

BROMELIACEAE

凤梨科 feng li ke

Ma Weiliang (马炜梁)¹; Bruce Bartholomew²

Herbs or rarely shrubs, epiphytic, lithophytic, or terrestrial. Leaves spirally arranged, usually rosulate, sessile, simple, veins parallel, base dilated, sheathing, margin often spinose serrate or sometimes entire. Inflorescence terminal or lateral, scapose or sessile, a panicle, raceme, spike, or head, sometimes reduced to solitary, pseudolateral flowers; bracts usually brightly colored and conspicuous. Flowers bisexual or sometimes functionally unisexual, 3-merous. Sepals and petals each 3, distinct, free or basally connate; petals often brightly colored, basal margin with a pair of scalelike appendages. Stamens 6, in 2 whorls of 3; filaments free, connate, or collectively or individually adnate to petals; anthers 2-celled, dehiscing by longitudinal slits. Gynoecium of 3 carpels united to form a compound, 3-loculed, superior or very often partly or wholly inferior ovary; ovules few to usually \pm numerous in each locule; placentation axile. Style terminal and often 3-parted; stigmas papillose. Fruit a berry or less often a septicidal capsule, or seldom compound and fleshy. Seeds usually winged or plumose; endosperm mealy; embryo small to fairly large.

About 50 genera and 2000–2600 species: mainly tropical America, except for *Pitcairnia feliciana* (A. Chevalier) Harms & Mildbraed in tropical W Africa; one species (introduced) in China.

Additional genera, e.g., *Billbergia* Thunberg, are cultivated in China as ornamentals.

Ma Weiliang. 1997. Bromeliaceae. In: Wu Kuo-fang, ed., Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 13(3): 64–68.

1. ANANAS Miller, Gard. Dict. Abr., ed. 4, [76]. 1754.

凤梨属 feng li shu

Herbs perennial, erect, simple. Leaves in a dense rosette; leaf sheath scarcely enlarged; leaf blade spinose serrate at margin. Inflorescence erect, scapose, strobiliform, apex with a tuft of sterile, leafy bracts. Flowers bisexual. Petals each bearing 2 funnelform, slender scales. Ovaries inferior, coalescing and with bracts and rachis forming a compound, fleshy fruit (syncarp).

Eight species: South America; one species (introduced) in China.

1. *Ananas comosus* (Linnaeus) Merrill, Interpr. Herb. Amboin. 133. 1917.

凤梨 feng li

Bromelia comosa Linnaeus, Herb. Amb. 21. 1754; *B. ananas* Linnaeus.

Leaves sword-shaped, margin coarsely and laxly spinose serrate. Scape short. Inflorescence many flowered; floral bracts inconspicuous, margin serrulate or entire. Flowers numerous. Sepals free, slightly asymmetric, apex obtuse. Petals violet or reddish, free but connivent and tubelike. Stamens included. Syncarp globose, ovoid, or elongate, 15 cm or longer at maturity, becoming fleshy and fragrant. Seeds absent or very rare.

Cultivated. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, S Yunnan [native to South America].

This species is grown throughout the tropics for its edible syncarp.

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