

## The Family Sapotaceae in Taiwan

T. Y. Aleck Yang<sup>(1, 2)</sup>

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**ABSTRACT:** This is a taxonomic study on Taiwanese Sapotaceae. Two genera, i.e. *Palaquium* and *Planchonella*, including 3 species, are recognised. A key, taxonomic descriptions and distribution maps for each taxon are also given.

**KEY WORDS:** Sapotaceae, *Palaquium*, *Planchonella*, Taxonomy, Taiwan.

### INTRODUCTION

The Sapotaceae is a tropical family and is considered to variously have about 35-75 genera and 800 species (Willis, 1985), 53 genera (Brummitt, 1992) or 107 genera and over 1,000 species (Mabberley, 1987).

The first report of the family Sapotaceae in Taiwan was made by Forbes and Hemsley (1889). Since then Henry (1896), Matsumura and Hayata (1906), Hayata (1911, 1917), Sasaki (1928), Kanehira (1936), Masamune (1954), Liu (1962), Li (1963, 1978) have been successively published. According to the above publications and those reported by Herrmann-Erlee and Royen (1957), Royen (1957, 1960), Bakhuizen V.D. Brink and Koster (1963), Chuang (1987) and Li and Pennington (1996), there are 3 taxa, separately belonging 2 genera (*Palaquium* and *Planchonella*), in Taiwan. A key, taxonomic description and distribution maps for the taxa are given in the present study.

### TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

#### SAPOTACEAE Juss. 山欖科

Trees or shrubs, usually with latex. Branchlets and young growth often ferruginous-tomentose. Leaves spirally arranged or alternate, sometimes clustered at apex of branchlets; margin entire, petiolate or subsessile; stipules early deciduous or absent. Flowers bisexual or unisexual, usually in axillary clusters, rarely solitary; cluster pedunculate or in raceme-like inflorescence, bracteolate. Calyx 1 whorl of usually 4-6 sepals, imbricate, or 2 whorls each

1. TNM Herbarium, Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural Science, Taichung 404, Taiwan, Republic of China.

2. Corresponding author.