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*Thuja*

*Cupressaceae*

*Thuja* is a corruption of *thuya*, the name with which the tree was invested by the French botanist Joseph de Tournefort (1656-1708).

It would seem that de Tournefort may have confused it with the tree known to the ancient Greeks as *thuia* which was probably a juniper (*Juniperus*) and had scented wood and resin that were burnt during sacrificial rituals.