use of Gedane products lies with users and does not involve Gedane in any way.  
Texts: external consultant Marc Ivo Böhning and Geraldine Viatte