AN ARTIFICIAL KEY TO THE FAMILIES
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1a. Venation reticulate. Flowers 4 or 5-merous. Cotyledons two CLASS I. Dicotyledones

1b. Venation parallel. Flowers 3-merous. Cotyledon one CLASS II. Monocotyledones

CLASS I: DICOTYLEDONES

1a. Perianth of distinct sepals and petals:

2a. Petals free:

3a. Calyx of distinct sepals:

4a. Stamens indefinite:

5a. Carpels indefinite, free:

6a. Carpels sunk in the torus:

7a. Leaves cordate ..... 2. NYMPHAEACEAE

7b. Leaves peltate ..... 3. NELUMBONACEAE

6b. Carpels on spongy torus ..... 1. RANUNCULACEAE

5b. Carpels definite, fused:

8a. Stamens free ..... 6. TILIACEAE

8b. Stamens monadelphous ..... 5. STERCULIACE

4b. Stamens definite. Flowers in dense axillary fascicles ..... 4. ELATINACEAE

3b. Calyx of united sepals:
9a. Flowers regular, aggregated into heads...... 8. MIMOSACEAE

9b. Flowers irregular, not as above...... 7. FABACEAE

10a. Stamens usually indefinite:

11a. Leaves stipulate; carpels distinct, free...... 9. ROSACEAE

11b. Leaves exstipulate; carpels not as above...... 10. LYTHRACEAE

10b. Stamens definite. Flowers in umbels; fruit cremocarp...... 13. APIACEAE

12a. Fruits angled, shortly beaked, spiny on either sides...... 12. TRAPACEAE

12b. Fruits not as above...... 11. ONAGRACEAE

2b. Petals united:

13a. Ovary inferior:

14a. Flowers in heads, subtended by an involucre...... 15. ASTERACEAE

14b. Flowers not as above:

15a. Leaves opposite or verticillate, stipulate...... 14. RUBIACEAE

15b. Leaves alternate, exstipulate...... 16. SPHENOCLEACEAE

13b. Ovary superior
16a. Plants with milky juice; gynostegium present:

16b. Plants without milky juice; gynostegium absent ..... 21. LENTIBULARIACEAE

17a. Corolla irregular:

18a. Bracts and bracteoles prominent and persistent ..... 22. ACANTHACEAE

18b. Bracts and bracteoles minute or absent:

19a. Ovary 4-lobed; style gynobasic ..... 24. LAMIACEAE

19b. Ovary entire; style not as above:

20a. Calyx and style persistent; ovules numerous on swollen placenta ..... 22. SCROPHULARIACEAE

20b. Calyx and style not persistent; ovules definite; placenta not swollen ..... 23. VERBENACEAE

17b. Corolla regular:

21a. Leaves opposite; stamens equal ..... 17. GENTIANACEAE

21b. Leaves alternate; stamens unequal ..... 19. CONVOLVULACEAE

22a. Stamens antipetalous; stigma undivided:

22b. Stamens alternating the petals; stigmas 2 ..... 18. HYDROPHYLLACEAE
1b. Perianth uniseriate or absent:

23a. Flowers bisexual:

24a. Leaves stipulate; stipules ochrate and persistent

27. POLYGONACEAE

24b. Leaves extipulate:

25a. Flowers bracteate; tepals scarious

25. AMARANTHACEAE

25b. Flowers ebracteate; tepals not as above

26. CHENOPODIACEAE

23b. Flowers unisexual or polygamous

28. CERATOPHYLLACEAE

CASE II: MONOCOTYLEDONES

1a. Flowers in spadix

36. ARACEAE

1b. Flowers not in spadix:

2a. Flowers in spikelets, glumaceous; glumes imbricate:

3a. Culms cylindrical, hollow; leaves ligulate

45. POACEAE

3b. Culms triquetrous, solid; leaves elongate

44. CYPERACEAE

2b. Flowers not as above:

4a. Perianth absent, at least in male flowers, or if present not petaloid:

5a. Free floating herbs; stem and leaves not differentiated

37. LEMNACEAE
5b. Emergent herbs with distinct stem and leaves:

6a. Flowers in elongated spikes ..... 34. TYPHACEAE

6b. Flowers in globose heads ..... 35. SPARGANIACEAE

4b. Perianth present, usually biseriate, at least the inner petaloid:

7a. Flowers in depressed or globose heads or in spikes:

8a. Flowers in terminal heads, surrounded by involucral bracts ..... 43 ERIOCAULACEAE

8b. Flowers not in heads; involucral bracts absent:

9a. Flowers bisexual ..... 33. JUNCACEAE

9b. Flowers unisexual

10a. Perianth in two series, both petaloid ..... 31. PONTEDERIACEAE

10b. Perianth in two series, inner petaloid sometimes absent ..... 42. NAJADACEAE

7b. Flowers in cymes, panicles or umbels:

11a. Carpels free:

12a. Perianth 6, biseriate:

13a. Fruit of achenes; seeds solitary ..... 38. ALISMATACEAE
13b. Fruit follicular; seeds numerous
..... 39. BUTOMACEAE

12b. Perianth if present, uniseriate :

14a. Stamens 6; fruit follicular
..... 40. APONOGETONACEAE

14b. Stamens 1-4; fruit drupaceous
..... 41. POTAMOGETONACEAE

11b. Carpels united :

15a. Ovary superior
..... 32. COMMELINACEAE

15b. Ovary inferior :

16a. Aquatic herbs
..... 29. HYDROCHARITACEAE

16b. Semi-aquatic herbs
..... 30. AMARYLLIDACEAE