

THE FAMILIES  
AND GENERA  
OF VASCULAR PLANTS

Edited by K. Kubitzki

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# The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants

Edited by K. Kubitzki

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**XV** *Flowering Plants · Eudicots*  
*Apiales, Gentianales (except Rubiaceae)*

Volume Editors:  
Joachim W. Kadereit · Volker Bittrich

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With 85 Figures

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## Preface

It is with great pleasure that I present a volume with family treatments of the orders Apiales and Gentianales (except Rubiaceae). An immense amount of evidence recently accrued had to be taken into account to present up-to-date treatments of these families, including evidence from taxonomic revisions of large groups, new comparative morphological studies, but also data from karyological and phytochemical findings and, above all, results from an increasing number of molecular systematic studies that have changed our concepts of relationships considerably. In the two large families Apiaceae and Apocynaceae, which comprise 466 and 378 genera respectively, the establishment of a phylogenetic framework obviously has been a comprehensive effort for many years by several authors. Although much smaller, the same is true for Loganiaceae where establishment of family limits proved to be particularly difficult. The authors of the Apiaceae treatment found it difficult to devise a single usable key to the genera of this family. Therefore, separate keys were constructed for the native and naturalized genera in seven major geographic regions of the world. The treatments of Apiaceae and Apocynaceae also include many references to various keys and taxonomic treatments of parts of the families that are difficult to find, which makes these treatments even more useful.

Altogether, the volume contains a wealth of interesting information, and I am greatly indebted to all authors for their ardent desire to complete their contributions, and to the volume editors who took care that the project was brought to an end. I am also grateful to all copyright holders who so kindly gave permission to reproduce illustrations published under their responsibility, and to all artists who contributed original illustrations. The artist Bobbi Angell, New York, again deserves our special thanks for the generosity with which she authorized the use of fine illustrations published under her authorship. Doris Franke, Mainz, is gratefully acknowledged for preparing all figures for print.

Finally, I have great pleasure in thanking the copy editor of the present volume, Dr. Monique Delafontaine, for her dedicated editorial work. My warm thanks also go to Dr. Sabine von Mering, who kindly took care of preparing the index of scientific names. As always, it is a pleasure to acknowledge the cordial collaboration with Dr. Andrea Schlitzberger from Springer Verlag.

Hamburg  
2 May 2018

Klaus Kubitzki

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