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*Fuchsia*

*Fuchsia* commemorates a physician, plant researcher and herbalist, Leonhard Fuchs (1501-1566) who is viewed as a pioneer of German botany by many. He was professor of medicine at Tübingen and appreciated that at that time some practising physicians were not conversant with the medicines they prescribed and many apothecaries were illiterate and unfamiliar with many of the plants (native or introduced) they dispensed and relied on the peasants who collected them for accurate identification. Thus patients could be poisoned or receive no benefit from medication. He published a herbal in 1542, *De historia stirpium commentarii insignes*, on the collection and medical use of both native and introduced species of plants in the German region. It is considered by many authorities to have been a major and significant advance in the scientific description of plants. The work includes names in Latin, Greek and German and possibly the first as accurate as possible botanical illustration of the plants included (in the form of full page woodcuts), not least for the benefit of the lay reader.

*Onagraceae*