Angiosperm Phylogeny

Flowering Plant Systematics

EARLY ANGIOSPERMS

woody; vessels absent
eustele
sieve tube plastids with starch grains
lvs simple, persistent, entire
flw strobilar, perfect, parts free
P parts varying, often in threes, weakly differentiated
anthers tetrasporangiate
stamen with broad filaments
pollen monosulcate
G apocarpous (style short in most)
compitum (if present) extragynoecial
nectaries absent
siphonogamy
double fertilization > endosperm
embryo very small

ethereal oils in spherical idioblasts (pellucid dots)
tension wood +

benzylisoquinoline alkaloids
embryo sac 8-nucleate
endosperm triploid

ANA GRADE

woody, vessels lacking; dioecious; flw T5–8, A∞, G5–8, 1 ovule/carpel, embryo sac 9-nucleate; 1 species (New Caledonia) 1/1/1
aquatic, herbaceous; cambium absent; aerenchyma; flw T4–12, A1–∞, embryo sac 4-nucleate
seeds operculate with perisperm but endosperm reduced or small; mucilage; alkaloids (no benzylisoquinolines) 3/6/74
woody, vessels solitary; flw T>10, A∞, G ca.9, embryo sac 4-nucleate
tiglic acid, aromatic terpenoids 3/5/100
lvs opposite, interpetiolar stipules; nodes swollen
flw small T0–3, A1–5, G1, 1 apical ovule/carpel 1/4/75

sesquiterpenes

woody; foliar sclereids, K and C distinct
aromatic terpenoids 2/10/109

MAGNOLIIDS
features as in "Early Angiosperms"

nodes trilacunar

± herbaceous; lvs two-ranked, leaf base sheathing
single adaxial prophyll; swollen nodes 4/174/690
woody; lvs opposite; flw with hypanthium, staminodes frequent
often valvate anthers; carpels with 1 ovule; embryo large 73/1/2838
woody; pith septate; lvs two-ranked; ovules with obturator
endosperm ruminate 61/54/2629

infl spadix with spathe; lvs axils with mucilaginous intravaginal squamules
ovules atropous, seeds with epidermal perisperm and copious endosperm; ethereal oils 1/1/2-4
mostly herbs and aquatics; rhizomatous; hydrophilous; intravaginal squamules
infl ± scapose; flw G apocarpous; placentation often laminar; endosperm helobial; embryo large/green 14/186/4560

MONOCOTS
scattered bundles in stem
no secondary thickening
mostly herbaceous
pollen monosulcate
sieve tube plastids with protein crystals
sympodial branching
lvs parallel-veined, entire
no glandular teeth
flw pentacyclic
P 3-merous, A opp. P
filaments narrow
anthers broadly attached
septal nectary
single cotyledon
radicle not persistent
stem-borne roots numerous

Ca oxalate raphides
endosperm nuclear helobial

stem with ring of bundles
fr a follicle
East Asia 1/2/4
often twining vines; lvs often reticulate
ovary often inferior, style short, branched; steroidal sapogenins/alkaloids 52/1/1037
some woody (with terminally tufted leaves)
infl sometimes spathe + spadix 3/36/1348
often geophytes (bulbs, tubers, rhizomes); leaf bases often not sheathing
flw tepals sometimes spotted, nectaries on tepals, anthers extrorse
many seeds; phytomelan lacking; fructans in stems, chelidonic acid 108/97/1858
often geophytes
capsule or berry
seed coat obliterated or with phytomelan 14/112/36205
woody, often monopodial
lvs often palmately or pinnately pseudocompound, reduplicate-plicate
intense primary growth, large apical meristem, infl often with spathe; alkaloids 219/22/6865
mostly herbaceous; epidermis siliceous; mostly mycorrhiza absent
lvs grassy; flw often anemophilous, minute, chaffy, without nectaries 159/91/6875
flw monosymmetric or not, few fertile stamens
infl thyrsus of scorpioid cymes
phenylphenalenones 84/68/912
rhizomatous, large-leafed herbs; pseudostem common
flw irregular/monosymmetric, septal nectaries
A often strongly modified/reduced, G inferior
seeds often arillate, silicic acid 84/2/2185

COMMELINIDS
UV-fluorescing cell walls (ferulic/coumaric acids)
silicic acid in leaves
cuticular waxes often in rodlets aggregated into scallops

aquatic; herbaceous; monoecious; lvs whorled, no pellucid dots; vessels lacking
flw T0 or 9–10*, A1, G1, 1 apical ovule/carpel
pollen inaperturate, pollen tube branched, hydrophilous 1/1/2

extrafloral nectaries

ethereal oils
not in idioblasts

lvs often divided; flw parts whorled, P single or multiple whorls
G apocarpous/paracarpous, superior; berberines 7/199/4510
mostly woody; flw tepals often 4-merous
A epitepalous, connectives sometimes with apical appendage 435/67/50

receptacular nectary common

woody; vessels lacking; flw tepals missing, A∞
G>5 laterally connate with abaxial nectaries; fr aggregate of follicles 1/2/2
mostly woody; mostly monoecious, flw unisexual; lvs evergreen, stomata cyclocytic
flw tepals ± uniform or missing; pregnane pseudoalkaloids 17/1/20

EUDICOTS
pollen tricolpate
protandry common
flw K/C/P opp A
filaments rather narrow
nodes 3:3
stomata anomocytic
microsporogenesis simultaneous

absent
benzylisoquinolines

dioecious, flw unisexual; lvs toothed, sec. veins palmate
flw tepals small to lacking
ellagic acid 2/2/80
mostly woody; lvs if veins strong, proceed to apex of teeth
flw mostly K5, persisting, mostly A∞, G mostly slightly connate
seeds often with aril; fr usually follicles 1/10/300
lvs with glandular teeth; often hypanthium, apically unfused carpels, stigma decurrent
fr mostly dry, dehiscent
myricetin, flavonols 15/112/2690
often tendrillar vines; lvs often divided and with glandular teeth
A epipetalous, 2 ovules per carpel; raphides, pearl glands
berries 1/14/4890

ellagic and gallic acids

CORE EUDICOTS

stipules

SUPERROSIDS

cork origin deep-seated
endosperm lacking
resinous, lignans/neolignans, harman alkaloids 2/24/2345
infl cymose, flw small
G often 3-merous, nectary often intrastaminal disk
seeds often arillate (red-orange) or winged 29/47/1335

ROSIDS

FABIDS

COM clade

lvs often compound, pulvini (sleep movement)
flw A5 or multiple, branched style common
mucilage cells; oxalates 7/60/1615
habits and habitats extremely diverse
lvs margins toothed
flw G often tricarpellate 36/76/10065
flw often "papilionaceous": wing, standard, keel, C clawed, mostly G1
mostly A10; fr a pod; symbiosis with root nodule bacteria
diverse alkaloids, NP amino acids, lectins (in Fabaceae) 47/34/2140

N fix
embryo large
endosperm scanty

lvs mostly simple with stipules
flw K valvate (and hypanthium) persisting
carpels with 1 ovule, stigma dry; dihydroflavonols 9/261/7725
lvs mostly alternate
flw often unisexual, G mostly inferior
parietal placentation; cucurbitacins 71/129/2320
mostly trees; lvs mostly undivided; flw small, unisexual
anemophilous, thus T reduced or lacking, G mostly inferior
infl spikes or catkins; fr 1-seeded, mostly nuts
ectomycorrhiza; tannins, dihydroflavonols 7/32/1655
stems sometimes jointed at nodes; lvs with glandular teeth
flw A obdiplostemonous, nectary outside A; fr capsule
ethereal oils, ellagic acid 205/17/836

flw 5-merous
parts whorled
K + C free
diplostemonous
pollen tricolporate
G connate
style +
endosperm nuclear

PENTAPETALAE

lvs opposite, colleters (glandular hair on adaxial surface of petiole base)
stipules small (if any), cork deep seated
flw K valvate, persisting, A incurved in bud, ovary inferior, ovules many
endosperm scanty, scaly bark, flavonols, myricetin 9/38/1731

MALVIDS

woody
stylodia free
hypanthium with nectary 7/1/266
trees, dioecious, lvs compound, extrafloral nectaries
staminate flw: A = and opposite C
bark bitter, anthraquinones 1/3/49
mostly woody (silica/silicified)
lvs often alternate, odd-pinnately compound
flw often imperfect, intrastaminal disk, ethereal oils 94/7/6700

embryo large
endosperm scanty

vessel elements with scalariform perforations; mucilage cells
lvs margins toothed, stipules cauline
flw small, A = and opposite K, ovules 1-2/carpel 4/6/24
bark fibrous; hairs often stellate
flw K often valvate, petals contorted, A often ∞; mucilage
cyclopropenoid fatty acids, flavones 16/33/6000
woody or herbs; flw often 4-merous
often clawed petals, infl racemose
myrosin cells, glucosinolates 18/288/4765
woody; lvs stomata cyclocytic
petiole bundles annular; fr indehiscent, more or less fleshy
calcium oxalate as crystals 2/2/4
woody; (semi-)parasites; mycorrhiza absent; lvs margins entire
flw A epipetalous; perianth often simple, valvate, persisting
carpels/ovaries/ovules often reduced, placentation free-central; fr drupe, one-seeded
polyacetylenes, triterpene sapogenins, silicic acid 13/151/1952
mostly herbaceous; without mycorrhiza
G often unilocular with free-central placentation
pollen colpate, surface spiny
betalains or anthocyanins (latter, e.g., in Caryophyllaceae) 37/748/11600
mostly woody; lvs mostly undivided, hydathode teeth
flw often 4-merous, K much smaller than C, persisting
intrastaminal disk, G inferior; fr drupaceous
diverse iridoids 65/1/1990

seed exotestal
embryo long

lvs teeth often theoid; nodes unilacunar
flw 5-merous, pentacyclic
nonhydrolyzable tannins, ellagic acid, triterpenoids, hydroquinones 22/346/11545
tropical trees; lvs exstipulate/entire; nodes often unilacunar
pedicels articulated; style short; embryo long
endosperm copious
indole and quinoline alkaloids (camptothecin) 2/24/202

ASTERIDS

mostly sympetalous
C enclosing A and G in bud
G(2)
style single, long
nectary gynoecial
ovules unitegmic
endosperm cellular
iridoids +

A=C polyandry rare

infl cymose
fr a drupe
seed single
ellagic acid lacking

late sympetaly

LAMIIDS

tropical trees; few common features; nodes usu. trilacunar
Metteniusa: NE Andes, cloud montane forest; lvs alternate; flw bisexual, fragrant; anthers sagittate
pollen sacs moniliform, dehisce longitudinally; infl axillary cyme; G(5) unilocular 1/1/165
woody; dioecious
flw small, C valvate, G unilocular; fruit indehiscent
iridoids (aucubin), gutta 2/2/16
lvs spiral, simple; nodes unilacunar
flw petals plicate; K persisting
diverse alkaloids, no iridoids 5/165/4125

C forming distinct tube
A epipetalous

herbaceous; Africa to India; lvs opposite, glandular-pubescent
flw < 5 mm across, K valvate, G(3) inf, nectary
fr septicidal capsule, K/C/A persistent; seeds minute; iridoids 1/1/6
lvs opposite, colleters
flw corolla convolute in bud
indole alkaloids; iridoids 5/111/19640
lvs opposite; nodes 1:1; flw mostly monosymmetric
A often 2(+2); gland-headed hairs with radially arranged cells
6-oxygenated flavones,
oligosaccharides cornoside, verbascoside (acetoside) 24/109/23819
lvs roughly hairy; nodes unilacunar
infl scorpioid; mostly 4 ovules
isokestose, higher inulins, pyrrolizidine alkaloids 6-11/150/3095

early sympetaly
flw small
embryo short

woody; lvs serrate
flw 1-2 ovules/carpel, C± free, K slightly connate
fr usually drupe with broad stigma 5/21/536
herbs or shrubs; flw often monosymmetric
plunger sec. pollination device (long style)
nodes trilacunar
inulin, sesquiterpenes, secoiridoids 11/174/25878

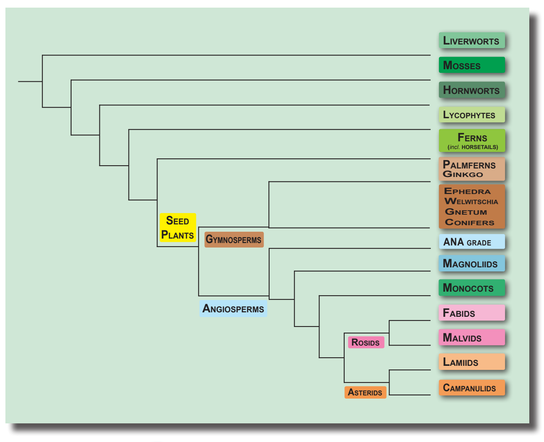
CAMPANULIDS

mostly woody; infl racemose, C free
anthers basifixed, nectary disc 13/9/100
woody; evergreen; nodes 1:1
flw polysymmetric, anthers basifixed 21/4/79

G inferior
fr usually 1-few-seeded

woody (except Apiaceae)
lvs often divided; nodes usu. multilacunar
infl mostly umbel; drupe or schizocarp
(Apiaceae: mericarp/carpophore) 7/194/5469
woody; infl racemose, flw 4-merous
filaments stout; capsule septicidal 1/2/36
lvs opposite, often basally connate
buds with scales
flw often monosymmetric
K persistent in fruit; secoiridoids 24/67/1090

AMBORELLALES	Amborellaceae
NYMPHAEALES	Cabombaceae · Hydatellaceae · Nymphaeaceae
AUSTROBAILEYALES	Austrobaileyaceae · Schisandraceae (*incl.* Illiciaceae) · Trimeniaceae
CHLORANTHALES	Chloranthaceae
CANELLALES	Canellaceae · Winteraceae
PIPERALES	Aristolochiaceae (*incl.* Hydnoraceae) · Piperaceae · Saururaceae
LAURALES	Calycanthaceae · Hernandiaceae · Monimiaceae · Gomortegaceae · Lauraceae · Siparunaceae
MAGNOLIALES	Annonaceae · Eupomatiaceae · Magnoliaceae · Degeneriaceae · Himantandraceae · Myristicaceae
ACORALES	Acoraceae
ALISMATALES	Alismataceae · Butomaceae · Posidoniaceae · Scheuchzeriaceae · Aponogetonaceae · Hydrocharitaceae · Potamogetonaceae · Tofieldiaceae · Araceae · Juncaginaceae · Ruppiaceae · Zosteraceae
PETROSAVIALES	Petrosaviaceae
DIOSCOREALES	Burmanniaceae · Dioscoreaceae · Nartheciaceae · Taccaceae
PANDANALES	Cyclanthaceae · Pandanaceae · Triuridaceae · Velloziaceae
LILIALES	Alstroemeriaceae · Corsiaceae · Melanthiaceae · Philesiaceae · Colchicaceae · Liliaceae · Petermanniaceae · Smilacaceae
ASPARAGALES	Amaryllidaceae (*incl.* Agapanthaceae, Alliaceae) · Hypoxidaceae · Iridaceae · Asparagaceae (*incl.* Agavaceae, Hyacinthaceae, Ruscaceae) · Lanariaceae · Orchidaceae · Tecophilaeaceae · Asphodelaceae (*incl.* Xanthorrhoeaceae, Hemerocallidaceae)
ARECALES	Arecaceae · Dasypogonaceae
POALES	Bromeliaceae · Eriocaulaceae · Poaceae · Restionaceae · Xyridaceae · Cyperaceae · Juncaceae · Rapateaceae · Typhaceae (*incl.* Sparganiaceae)
COMMELINALES	Commelinaceae · Haemodoraceae · Hanguanaceae · Philydraceae · Pontederiaceae
ZINGIBERALES	Cannaceae · Heliconiaceae · Marantaceae · Strelitziaceae · Costaceae · Lowiaceae · Musaceae · Zingiberaceae
CERATOPHYLLALES	Ceratophyllaceae
RANUNCULALES	Berberidaceae · Eupteleaceae · Menispermaceae · Ranunculaceae · Circaeasteraceae · Lardizabalaceae · Papaveraceae
PROTEALES	Nelumbonaceae · Platanaceae · Proteaceae · Sabiaceae
TROCHODENDRALES	Trochodendraceae
BUXALES	Buxaceae (*incl.* Haptanthaceae)
GUNNERALES	Gunneraceae · Myrothamnaceae
DILLENIALES	Dilleniaceae
SAXIFRAGALES	Altingiaceae · Cynomoriaceae · Haloragaceae · Peridiscaceae · Cercidiphyllaceae · Daphniphyllaceae · Hamamelidaceae · Paeoniaceae · Crassulaceae · Grossulariaceae · Iteaceae · Saxifragaceae
VITALES	Vitaceae
ZYGOPHYLLALES	Krameriaceae · Zygophyllaceae
CELASTRALES	Celastraceae (*incl.* Hippocrateaceae, Brexiaceae, Parnassiaceae) · Lepidobotryaceae
OXALIDALES	Brunelliaceae · Connaraceae · Elaeocarpaceae · Cephalotaceae · Cunoniaceae · Huaceae · Oxalidaceae
MALPIGHIALES	Achariaceae · Euphorbiaceae · Rafflesiaceae · Ochnaceae · Podostemaceae · Chrysobalanaceae · Hypericaceae · Passifloraceae · Rhizophoraceae · Clusiaceae · Linaceae · Phyllanthaceae · Salicaceae · Erythroxylaceae · Malpighiaceae · Picrodendraceae · Violaceae
FABALES	Fabaceae · Polygalaceae · Quillajaceae · Surianaceae
ROSALES	Barbeyaceae · Elaeagnaceae · Rosaceae · Cannabaceae · Moraceae · Ulmaceae · Dirachmaceae · Rhamnaceae · Urticaceae (*incl.* Cecropiaceae)
CUCURBITALES	Apodanthaceae · Begoniaceae · Corynocarpaceae · Datiscaceae · Anisophyllaceae · Coriariaceae · Cucurbitaceae · Tetramelaceae
FAGALES	Betulaceae · Fagaceae · Myricaceae · Casuarinaceae · Juglandaceae · Nothofagaceae · Ticodendraceae
GERANIALES	Geraniaceae · Francoaceae (*incl.* Ledocarpaceae, Melianthaceae, Vivianiaceae)
MYRTALES	Combretaceae · Myrtaceae · Penaeaceae (*incl.* Oliniaceae) · Lythraceae (*incl.* Punicaceae, Sonneratiaceae, Trapaceae) · Melastomataceae (*incl.* Memecylaceae) · Onagraceae · Vochysiaceae
CROSSOSOMATALES	Crossosomataceae · Stachyuraceae · Geissolomataceae · Staphyleaceae · Strasburgeriaceae
PICRAMNIALES	Picramniaceae
SAPINDALES	Anacardiaceae · Burseraceae · Kirkiaceae · Nitrariaceae · Sapindaceae · Biebersteiniaceae · Meliaceae · Rutaceae · Simaroubaceae
HUERTEALES	Dipentodontaceae · Gerrardinaceae · Petenaeaceae · Tapisciaceae
MALVALES	Bixaceae · Malvaceae (*incl.* Bombacaceae, Sterculiaceae, Tiliaceae) · Cistaceae · Cytinaceae · Muntingiaceae · Sarcolaenaceae · Dipterocarpaceae · Neuradaceae · Sphaerosepalaceae · Thymelaeaceae
BRASSICALES	Bataceae · Caricaceae · Limnanthaceae · Salvadoraceae · Brassicaceae · Cleomaceae · Moringaceae · Tovariaceae · Capparaceae · Koeberliniaceae · Resedaceae · Tropaeolaceae
BERBERIDOPSIDALES	Aextoxicaceae · Berberidopsidaceae
SANTALALES	Balanophoraceae · Misodendraceae · Opiliaceae · Schoepfiaceae · Loranthaceae · Olacaceae · Santalaceae · Viscaceae
CARYOPHYLLALES	Aizoaceae · Caryophyllaceae · Molluginaceae · Polygonaceae · Amaranthaceae (*incl.* Chenopodiaceae) · Didiereaceae · Nepenthaceae · Portulacaceae · Droseraceae · Nyctaginaceae · Simmondsiaceae · Basellaceae · Drosophyllaceae · Phytolaccaceae · Talinaceae · Cactaceae · Frankeniaceae · Plumbaginaceae · Tamaricaceae
CORNALES	Cornaceae · Grubbiaceae · Loasaceae · Curtisiaceae · Hydrangeaceae · Hydrostachyaceae · Nyssaceae
ERICALES	Actinidiaceae · Ericaceae · Polemoniaceae · Sarraceniaceae · Balsaminaceae · Fouquieriaceae · Primulaceae · Styracaceae · Clethraceae · Lecythidaceae · Roridulaceae · Theaceae · Ebenaceae · Myrsinaceae · Sapotaceae · Theophrastaceae
ICACINALES	Oncothecaceae · Icacinaceae
METTENIUSALES	Metteniusaceae
GARRYALES	Eucommiaceae · Garryaceae (*incl.* Aucubaceae)
SOLANALES	Convolvulaceae (*incl.* Cuscutaceae) · Solanaceae (*incl.* Nolanaceae) · Hydroleaceae · Montiniaceae · Sphenocleaceae
VAHLIALES	Vahliaceae
GENTIANALES	Apocynaceae (*incl.* Asclepiadaceae) · Loganiaceae · Gentianaceae · Gelsemiaceae · Rubiaceae
LAMIALES	Acanthaceae · Lamiaceae · Orobanchaceae · Plantaginaceae · Bignoniaceae · Lentibulariaceae · Paulowniaceae · Scrophulariaceae · Byblidaceae · Martyniaceae · Pedaliaceae · Stilbaceae · Gesneriaceae · Oleaceae · Phrymaceae · Verbenaceae
BORAGINALES	Boraginaceae · Codonaceae · Coldeniaceae · Cordiaceae · Ehretiaceae (+ Lennoaceae) · Heliotropiaceae · Hydrophyllaceae · Namaceae · Wellstediaceae
AQUIFOLIALES	Aquifoliaceae · Cardiopteridaceae · Stemonuraceae
ASTERALES	Asteraceae · Goodeniaceae · Pentaphragmataceae · Calyceraceae · Menyanthaceae · Rousseaceae · Campanulaceae (*incl.* Lobeliaceae) · Stylidiaceae
ESCALLONIALES	Escalloniaceae
BRUNIALES	Bruniaceae · Columelliaceae (*incl. Desfontainia*)
APIALES	Apiaceae · Griseliniaceae · Pennantiaceae · Araliaceae · Myodocarpaceae · Pittosporaceae
PARACRYPHIALES	Paracryphiaceae
DIPSACALES	Caprifoliaceae · Adoxaceae (*incl.* Dipsacaceae Diervillaceae Linnaeaceae Morinaceae Valerianaceae)



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- hypothetical tree based on molecular phylogenetic data (Dec. 2016)
- phylogeny, classification, and features chiefly follow APweb and APG
- 64 orders and around 420 families currently recognized by APG IV (some minor families excluded here)
- contrary to APG, but in compliance with APweb and other seminal sources, we here recognize several families within Boraginales
- branch lengths deliberate, not expressing actual time scale
- the characters listed do not necessarily apply to all members of the according clade
- position of various characters on the tree uncertain
- for family characteristics see: FGVP, Kubitzki K, ed. (1990 ff)
- orders (and higher ranks) are linked to the according pages on APweb
- numbers set in gray next to orders refer to families, genera, and species

* *Ceratophyllum*: the alleged tepals could be bracts (issue being addressed in ongoing research and debate); ** Rosids: phylogeny within the group controversial

This poster is now available in 18 languages (please refer to the authors' pages on ResearchGate)

References: Stevens PF (2017) APweb – www.mobot.org/MOBOT/research/APweb
APG IV (2016); Judd W et al. (2016); Simpson M (2010); Soltis DE et al. (2005/2011/2014); Watson/Dallwitz (2016) delta-intkey.com/

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