A P I A C E A E

KEY TO GENERA

1. Leaves pinnately compound; flowers in compound umbels.
   OENANTH

1'. Leaves simple; flowers in simple umbels or heads.

2. Leaves lanceolate to elliptic, sessile, spinulose toothed at margins; flowers in heads.
   ERYNGIUM

2'. Leaves reniform to cordate, long-petioled; crenate at margins; flowers in simple umbels.

3. Leaves with angled or lobed margins; flowers white on long peduncle; mericarp with only 3 primary ridges; pericarp of seed thin.
   HYDROCOTYLE

3'. Leaves usually entire; flowers red, on short peduncle; mericarp with 7 - 9 ridges; secondary ridges as distinct as the primary ones; pericarp of seed thickened. CENTELLA

HYDROCOTYLE L.


Prostrate herbs, rooting at nodes; leaves broader than long ± 6 cm, deeply cordate, glossy above; peduncle leaf-opposed; flowers sessile, many.

**CENTELLA L.**

Centella asiatica (L.) Urban, in Mart. Fl. Bras. 11: 287. 1879. 

Slender diffuse runners; leaves ± 3 cm broad, reniform, glabrous except along the nerves, especially beneath.


**ERYNGIUM L.**


Diffuse perennial aromatic herbs; branches somewhat zig-zag; leaves ± 3 cm long, crowded at nodes; heads oblong, ± 1 cm; bracts spinulose.


**OENANTHE L.**

Oenanthe javanica (Bl.) DC. Prodr. 4: 138. 1830. O. stolonifera
Wall. ex DC.: C. B. Cl. in Hk. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 2: 696. 1879;

Stoloniferous herbs; leaves 1 or 2-pinnate; rachis sheathing at base; leaflets closely serrate; flowers white, in compound umbels; petals emarginate.
Coriandrum sativum L. 'Dhaniya' cultivated; fruits and leaves are used as condiments.

ARALIACEAE

KEY TO GENERA

1. Small tuberous, erect herbs; stem terminating in a whorl of leaves.  
   PANAX

1'. Shrubs or trees, not tuberous; stem not terminating in a whorl of leaves.

2. Leaves pinnately compound

3. Unarmed trees; leaflets entire, narrowed at base, glabrous.  
   HETEROPANAX

3'. Armed trees; leaflets serrulate at margins, cordate or rounded base; bristly hairy especially along nerves.  
   ARALIA

2'. Leaves palmately compound or palmately lobed.

4. Leaves simple, palmately lobed.  
   TREVESIA

4'. Leaves palmately compound.

5. Styles very short or scarcely developed; ovary 5-celled.  
   SCHEFFLERA

5'. Styles long; ovary 2-celled.

6. Prickly trees; bracteoles dense, persistent.  
   BRASSAIOPSIS

6'. Unarmed trees; bracteoles lax, deciduous.  
   MACROPANAX
PANAX L.


Herbs; leaves digitately compound; leaflets 3 - 9, narrowly lanceolate, membraneous, closely and irregularly serrulate at margins, scattered bristly hairy on both surfaces; flowers polygamous; ripe drupes black.


ARALIA L.

KEY TO SPECIES

Panicles persistently hairy at the upper portion; A. armata
bracts caducous.

Panicles ultimately glabrous; bracts persistent. A. foliosa


Large shrubs or small, prickly trees; leaves very large, upto 2 m long, 3-or 4-pinnate; leaflets ovate to lanceolate, bristly serrulate at margins, cordate or rounded at base, stiff-hairy; flowers creamy-white, in panicles of umbels.


Large shrubs or small trees, clad with spreading prickles; leaves about 2 m long, pinnately decmpound; rachis glabrous; leaflets ovate to oblong, caudate to acuminate at tip, serrulate at margins; flowers greenish-white, in pilose panicles.  

Fls. & Frts. Dec. onwards (Acc. no. BSI. EC. 12398).

**Schefflera** J. R. et. G. Forster

**KEY TO SPECIES**

Climbing, epiphytic shrubs; leaflets entire.  
S. venulosa

Trees; leaflets pinnately lobed.  
S. hypoleuca


Leaves digitate; stipules connate; leaflets 3 - 7, coriaceous and glossy above; petiolules jointed at tip; flowers, polygamous, greenish-yellow, in shortly pedunculate umbels, arranged racemosely, in much branched terminal panicles; rachis violet to purple; fruits ± 6 cm across, 5-ridged.  


*Schefflera hypoleuca* (Kurz) Harms, in Engl. et Prantl, Nat. Pflfam.

Unarmed small trees; young parts and panicles brown stellate pubescent; leaves, digitate, leaflets polymorphous, central leaflet largest; stipules connate, with acuminate tips; panicles, subcorymbose, terminal, on long branches; lower umbels often undeveloped bracts at the base of branches thick, concave, ovate, densely brown felted, progressively smaller towards the apex.


Armed trees, unbranched; young shoot, very prickly and rusty pubescent; leaves upto 45 cm across, orbicular, palmately-lobed, lobes irregularly serrate at margins, acuminate at tip; petioles upto 45 cm long, sheathing at base; umbels; in corymbose of panicles; flowers white, polygamous; petals reflexed; fruits fleshy, ± 1 cm across, with persistent style.


Small trees with whitish-grey bark; leaves very large, upto 1.5 m 3-pinnate; rachis dilated at base; leaflets elliptic to lanceolate; flowers, yellow, polygamous, fragrant, in dense subglobose umbels, in panicles; panicles upto 1 m long, brownish-tomentose.


**BRASSAIOPSIS** Decne. et Planch.

**KEY TO SPECIES**

Leaflets attenuate at base, subsessile. B. aculeata

Leaflets rounded at base, long petiolulate. B. glomerulata


Small trees, with stout prickles; young shoots covered with rusty brown-tomentum; leaves 3- to 9-foliolate; petioles upto 35 cm long; serrulate at margins except towards the base; flowers greenish-yellow, in simple or racemed umbels.


Small trees, prickly; leaves 5-to 7-digitate; leaflets, oblong
to ovate entire petiole upto 50 cm long; young leaves reddish-brown pubescent, entire; flowers white, in large terminal panicles of umbels; branches drooping, rusty stellate-hairy.


MACROPANAX Miq.

KEY TO SPECIES

Leaflets entire; panicles glabrous. M. undulatus
Leaflets serrate or dentate; panicles rusty-tomentose. M. dispermus


Trees; bark white, smooth; leaves 3 to 5-digitate; petioles ± 20 cm long; leaflets, glabrous, glossy; flowers creamy-white, polygamous, in large panicles of umbels.


Macropanax dispermus (Bl.) O. Kuntze, Rev. Gen. 271. 1891.

Small trees; bark warty, yellowish; leaves 3 to 5-foliate; petioles upto 30 cm long; panicles rusty stellate-tomentose; umbels arranged racemosely on the primary rachis.


**C OR N A C E A E**

**M A S T I X I A** Bl.


Large trees; leaves upto 15 x 7 cm, obovate to oblong, abruptly acuminate at tip, entire at margins, glabrous, pale beneath; cymes in terminal, fulvous-pubescent panicles; flowers subsessile, greenish, bisexual; petals silky-pubescent on both surfaces; drupes ± 2 cm long, ovoid to ellipsoid, 1-seeded.


**A L A N G I A C E A E**

**A L A N G I U M** Lamk.

Large shrubs with spreading branches; young parts brownish tomentose; leaves simple bifarious, variable in size and shape; ovate to suborbicular, or subquadrate, entire or angled or lobed, glabrous above, pubescent beneath along the nerves; base oblique, truncate or cordate; petioles grooved on the inner side; cymes dichotomous, axillary, much shorter than leaves; flowers creamy-white; pedicels jointed at top; petals ligulate, puberulous; filaments long, shaggy; anthers long, yellow drupes ovoid, blue or dark purple, 2-celled, 2-seeded.

FIs. & Frts. May - July Joseph 37416, 42329; Sharma 10264, 11046, 16827; Syam 1821.

NYSSACEAE

NYSSA L.


Large trees; young parts, silky-pubescent; leaves alternate, crowded at tips of twigs, elliptic to ovate, entire, punctate, glaucous beneath and pubescent along nerves; flowers greenish, sessile, unisexual; headd globose dense; peduncles erect, axillary, ± 4 cm long; female flowers on stouter peduncles; berry ovoid, 1-seeded, beaked.

FIs. & Frts. May - July Sharma 10274, 16781; U. Kanjilal 3960.