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## **Botanical Plant Names**

Today on Gardening in a Minute: botanical plant names.

Most plants have at least two names: their common name and their Latin, or botanical, name. Common names can be confusing, as many plants can be known by the same common name. But each botanical name is specific to one plant.

The botanical naming system was developed by Carl Linnaeus, an eighteenth-century Swedish botanist. Plants are given a first name, for their genus, and a second name, for their species. These use a mixture of Latin, Greek, and native words.

Botanical names can be difficult to pronounce, but there are numerous online sites where you can find phonetic spellings and even audio pronunciations.

To get the plant you want, be sure to ask for it by its botanical name!

For more information about plant names, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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