

## Re: "Orange"

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**From:** Skitt (*skitt99\_at\_comcast.net*)

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Igor Sklar wrote:

> *"Paul J Kriha" wrote*

>> *Igor Sklar wrote*

>>> *juuitchan@hotmail.com wrote*

>>>> *What was the color orange called before the West discovered*

>>>> *oranges?*

>>>>

>>>> *Even Polish names the color after the fruit (or appears to).*

>>>

>>> *What about Pol. rudy? The word is akin to Russ. rudyi, Lith raudas*

>>> *and*

>>> *Eng red.*

>>>

>>> *In Russia, there were two principal "pre-orange" words: 'ryzhiy',*

>>> *still applied to foxes and red hair, and 'zharkoy', the colour of*

>>> *glowing embers.*

>>

>> *Is R. <ryzhij> a cognate of <rzhavyj> (rusty)?*

>

> *Yes, it is. Other Russian cognates include ruda ('ore'), rdet' ('to*

> *redde'), redryi ('yellowish red'). Cf Russ. redryi and Sans. rudhiras*

> *('crimson'). All these words ascend to PIE \*reudh- ('red').*

>

>> *In Cz a redhead can be <rezavy'> or more often <zrzavy'>.*

>> *(the leading z- is a prefix signifying a change of status or form).*

>> *AFAIK <rezavy'> is related to <rezivy'> (rusty) and <rez> (rust).*

>> *I believe <zrzavy'> is also a cognate and all these are cognates*

>> *of the above R.<ryzhij> and R.<rzhavyj>. Any comments, anybody?*

>

> *Russ. rzha ('rust'), Ukr. irzha, Bulg. r'zhda, Old Czech rze, Pol.*

> *rdza <- Old Slavic \*r'dia ('rust').*

>

> *Russ. ryzhiy ('red-haired'), Ukr. rizhiy, OSC ryzhd, Slov ridz, Czech*

> *ryzi, Pol. rydzy <- Old Slavic \*rydj' ('red hair').*

>

> *Both Slavic roots are akin to Lith rudis ('rust'), MHG rot ('rust'),*

> *Lith rudas ('reddish brown'), Lat ruber ('red'), Eng. rust, red, &c*

sci.lang: Re: "Orange"

> [*Vasmer, III, 480*].

Does "Lat" stand for Latvian? If so, I'm not aware of "ruber" as a Latvian word. The word for "red" is "sarkans" or "sarkana", depending on gender. "Rust" (the noun) is "rûsa".

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Skitt (AUE's token Latvian)