

10. LIVISTONA R. Brown, Prodr. 267. 1810.

蒲葵属 pu kui shu

Saribus Blume; *Wissmannia* Burret.

Stems solitary, often large and stout, usually rough with persistent leaf bases. Leaves 10–60, palmate or costapalmate, usually forming a dense crown; dead leaves often persisting as a skirt below crown; leaf sheaths open and often very fibrous, forming a mass of reddish brown, interwoven fibers; petioles spiny on margins, younger plants with more spines than older ones; hastula present; blades green or variously waxy or dull green, divided to ca. 1/2 their length or almost to base into many segments, these again split and sometimes pendulous at apices. Inflorescences borne among leaves, branched up to 5 orders, rarely an inflorescence consisting of 3 separate but equal branches arising from same prophyll; inflorescences covered with many sheathing bracts; flowers usually borne in small groups, bisexual with 6 stamens and 3 carpels; rarely plants functionally dioecious. Fruits bluish or variously colored, globose to ellipsoid, 1-seeded, usually borne on short stalks; endosperm homogeneous, with an irregular intrusion of seed coat; germination remote; eophylls undivided and lanceolate.

Thirty-three species: from NE Africa and India to Australia, New Guinea, the Pacific islands (Solomon Islands), north to the Philippines, China, and Japan; three species in China.

- 1a. Leaf blade segments stiff at apices 1. *L. jenkinsiana*
- 1b. Leaf blade segments pendulous at apices.
 - 2a. Leaf blades deeply and irregularly divided almost to base into groups of segments 2. *L. saribus*
 - 2b. Leaf blades regularly divided ca. halfway, segments not in groups 3. *L. chinensis*

1. *Livistona jenkinsiana* Griffith, Calcutta J. Nat. Hist. 5: 334. 1845.

美丽蒲葵 mei li pu kui

Latania jenkinsiana (Griffith) Devansaye; *Livistona fengkaiensis* X. W. Wei & M. Y. Xiao; *L. moluccana* H. Wendland; *L. speciosa* Kurz; *Saribus jenkinsianus* (Griffith) Kuntze [“*jenkensii*”]; *S. speciosus* (Kurz) Kuntze.

Stems to 25 m tall, to 30 cm in diam., rough with leaf scars. Leaves palmate; petioles 1.3–2 m, with brown recurved spines along margins, decreasing in density toward distal end; hastula to 3 cm; blades almost circular in outline, 1.5–2 m wide, grayish green abaxially, green adaxially, regularly divided to ca. halfway or more into 70–100 segments, these briefly split and erect at apices. Inflorescences to 2 m, branched to 3 orders, with 3–6 partial inflorescences; rachillae 10–30 cm; flowers bisexual, solitary or borne in clusters of 2–6, yellowish, 2.5–4 mm. Fruits bluish, globose to ellipsoid or pear-shaped, to 3.5 × 2.5 cm.

Forests and open areas, commonly planted in villages or other disturbed areas; 100–2500 m. Hainan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Malaysia (Peninsular), Myanmar, Thailand].

The leaves are commonly used for thatching and making hats, and small plantations are maintained for leaf harvesting. The seeds are eaten as a substitute for betel nut, and in Hainan the fruits are used medicinally.

2. *Livistona saribus* (Loureiro) Merrill ex Chevalier, Bull. Econ. Indochine, n.s., 21: 501. 1919.

大叶蒲葵 da ye pu kui

Corypha saribus Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 1: 212. 1790; *Chamaerops cochinchinensis* Loureiro; *Livistona cochinchinensis* (Loureiro) Martius; *L. diepenhorstii* Hasskarl; *L. hasseltii* (Hasskarl) Hasskarl; *L. hoogendorpii* Teijsmann &

Binnendijk; *L. inaequisecta* Beccari; *L. spectabilis* Griffith; *L. tonkinensis* Magalon; *L. vogamii* Beccari; *Pholidocarpus diepenhorstii* (Hasskarl) Burret; *Rhapis cochinchinensis* (Loureiro) Martius; *Sabal hoogendorpii* (Teijsmann & Binnendijk) Kuntze; *Saribus cochinchinensis* (Loureiro) Blume; *S. hasseltii* Hasskarl; *S. hoogendorpii* (Teijsmann & Binnendijk) Kuntze.

Stems to 40 m tall, to 65 cm in diam., rough with leaf scars. Leaves palmate; petioles 1–2 m, with green to brown, recurved spines along margins, spines denser proximally, fewer distally on petioles; blades almost circular in outline, 1.5–1.7 m wide, green adaxially and abaxially, irregularly divided for up to 1/2 their length into 80–90 segments, segments in groups, each group separated by a split almost to base of leaf, segments deeply split and pendulous at apices. Inflorescences to 2.3 m, branched to 3 orders, with 4–9 partial inflorescences; rachillae 15–45 cm; flowers borne in clusters of 3–5, yellowish, to 2 mm. Fruits blue or blue-gray, globose to ellipsoid, to 2.5 × 2 cm.

Lowland rain forests or dry forests, often in periodically inundated habitats; below 600–1100 m. Guangdong, Yunnan [Borneo, Cambodia, Indonesia (Java, Sumatra), Laos, Malaysia (Peninsular), Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam].

The leaves are used for thatching and fishing; the fruits are eaten locally.

3. *Livistona chinensis* (Jacquin) R. Brown ex Martius, Hist. Nat. Palm. 3: 240. 1838.

蒲葵 pu kui

Latania chinensis Jacquin, Fragm. Bot. 1: 16. 1800; *Chamaerops biroo* Siebold; *Livistona boninensis* (Beccari) Nakai; *L. chinensis* var. *boninensis* Beccari; *L. chinensis* var. *subglobosa* (Hasskarl) Beccari; *L. japonica* Nakai; *L. oliviformis* (Hasskarl) Martius; *L. sinensis* Griffith; *L. subglobosa* (Hasskarl) Martius; *Saribus chinensis* (Jacquin) Blume; *S. oliviformis* Hasskarl; *S. subglobosus* Hasskarl.

Stems to 15 m tall, 20–30 cm in diam., rough with leaf scars. Leaves palmate; petioles to 1.8 m, with green or black, recurved spines along margins, spines denser proximally, fewer distally on petioles; hastula to 3 cm; blades almost circular in outline, 1.2–1.8 m wide, green on both surfaces, regularly divided to ca. 1/2 their length into 50–90 segments, these split and pendulous at apices. Inflorescences 1–1.2 m, branched to 3 orders, with 6 or 7 partial inflorescences; rachillae 10–18 cm; flowers hermaphroditic, borne in clusters of 4–7, white or yellow, 2–2.5 mm. Fruits green or blue-green, globose to ellipsoid or pear-shaped, 1.5–2.6 × 0.9–1.8 cm.

Coastal forests, often on sandy soils. Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan [S Japan].

This species is widely planted as an ornamental throughout tropical and subtropical areas of the world.

The leaves are used for making hats, fans, brooms, and raincoats in Guangdong.

