



Theophrastus: The Father of Botany

Theophrastus an ancient Greek philosopher and student of Aristotle is also regarded as the "FATHER OF BOTANY" due to his pioneering work in the study of plants. Born around 371 B.C. in Eresos on the island of Lesbos, Theophrastus became one of the most important figures in ancient philosophy and natural science. He succeeded Aristotle as the head of the Lyceum in Athens and dedicated much of his scholarly life to the study of the natural world, particularly plants and their characteristics. Through his observations and writings, Theophrastus laid the foundation for the field of botany, contributing to understanding in plant classification, growth, and medical uses.

Theophrastus wrote, especially *Enquiry into Plants* and *on the Causes of Plants*, were highly influential, shaping the study of plants for centuries and leaving him a lasting legacy in the history of science, whose legacy also continues to shape the scientific understanding of plants and their importance to both the environment and human life.

