

AUSTRALIAN
PALMS

BIOGEOGRAPHY, ECOLOGY
AND SYSTEMATICS

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Glossary

- abaxial (abaxially)** side of an organ that faces away from the axis bearing it
- acaulous** lacking an above-ground stem
- acropetal** maturation from a lower to a higher level on an axis in flowering
- acuminate** gradually tapered to a point
- acute** distinctly and sharply pointed
- adaptation** process of evolutionary modification that results in improved survival and reproduction efficiency
- adaptive radiation** diversification of a species or single ancestral type into several forms, each adaptively specialised to a specific environmental niche
- adaxial (adaxially)** side of an organ that faces the axis bearing it
- adjacent-ligular** with the new shoot developing next to the side of the seed and enclosed in a ligule in seed germination
- adnate** with one organ joined to another
- allopatric** of populations occurring in separate, non-overlapping geographic areas and unable to cross-breed
- anastomosing** forming a network
- anatropous** bent parallel to its stalk with the micropyle adjacent to the hilum in an ovule
- anther** pollen-bearing chamber of a stamen
- anthesis** time of flower opening
- aperture** an opening in a pollen grain through which the pollen tube emerges
- apex (apical)** end portion, borne at the top
- appressed** lying flat or pressed closely
- arcuate** curved like a bow
- autecology (autecological)** the branch of ecology that deals with the biological relationship between an individual organism or individual species and its environment
- autochthonous** a species having evolved *in situ*
- axil (axillary)** upper angle of the junction between the petiole and stem
- basal** at the base of an organ or structure
- basifixed** attached at the base
- basionym** the original or first validly described name for a species
- basipetal** maturation from a higher to a lower level on an axis, characteristic of some species in the tribe Caryoteae
- bicarinat** with two keels
- bicentric (bicentricity)** having two centres
- bifid** divided into two $\pm$ equal parts
- bifurcate** forked
- biogeography** study of the geographic distribution of organisms
- bipinnate** doubly pinnate, a characteristic of the leaves of species of *Caryota*
- bract** a modified enclosing leaf
- bracteole** a small bract on the flower stalk
- caducous** falling away early
- campanulate** of three-dimensional shape, bell-shaped
- carinate** keeled
- carpel** a single unit of the gynoecium
- Cenozoic** geological era from the end of the Cretaceous to the present day, from 65 million years ago
- chartaceous** papery
- ciliate** fringed with hairs
- cincinnus** arranged with each successive flower arising in the axil of a bracteole on the stalk of the previous flower
- cirrus (cirrate)** a whip-like extension of the leaf rachis armed with reflexed spines used as a climbing organ, characteristic of rattans in the subfamily Calamoideae
- clade** a monophyletic group or branch of a phylogenetic tree
- clustered (clustering)** basally composed of two to many stems
- colliculose (colliculate)** covered with small rounded projections
- concolorous** with each surface of the same colour
- conic (conical)** having the form of a cone
- connate** joined
- connective** tissue joining the locules of one anther to another
- coriaceous** leathery
- costapalmate** describing a palmate leaf with a strong rib (costa) extending through the lamina, characteristic of species of *Licistona*
- Cretaceous** geological period between the Jurassic and the Tertiary, from 144 to 66.4 million years ago
- crownshaft** cylinder formed by the leaf bases, characteristic of most species in the subfamily Arecoideae
- crustaceous** dry and brittle
- cuculate** hooded or hood-shaped
- cuneate** in two-dimensional shape, wedge-shaped and widest distally
- cupule (cupular)** resembling a cup

decumbent a reclining stem with the apex ascending
deflexed bent downwards
demography the study of populations
dentate (dentiform) toothed or tooth-like in appearance
dichotomous equally forking
dimorphic occurring in two different forms
dioecious (dioecy) when plants bear either staminate or pistillate flowers
discolorous with each surface of a different colour
distal farthest from the point of attachment
distichous arranged in two rows
disulcate with two apertures in pollen
divaricate spreading widely
dyad in pairs
echinate prickly or with low broad spines
ecological amplitude the limits of environmental conditions within which an organism can live and function
edaphic of or relating to soil, especially as it affects living organisms
ellipsoid(al) in three-dimensional shape, elliptical in each rotational plane
elliptic(al) in two-dimensional shape, oblong with regularly rounded ends
embryo the rudimentary plant within a seed
endemic restricted in natural distribution to a specific geographic region
endocarp the innermost layer of the fruit wall
endosperm nutrient source for the developing embryo in a seed
Eocene subdivision of the Tertiary period, from 58 to 36 million years ago
eophyll the first functional leaf of a seedling
epicarp the outermost layer of the fruit wall
epipetalous united with or borne on petals
excrecence an outgrowth of hardened wart-like tissue
exine the outer layer of pollen
exserted projected beyond
extant presently in existence, not lost or extinct
falcate sickle-shaped
filament the stalk bearing the anther
fimbriate fringed with fine hairs or thread-like segments
flabellate fan-shaped
flagellum a whip-like climbing organ armed with reflexed spines, adnate to or emergent from the leafsheath, and characteristic of rattans in the subfamily Calamoideae
flexuous wavy, bent alternately in opposite directions
fossulate a furrowed or minutely trenchured surface
foveolate a minutely pitted surface
free organs that are not fused
frugivore (frugivorous) an animal that feeds primarily on fruit
fusiform in three-dimensional shape, spindle-shaped, tapering at each end
gibbous pouched, more convex in one place than another
glabrous a smooth surface lacking indumentum
glaucous a surface reflecting a white, pale-blue or greyish sheen, usually by wax or finely divided particles

globose in three-dimensional shape, spherical
Gondwana southern supercontinent which comprised the now-separated continents of South America, Africa, Antarctica and Australia, as well as the subcontinent of India and the smaller landmasses of Madagascar, New Zealand, parts of Arabia and probably parts of south-east Asia
granular a surface appearing grainy
grapnel series of single or clustered recurved hooks associated with the abaxial surface of the leaf rachis, cirrus, flagellum or inflorescences of rattans in the subfamily Calamoideae, used as a climbing or support aid
gynoeceum the ovule-bearing organ consisting of one to many carpels, each with an ovary, a style and stigmas
habitat the kind of environment in which a plant lives
hapaxanthic the process of an individual plant (or stem of a cluster) flowering once then dying, characteristic of species in the tribe Caryoteae
hastula a flap of tissue borne at the insertion of the lamina on the petiole of a palmate leaf
head compact arrangement of sessile flowers and fruits, a capitulum
hemianatropous the ovule turned so that the micropyle is at right angles to its stalk
hermaphrodite (hermaphroditic) bisexual, male and female together in one flower
hilum the attachment scar on a seed
holotype a single specimen or illustration designated by the author of a plant name at the time of original publication, which fixes the application of the name
homogeneous uniform and similar throughout
hyaline translucent, thin
imbricate overlapping
imparipinnate a pinnate leaf with a terminal pinna
indumentum a covering of scales or hairs
induplicate V-shaped in cross-section
inflexed bent inwards
inflorescence collective term for the aggregation of flowers
intrafoliar borne below the leaves
infructescence the grouping in which fruits are borne on a plant
interfoliar borne among the leaves
internode portion between two successive leafscars on a stem
introrse opening toward the centre of the flower, of anthers
isolectotype duplicate of a lectotype
isotype a specimen that is a duplicate of the holotype
keel(ed) a ridge, resembling a boat keel
Kimberley Region that part of Western Australia lying north of 19°S
knee a swelling at the junction of the leafsheath and the petiole, characteristic of rattans in the subfamily Calamoideae
lacerate jagged, appearing torn or irregularly cleft

- lageniform** in three-dimensional shape, swollen at the base and narrow at the apex
- lamina** the blade of a leaf
- lanceolate** narrow and tapering at both ends
- lanuginose** a surface with a dense cover of long, soft woolly hairs
- lateral** on or at the side
- laterite(lic)** a hard, iron-rich, rock-like soil layer formed by heavy leaching of soil under markedly seasonal tropical conditions
- latrorse** opening lateral to the filament in anthers
- leafbase** portion of leaf proximal to the petiole, narrowly or broadly clasping the stem as typical of many *Coryphoideae* genera, or forming a closed tubular crownshaft as in many *Arecoideae* genera
- leafscar** the remnants or impression of the former attachment of a leaf on a stem
- lectotype** a specimen that serves in place of a lost or unplaced holotype
- lepidote** a surface covered in scales
- ligule** a usually fibrous appendage associated with the leafbase
- linear** long and narrow with $\pm$ parallel sides
- lobe** projection or division of a leaf or other organ
- locule** the cavity that contains the ovary in the gynoecium
- macrofossil** a fossil large enough to be examined by direct inspection
- Malesia** biogeographical province extending from Malaysia east to New Guinea
- marine transgression** when an influx of the sea covers areas of previously exposed land
- medifixed** attached at the middle
- megathermal** high-temperature as in humid subtropical or tropical climates, with the coldest monthly mean temperature above 18°C
- membranous** thin and translucent
- meristem** undifferentiated plant tissue from which new cells are formed
- mesic** being neither wet nor arid
- mesocarp** middle layer of the fruit wall
- mesothermal** moderate temperatures in the range 20–30°C
- microfossil** a fossil which requires magnification for it to be examined, usually by microscope
- micropyle** a minute opening in the ovule of a seed plant through which the pollen tube usually enters
- midrib** the main vein of a pinna or segment
- Miocene** a division of the Tertiary, from 23 to 5 million years ago
- molecular phylogenetics** a process of determining the rates and patterns of change occurring in DNA and proteins in order to reconstruct the evolutionary history of genes and organisms
- monocarpic** flowering and fruiting once, then dying
- monocious** plant bearing both staminate and pistillate flowers
- monogeneric** with one genus
- monophyly (monophyletic)** a branch of a phylogenetic tree that includes all descendants of a common ancestor
- monosulcate** pollen with a single aperture (sulcus)
- monotypic** with one species
- monsoon(al)** a wind regime that brings heavy summer rainfall to northern Australia
- mucilage (inous)** gelatinous-like substance
- neotype** a specimen selected in place of a holotype in the absence of original material
- obovoid** in three-dimensional shape, egg-shaped and broader distally
- obpyriform** in three-dimensional shape, pear-shaped and attached at the narrower end
- Oligocene** a division of the Tertiary, from 36.6 to 23.7 million years ago
- ovate** in two-dimensional shape, egg-shaped, if attached by the broad end
- ovoid** in three-dimensional shape, egg-shaped
- ovule** structure in which the female cycle of reproduction occurs in flowers
- Palaeocene** division of the Tertiary, from 66.4 to 57.8 million years ago
- palmate** with segments radiating from a central point resembling a fan in a leaf
- panicle (paniculate)** inflorescence with iterative branching patterns (racemes) from a central axis
- pappilae (pappilose)** a surface with minute, rounded elongated projections
- paripinnate** a pinnate leaf without a terminal pinna
- partial inflorescence** the first-order branch and the branches it carries, characteristic of some inflorescence types in the subfamilies *Calamoideae* and *Coryphoideae*
- pedicel** the stalk of each individual flower or fruit
- peduncle** the proximal unbranched portion of an inflorescence
- peduncular bract(s)** a single bract or multiple bracts on the main axis of the inflorescence, attached between the prophyll and rachis bracts
- pendulous** hanging pendant
- perianth** the sepals and petals together
- persistent** parts not shed after flowering
- petal** a unit of the corolla
- petiole (petiolate)** the stalk between attachment and the lowest pinnae or leaf segments on a leaf
- phylogeny (phylogenetic)** evolutionary relationships between groups of living things, inferred using a variety of techniques to establish the relative importance of various shared features
- phytogeography (phytogeographical)** study of the geographic distribution of plants
- phytoliths** microscopic silica-based structures formed within and between the living cells of most monocotyledons and some dicotyledons, and often preserved as microfossils
- Pilbara** a region of Western Australia bounded by the Tropic of Capricorn and 19°N, extending from the coast almost to the Northern Territory border

- pinna(e)** segment(s) of a pinnate leaf
- pinnate** pinnae arranged in a feather-like arrangement on a leaf, i.e. with similar number of pinnae on each side of the rachis
- pinnule** the pinnae of a bipinnate leaf, characteristic of species of *Caryota*
- pistillate** bearing a pistil
- pistillode** a sterile gynoecium
- plate tectonics** theory that explains the global distribution of geological phenomena such as seismicity, volcanism, continental drift and mountain-building in terms of the formation, destruction, movement and interaction of the earth's lithospheric plates
- Pleistocene** division of the Quaternary, from 1.6 million years ago to the last 10 000 years
- pleioanthic** the process of an individual plant flowering repeatedly
- Pliocene** division of the Tertiary, from 5.3 to 1.6 million years ago
- plumose** segments feathered or plume-like in a leaf
- pollen** a mature microspore and carrier of genetic information in a staminate flower
- polygamodioecious** having bisexual and male flowers on some plants and bisexual and female flowers on others
- polygamomonoecious** having bisexual and unisexual flowers on the same plant
- polygamous** having bisexual and unisexual flowers on the same or different plants
- praemorse** with the apex appearing torn-off or bitten, characteristic of the pinnae apices in subtribe Ptychospermatinae
- pre-Linnean** informal plant names prior to 1753 and the commencement of the Linnean classification system
- pro parte** [Latin] in part
- propagule** any structure that can give rise to a new plant, either vegetative portions, seeds or spores
- prophyll** the first bract borne on the inflorescence
- protandrous** when pollen shed precedes stigma receptivity on a single inflorescence
- protogynous** when stigma receptivity precedes pollen shed on a single inflorescence
- proximal** nearest to the point of attachment
- pseudomonomerous** a gynoecium with one fertile carpel and one locule but with parts of two other carpels present
- punctiform** a surface with small dots
- pyriform** in three-dimensional shape, resembling a pear, attached at the broader end
- Quaternary** the last 1.6 million years of the geological scale
- rachilla(e)** the flower-bearing branch of an inflorescence
- rachis** the axis beyond the petiole or beyond the peduncle of the leaf or of an inflorescence
- radiation** the process of dispersal of organisms across a landscape
- ramenta** variously shaped ragged-edged scales, large and irregular, sometimes present on the midrib and veins on the abaxial surface of pinnae
- raphe** a ridge or depression that is the source of vascular branches on a seed
- ratian** a climbing palm of the subfamily Calamoideae
- reduplicate** inverse V-shaped in cross-section
- reflexed** folded or turned back
- relictual species** species that are persistent examples of floras now mainly vanished
- remote-ligular** the young plant joined to the seed by a petiole cotyledonary tube and bearing a ligule in seed germination
- remote-tubular** the young plant joined to the seed by a petiole cotyledonary tube but lacking a ligule in seed germination
- reniform** in two-dimensional shape, kidney-shaped
- reticulate** large rounded or angular holes through the tectum of pollen
- retorse** bent backward or downward
- rhombic** in two-dimensional shape, quadrilateral with obtuse lateral angles and acute basal and apical angles
- rugose** with a wrinkled surface
- ruminate** appearing streaked due to intrusion of the seed coat into the endosperm
- sagittate** arrow-shaped
- sarcotesta(al)** a fleshy layer developed from the outer seed coat, characteristic of most fruit in the subfamily Calamoideae
- scabrate** a roughened surface
- sclerophyllous** vegetation characterised by thick hard foliage due to well-developed sclerenchymatous tissue
- segment** a single division of a palmate or costapalmate leaf
- sepal** a unit of the calyx
- sessile** flat against, lacking a stalk
- sister** the closest relative in a phylogenetic tree
- solitary** with a single stem, not basally clustered
- speciation** the process of the evolutionary formation of new biological species, usually by the division of a single species into two or more genetically distinct species
- spicate** an unbranched inflorescence
- stamen** the stalk bearing the anther in a flower
- staminate** a flower that bears stamens
- staminode** vestigial stamens, often reduced to tooth-like flaps of tissue
- sterile** lacking functional sex organs
- stigma (stigmatic)** the portion of the pistil that receives the pollen
- stigmatic remains** the usually dried remnants of the stigma and perianth on the surface of the fruit
- striate** a lined surface
- style** the part of the pistil connecting the ovary and the stigma
- subdistichous** arranged in two rows but with items not perfectly aligned

- subulate** in two-dimensional shape, narrowing abruptly, awl-shaped
- sulcus (sulci)** an elongate aperture on one of the axes of a pollen grain
- suprafoliar** borne above the leaves
- sympatric** related species that occur in the same geographical range
- sympodial** changing direction by frequent replacement of the growing apex with a lateral growing point below it
- systematics** the process of organising biological information in a taxonomic or phylogenetic manner
- taphonomy (taphonomic potential)** study of the conditions and process by which organisms become fossilised
- taxonomy** the science of organising and classifying living things into groups reflecting their natural phylogenetic relationships, and naming them
- tectate (tectum)** the uppermost layer of the exine of pollen
- terete** cylindrical, circular in transverse section
- Tertiary** geological period from 66.4 to 1.6 million years ago
- tomentum (tomentose)** a surface with a cover of short hairs, scales, wool or down
- Top End** part of the Northern Territory north of about Mararanka
- triad** in threes, flowers grouped with a central pistillate and two lateral staminate flowers, characteristic of most species in the subfamily Arecoideae
- trichotomosulcate** having a three-armed sulcus in pollen
- trilocular** with three chambers, each bearing an ovary or seed in the gynoeceum
- triovulate** bearing three ovules in the gynoeceum, one in the locule of each carpel
- trullate** in two-dimensional shape, broadest below the middle, rhombic, with the two equal lower sides shorter than the two equal upper sides, shaped like a bricklayer's trowel
- truncate** as though cut off at the end
- turbinate** in three-dimensional shape, obconical, top-shaped
- type specimen** a specimen upon which the name was established and to which it is bound
- ultramafic** type of rock that is rich in heavy metals and that usually supports a distinctive flora
- unisexual** with one functional sexual role, i.e. with pistils or stamens only
- vagile (vagility)** able to move about or disperse freely in a given environment
- valvate** margins of segments meeting neatly without overlapping
- ventricose** swollen or inflated
- verrucate (verrucose)** a wart-like element of the exine of pollen.
- versatile** when the anther appears hinged and is movable on the filament
- vestigial** diminished in size, structure or function
- vicariance** the process whereby an ancestral species splits as a result of the imposition of a barrier within the original population
- vicariant species** closely related and ecologically equivalent species that tend to be mutually exclusive, occupying disjunct geographical areas
- Wallace's Line** the boundary that marks unrelated biological realms east and west of a line drawn approximately through central Malaysia. Thomas Huxley coined the term, based on the work of Alfred R. Wallace
- zonasulcate** with a ring-like meridional or equatorial aperture in pollen

Abbreviations

µm	micron (one-millionth of a metre)	mm	millimetres (one-thousandth of a metre)
AFLP	amplified fragment length polymorphism	mss	manuscript
alt.	altitude	Mt	Mount, Mountain
Apr.	April	My	million years
asl	above sea-level	Mya	million years ago
auct. non.	(Latin) <i>auctorum non</i> , not of the author; used to show that the preceding name has been misapplied by some authors and is not used in the sense of the original author	N	north
		NE	north-east
		n.s.	new series
		nom. alt.	(Latin) <i>nomen alternativum</i> , alternate name
		nom. con.	(Latin) <i>nomen conservandum</i> , conserved name
Aug.	August	nom. illeg.	(Latin) <i>nomen illegitimum</i> , illegitimate name under the rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature
b.	borne	nom. inval.	(Latin) <i>nomen invalidum</i> , name not validly published
bp	before present	nom. nud.	(Latin) <i>nomen nudum</i> , name published without a description
c.	(Latin) <i>circa</i> , about, approximately	nom. prov.	(Latin) <i>nomen provisorium</i> , provisional name
Ck	creek	nom. rej.	(Latin) <i>nomen rejiciendum</i> , rejected name
cm	centimetres	Nov.	November
cpDNA	chloroplast DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid)	Oct.	October
d.	died	orth. var.	orthographic variation
dbh	diameter at breast height	p.	page
Dec.	December	pers. comm.	personal communication
diam.	diameter	pro syn.	(Latin) <i>pro synonyma</i> , an invalid name originally proposed as a synonym of an accepted name
e.g.	(Latin) <i>exempli gratia</i> , for example		
et. al.	(Latin) <i>et alii</i> , and others	R.	River
f.	(Latin) <i>filius</i> , son of	rd	road
Feb.	February	s. lat.	(Latin) <i>sensu lato</i> , in a broad sense
Fig.(s)	figure(s)	s.n.	(Latin) <i>sine numero</i> , without number
ft	foot	SE	south-east
hort.	(Latin) <i>hortorum</i> , of gardens	Sept.	September
hwy	highway	scr.	series
i.e.	(Latin) <i>id est</i> , that is	sp.	species (singular)
ICBN	International Code of Botanical Nomenclature	spp.	species (plural)
in litt.	(Latin) <i>in litteris</i> , in correspondence	sub.	(Latin) <i>subter</i> , under
ined.	(Latin) <i>ineditus</i> , unpublished	subsp.	subspecies
Is.	Island	tab.	tabula (plate)
Jan.	January	var.	variety
Jul.	July		
Jun.	June		
k	one thousand		
km	kilometres		
m	metres		
Mar.	March		

Herbarium acronyms

A	Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, USA	K	Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UK
AAU	Aarhus University, Department of Systematic Botany, Denmark	L	Leiden, Rijksherbarium, Netherlands
B	Berlin, Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum, Germany	LAE	Lae, Papua New Guinea Forest Research Institute, Papua New Guinea
BH	Bailey Hortorium, Cornell University, USA	LZ	Universität Leipzig, Institut für Botanik, Germany
BM	[British Museum] Natural History Museum, London, UK	M	Botanische Staatssammlung München, Germany
BO	Bogor, Herbarium Bogoriense, Indonesia	MEL	Melbourne, National Herbarium of Victoria, Australia
BRI	Brisbane, Queensland Herbarium, Australia	MO	Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis, USA
CANB	Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, Australia	NOU	Nouméa, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, New Caledonia
CBG	Canberra, Australian National Herbarium, Australia	NSW	National Herbarium of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
CNS	Cairns, Australian Tropical Herbarium, James Cook University, Australia	NY	New York Botanical Garden, USA
DNA	Darwin, Northern Territory Herbarium, Australia	PERTH	Perth, Western Australian Herbarium, Australia
FI	Herbarium Universitatis Florentinae, Museo di Storia Naturale dell'Università, Italy	PR	National Museum in Prague, Department of Botany, Czech Republic
FTG	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens, Miami, Florida, USA	PVNH	Port Vila, ORSTOM, Vanuatu
GOET	Universität Göttingen, Abteilung Systematische Botanik, Germany	U	Nationaal Herbarium Nederland, Leiden, Netherlands
JCT	James Cook University of North Queensland, Townsville, Australia	UC	University of California, Berkeley, USA
		US	United States National Herbarium, Washington, USA

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