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*Rivina*

*Phytolaccaceae*

*Rivina* commemorates a German physician, anatomist and botanist, August Quirinus Rivinus (1652-1723), who was born August Bachmann in Leipzig. After studying at Leipzig and Helmstedt he lectured in medicine at the former from 1677. His work led him to consider the classification of plants on which he published treatises during the 1690s. In 1691 he became professor of both botany and physiology at Leipzig, as well as curator of the botanical garden there. Then, after being appointed to the chair of pathology at Leipzig in 1701, he became professor of therapeutics and dean of the Faculty of Medicine in 1719. During a large part of his life he pursued his interest in astronomy, in particular his observations on sunspots, and this led to his near-blindness for the last ten years of his life. He was a member of the Royal Society and his name is not only honoured in plant names ie. *Rivina*, and *Viola riviniana* but also in physiological terminology eg. ducts of Rivinus, and Rivinus' ligament.