

## Monocotyledons 3

### I. Monocots Part 3

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#### A. Families to Know on Sight

##### 1. Orchidaceae (orchid family) – p. 153

Diagnostic Summary: More or less succulent herbs often with short stem and rosette of leaves, mostly epiphytic in the tropics; flowers irregular (monosymmetric) with lower petal modified into *labellum*, and single stamen plus pistil fused into *column*. Fruit a capsule.

Generalized Flora Formula:

$Ca_{3, \text{petaloid but distinct from Co}}$   $Co_{2+1 \text{ (labellum)}}$   $A_{1, \text{ pollinia}}$   $\bar{G}_{[3], \text{column}}$  Strongly monosymmetric

##### 2. Arecaceae or Palmae (palm family) – not in book

Diagnostic Summary: Trees or shrubs with unbranched aerial stems terminated by a rosette of large, sheathing, pinnately compound or palmately lobed, plicate leaves; flowers tiny, regular (polysymmetric), aggregated into large, showy panicles. Fruit a berry or drupe.

Generalized Flora Formula:  $P^{3+3}$   $A^6$   $\bar{G}^{[3]}$  Small, in large, showy panicles subtended by spathe

#### B. Genera to Know (you can write your own key to genera)

##### A. Orchidaceae – p. 153

- 1) *Cattleya* (herbs)
- 2) *Phalaenopsis* (herbs)

##### B. Agavaceae – p. 177 (included in Asparagaceae by APG III)

- 3) *Agave* (succulent herbs or shrubs)
- 4) *Yucca* (herbs, shrubs or trees)

##### C. Bromeliaceae – not in book

- 5) *Aechmea* (herbs)
- 6) *Ananas* (herbs)

##### D. Strelitziaceae – not in book

- 7) *Strelitzia* (herbs to small trees)

##### E. Musaceae – not in book

- 8) *Musa* (herbs to small “trees”)

##### F. Arecaceae or Palmae – not in book

- 9) *Cocos* (trees)
- 10) *Phoenix* (trees or shrubs)
- 11) *Serenoa* (shrubs to small trees)

##### G. Xanthorrhoeaceae – not in book

- 12) *Aloe* (succulent herbs, shrubs or small trees)