

## Modern genetics reshapes the tree of life

*The following is an excerpt.*

[Charles Darwin's "tree of life"](#), which shows how species are related through evolutionary history, is wrong and needs to be replaced, according to leading scientists.

The great naturalist first sketched how species might evolve along branches of an imaginary tree in 1837, an idea that quickly came to symbolise the theory of [evolution](#) by natural selection.

But modern [genetics](#) has revealed that representing evolutionary history as a tree is misleading, with scientists saying a more realistic way to represent the origins and inter-relatedness of species would be an impenetrable thicket. Darwin himself also wrote about evolution and ecosystems as a "tangled bank".

**Read the full article here: [Evolution: Charles Darwin was wrong about the tree of life](#)**