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Clusia

Guttiferae
[*Clusiaceae*]

Clusia commemorates a French physician, botanist, linguist and horticulturist, Charles de L cluse (1525-1609), also known as Carolus Clusius, who travelled widely (including in the ‘New World’). From 1573-1587 he was responsible for the imperial medical garden in Vienna but lost the position when Rudolf II (1552-1612) ascended the throne. He moved to Frankfurt am Main and then in 1594 he became a professor at the University of Leiden and was involved in establishing Hortus Academicus there. This was a formal botanical garden which, because of his meticulous planting lists, has been recreated within the last 100 years (begun in 1931 and finished in 1990) as the Clusius Garden (Hortus Clusianus) to be found near the original site . Among his published works are *Rariorum Plantarum Historia* (which introduced about 100 new species and included descriptions of the tulip, *Tulipa* and the potato, *Solanum tuberosum*), and *Exoticorum libri decem* which includes some material by Prospero Alpini (1553-1616).