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*Tillandsia*

*Bromeliaceae*

*Tillandsia* commemorates a Finnish physician and botanist, Elias Til-Landz (1640-1693), who was professor of medicine at the Royal Academy of Turku now Helsinki University. In 1678 he established the University's botanical garden (but it was moved to the centre of Helsinki after they City burnt down in 1829). He is said to have been hydrophobic to the extent that he needed much persuasion even to cross a river. Most of the plants in this genus are native to desert areas where water is at a premium. His published works include *Catalogus Plantarum*.