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*Daphne*

*Thymelaeaceae*

*Daphne* honours the daughter of the river god in Greek mythology who was transformed into a laurel tree to avoid the pursuit of Apollo. It is also the Greek name for bay tree *Laurus nobilis* – on the basis that some of the species bear a passing resemblance to the bay tree. Other authorities suggest that it may be derived from the name of the root of another plant and means ‘odour’.