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*Nothofagus*

*Nothofagaceae*

[*Fagaceae*]

*Nothofagus* is derived from Greek *nothos* (false, spurious, bastard) or *noto-* (south, back) and the genus name *Fagus* (beech) components, to which this genus is closely related. Of the Greek alternatives *noto-* is believed more likely with reference to the genus' southern habitat and with regard to the genus name this genus is closely related to *Fagus*.

These species are believed to have evolved on Gondwana which, before the supercontinent divided included South America and Antarctica which explains why they are found so far apart – in Tasmania, and South America.