Abstract: The Latin noun *ceparius*, recurring only in Lucilius’ fragment 195 M. (*lippus edenda acri assiduo ceparius cepa*), has been considered by critics as derived from *cepa* (*‘onion’*) and has been generally interpreted as meaning ‘onion-eater’ or, less frequently, ‘onion-seller’ or ‘onion-grower’. Taking full advantage of the witness offered by a Xth century glossa (Gloss. 5.565.5: *ceparius ortulanus*), the author of this essay suggests that *ceparius* is a perfect synonym for *holitor* and *κῆπωρός*, and that it is etymologically connected not with the Latin word *cepa*, but with the Greek *κῆπος* (*‘hortus’*).

Keywords: Ceparius, Cepa, Κῆπος, Hortus, Lucilius.