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*Eschscholzia*

*Papaveraceae*

*Eschscholzia* commemorates an Estonian physician and naturalist, Johann Friedrich Gustav von Eschscholtz (1793-1831) who accompanied the Russian naval officer and explorer Otto Kotzebue (1787-1846) on his first round-the-world expedition (1815-1818) – as well as on a second circumnavigation from 1823-1826. He collected plants and insects on the first trip but concentrated on beetles during the second, and on both occasions (apart from other countries particularly in the region of the Bering Straits) he collected in California and the Pacific. On his return to Estonia in 1828 he became professor of anatomy at Tartu University. (Some authorities note that this genus was so named by a friend of Eschscholtz, Adelbert von Chamisso (1781-1838) the French-born German poet and biologist, who also participated in the first expedition as a naturalist.) Bikini Atoll in the Marsall Islands in the Pacific, remembered today because of its name and the series of nuclear tests carried out there in the 1940s and 1950s, had originally been christened Eschscholtz Atoll by von Kotzebue.