

THE CORRECT BOTANICAL NAMES OF CERTAIN ECONOMIC PLANTS CULTIVATED IN CEYLON

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SUMMARY

THE correct botanical names and the essential synonymy with regard to Ceylon, of the following economic plants cultivated here are given: alligator pear, asparagus bean, avocado pear, bottle gourd, breadfruit, Kapok, cassava, clove, cotton, country potato, cowpea, diya labu, gingelly, innala, jak, knol-kohl, kohl-rabi, lemon, manioc, mate, Paraguay tea, pineapple, sapodilla, taro, tea, yard-long bean, and yerba mate.

The correct botanical name of a plant is that in conformity with the *International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature*. Changes in botanical names are necessitated by deeper knowledge concerning the origin of the plants, their affinities, or their cytological structure and also by the discovery of earlier valid names or on account of previous misidentification of the plants. Here are indicated the correct botanical names of certain economic plants which are often incorrectly designated.

The correct name is given first, in bold type, followed in ordinary type by the incorrect names commonly used.

1. **Achras zapota** L. Sp. Pl. 1190 (1753).
Achras sapota L. Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 470 (1762).

SAPODILLA.

Alligator pear = (18) *Persea americana* Mill.

2. **Ananas comosus** (L.) Merr. Interpr. Rumph. Amboin. 133 (1917).
Bromelia ananas L. Sp. Pl. 285 (1753).
Bromelia comosa L. Herb. Amboin. 21 (1754).
Ananas sativus Schult. f. ex R. et S. Syst. 1283 (1830).

PINEAPPLE.

3. **Artocarpus altilis** (Park.) Fosb. in Journ. Wash. Acad. Sc. XXXI. 95 (1941).

Sitodium altile Park. in Journ. Voy. Endeavour 45 (1773).

Artocarpus communis Forst. Char. Gen. Pl. 101 (1776).

Radermachia incisa Thunb. in Handl. K. Svensk. Vet. Akad. Stockholm XXXVII. 253 (1776).

Artocarpus incisus (Thunb.) L. f. Suppl. 411 (1781).

BREADFRUIT.

4. **Artocarpus heterophyllus** Lamk. Encycl. III. 209 (1789).
Artocarpus integrifolius Auct., non L. f. (1781).
Artocarpus integra sensu Merr. Interpr. Rumph. Amboin. 190 (1917),
 quoad nomen, non quoad plantam, ex A. F. Hill.

JAK.

Asparagus bean = (21) *Vigna sinensis* (L.) Endl. ex Hassk.
 Avocado pear = (18) *Persea americana* Mill.
 Bottle gourd = (16) *Lagenaria siceraria* (Mol.) Standley.

5. **Brassica oleracea** L. var. *gongylodes* L. Sp. Pl. 667 (1753).
Brassica oleracea L. var. *caulorapa* DC. Syst. Nat. II. 586 (1821).

KNOL-KOHL, KOHL-RABI.

Breadfruit = (3) *Artocarpus altilis* (Park.) Fosb.

6. **Camellia sinensis** (L.) O. Ktze. in Act. Hort. Petrop. X. 195 (1887).
Thea sinensis L. Sp. Pl. 515 (1753).
Camellia thea Link Enum. Hort. Berol. II. 73 (1822).

TEA.

Capok = (7) *Ceiba pentandra* (L.) Gaertn.
 Cassava = (17) *Manihot esculenta* Crantz.

7. **Ceiba pentandra** (L.) Gaertn. Fruct. II. 244 (1791).
Bombax pentandrum L. Sp. Pl. 511 (1753).
Eriodendron pentandrum (L.) Kurz in Journ As. Soc. Bengal XLIII. 113
 (1874).
Eriodendron anfractuosum DC. Prodr. I. 479 (1824).
Ceiba anfractuosa (DC.) Maza Fl. Cuba 66 (1914).

CAPOK.

8. **Citrus limon** (L.) Burm. f. Fl. Ind. 173 (1768).
Citrus medica L. β. *limon* L. Sp. Pl. 782 (1753).
Limon vulgaris Mill. Gard. Dict. ed. 8. no. 1 (1768).
Citrus limonum Risso in Ann. Mus. Paris XX. 201 (1813).
Citrus limonia Auct., non Osb. (1765).

LEMON.

Clove = (20) *Syzygium aromaticum* (L.) Merr.

9. **Coleus rotundifolius** (Poir.) A. Chev. et Perr. in A. Chev. Veg. Utiles
 Afr. Trop. Franc. I. 119 (1905).
Germanea rotundifolia Poir. in Lamk. Encycl. Suppl. II. 763 (1811).
Plectranthus rotundifolius (Poir.) Benth. in DC. Prodr. XII. 72 (1848).
Plectranthus tuberosus Bl. Bidjr. 838 (1826).
Coleus tuberosus (Bl.) Benth. Lab. 59 (1832), non A. Rich. (1851).
Coleus parviflorus Benth. in DC. Prodr. XII. 72 (1848).

INNALA, COUNTRY POTATO.

10. *Colocasia esculenta* (L.) Schott in Schott et Endl. Meletem. Bot. I. 18 (1832).

Arum esculentum L. Sp. Pl. 965 (1753).

= *Colocasia antiquorum* Schott var. *esculenta* Schott Syn. Aroid. 42 (1856).
TARO.

Cotton, Asiatic = (11) *Gossypium arboreum* L.

Cotton, Egyptian = (12) *Gossypium barbadense* L.

Cotton, Kidney = (13) *Gossypium barbadense* L. var. *brasiliense* (Macf.) J.B. Hutch.

Cotton, Peruvian = (12) *Gossypium barbadense* L.

Cotton, Sea Island = (12) *Gossypium barbadense* L.

Cotton, Upland = (14) *Gossypium hirsutum* Mill.

Country potato = (9) *Coleus rotundifolius* (Poir.) A. Chev. et Perr.

Cowpea = (21) *Vigna sinensis* (L.) Endl. ex Hassk.

Diya labu = (16) *Lagenaria siceraria* (Mol.) Standley.

Gingelly = (19) *Sesamum indicum* L.

11. *Gossypium arboreum* L. Sp. Pl. 693 (1753); J. B. Hutch. Ev. Gossyp. 32 (1947).

Gossypium indicum Lamk. Encycl. II. 134 (1786).

Gossypium obtusifolium Roxb. Fl. Ind. III. 183 (1832).

Gossypium rubicundum Roxb. ex W. et A. Prodr. 55 (1834).

Gossypium nanking Meyen Reise II. 323 (1836).

Note.—Hutchinson, *l.c.* 30, states “. . . . It is proposed, therefore, to make no formal taxonomic subdivision of *G. arboreum*, but to accept Silow's [Journ. Genet. XLVI. 62 (1944)] six geographical races as representing the best natural subdivision of the species”. The Ceylon plants belong to the race *indicum*.

ASIATIC COTTON, now rarely cultivated in Ceylon.

12. *Gossypium barbadense* L. Sp. Pl. 693 (1753); J. B. Hutch. Ev. Gossyp. 48 (1947).

Gossypium vitifolium Lamk. Encycl. II. 135 (1786).

Gossypium peruvianum Cav. Diss. 315. t. 168 (1788).

SEA ISLAND COTTON, EGYPTIAN COTTON, PERUVIAN COTTON.

13. *Gossypium barbadense* L. var. *brasiliense* (Macf.) J. B. Hutch. Ev. Gossyp. 50 (1947).

Gossypium brasiliense Macf. Fl. Jam. I. 72 (1837).

Gossypium lapideum Tuss. Fl. Antilles II. 67 (1818).

Gossypium pedatum Watt in Kew Bull. 1927. 349 (1927).

KIDNEY COTTON.

14. *Gossypium hirsutum* Mill. Gard. Dict. ed. 7 (1759); L. Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 975 (1763); J. B. Hutch. Ev. Gossyp. 40 (1947).

Gossypium paniculatum Blanco Fl. Filip. 539 (1837).

Gossypium mexicanum Tod. Rel. Cult. Cot. 193 (1877).

UPLAND COTTON, commonly cultivated in Ceylon.

15. *Ilex paraguariensis* A. St. Hil. in Mem. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris IX. 351 (1822).

Ilex paraguensis D. Don in Lamb. Pin. ed. 2. App. 7. t. 4 (1824).

Ilex paraguayensis Hook. in Bot. Mag. t. 3992 (1843).

PARAGUAY TEA, YERBA MATE, MATE.

Innala = (9) *Coleus rotundifolius* (Poir.) A. Chev. et Perr.

Jak = (4) *Artocarpus heterophyllus* Lamk.

Knol-kohl = (5) *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *gongylodes* L.

Kohl-rabi = (5) *Brassica oleracea* L. var. *gongylodes* L.

16. *Lagenaria siceraria* (Mol.) Standley in Field Mus. Bot. ser. 3. Fl. Yucatan 435 (1930).

Cucurbita siceraria Mol. Sagg. Chili 133 (1782).

Lagenaria vulgaris Ser. in Mem. Soc. Geneve III. 25 (1825).

Cucurbita leucantha Duch. in Lamk. Encycl. II. 150 (1786).

Lagenaria leucantha (Duch.) Rusby in Mem. Torr. Bot. Club VI.43 (1896)

BOTTLE GOURD, DIYA LABU.

Lemon = (8) *Citrus limon* (L.) Burm. f.

17. *Manihot esculenta* Crantz Inst. I. 167 (1766).

Jatropha manihot L. Sp. Pl. 1007 (1753).

Manihot utilissima Pohl Pl. Bras. Ic. I. 32. t. 24 (1827).

CASSAVA, MANIOC.

Manioc = (17) *Manihot esculenta* Crantz.

Mate = (15) *Ilex paraguariensis* A. St. Hil.

Paraguay tea = (15) *Ilex paraguariensis* A. St. Hil.

18. *Persea americana* Mill. Gard. Dict. ed. 8 (1768).

Laurus persea L. Sp. Pl. 370 (1753).

Persea gratissima Gaertn. f. Fruct. III. 222 (1805).

ALLIGATOR PEAR, AVOCADO PEAR.

Pineapple = (2) *Ananas comosus* (L.) Merr.

Sapodilla = (1) *Achras zapota* L.

19. *Sesamum indicum* L. Sp. Pl. 634 (1753); DC. Pl. Rar. Jard. Geneve 18. t. 5. (1829).

Sesamum orientale L. Sp. Pl. 634 (1753).

Note.—Both Linne's specific names were published at the same time. *Sesamum orientale* has page priority which, however, is not recognized under the Rules, and that name selected from among them by the author who first combined the two Linnean species is the correct one. De Candolle was the first to do so and he chose the name *Sesamum indicum*.

GINGELLY.

20. *Syzygium aromaticum* (L.) Merr. et Perry in Mem. Am. Acad. Arts and Sc. XVIII. 196 (1939).

Caryophyllus aromaticus L. Sp. Pl. 515 (1753).

Eugenia aromatica (L.) Baill. Hist. Pl. VI. 311 (1877), non Berg. (1854).

Eugenia caryophyllata Thunb. Diss. Caryoph. Arom. 1 (1788).

CLOVE.

Taro = (10) *Colocasia esculenta* (L.) Schott.

Tea = (6) *Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Ktze.

21. *Vigna sinensis* (L.) Endl. ex Hassk. Pl. Jav. Rar. 386 (1848).

Dolichos sinensis L. Cent. Pl. II. 28 (1756).

Vigna unguiculata Walp. Rep. I. 779 (1842), non *Dolichos unguiculatus* L. (1753); C. V. Piper in U. S. Dep. Agr. Bur. Pl. Ind. Bull. no. 229. 143 (1912).

Dolichos catjang Burm. f. Fl. Ind. 161 (1768); L. Mant. II. 269 (1771).

Vigna catjang (Burm. f.) Walp. in Linnaea XIII. 533 (1839).

Phaseolus cylindricus L. Amoen. Acad. IV. 132 (1759).

Vigna cylindrica (L.) Skeels in U. S. Dep. Agr. Bur. Pl. Ind. Bull. no. 282. 32 (1913).

Dolichos sesquipedalis L. Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 1019 (1763).

Vigna sesquipedalis (L.) Fruw. Anbau Huelsenfr. 254 (1898).

COWPEA, ASPARAGUS BEAN, YARD-LONG BEAN.

Yard-long bean = (21) *Vigna sinensis* (L.) Endl. ex Hassk.

Yerba mate = (15) *Ilex paraguariensis* A. St. Hil.

LITERATURE

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