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Forestiera

Oleaceae

Forestiera is understood to honour a Frenchman referred to variously as Dr. André Robert (or Robert André or even Claude Robert) Forestier (1741-1812). He was born in Paris and died in St. Quentin, northern France.

Apparently suggestions that the genus name commemorates either an 18th Century French physician and naturalist, Charles le Forestier – or a soldier referred to similarly and whose full name was Louis Charles René Le Forestier (1778-1850) who was both a founder of the second Linnean Society of Paris and also its treasurer in 1821 – are erroneous. They are believed to stem from a misidentification originally made by a Swiss botanist, Father Antoine Duss (1840-1924) in 1897 in a French West Indian flora and perpetuated subsequently and unwittingly by some American authors (and as I did initially too).