

Calamus erinaceus (*Palmae*), the correct name for the Malayan mangrove rattan

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One of the most conspicuous coastal species of rattan (*Palmae: Lepidocaryoideae*) widespread on the landward edge of mangrove throughout Peninsular Malaya, Sumatra and Borneo, has long been known as *Calamus aquatilis* Ridley. Recent literature research and herbarium work in Florence has shown that this taxon was also described, by Beccari, in the genus *Daemonorops* as *D. erinaceus* and that this name predates *Calamus aquatilis*. *D. erinaceus* was described from sterile material collected by Beccari under the collector's number PB 2192 at Siboo, near Kuching, Sarawak. In its armature, this rattan appears very similar to *Daemonorops* section *Cymbospatha* but the inflorescence is definitely that of a *Calamus*; it is not therefore surprising that Beccari should have described the plant, based on sterile material, as a *Daemonorops*. Furtado (1956, reference below) states that Beccari had informed Ridley that material Ridley had sent to him of this taxon represented a new species of *Calamus* and it was on this assurance that Ridley described *Calamus aquatilis*. Beccari later (1911, reference below) realized that *Daemonorops erinaceus* and *Calamus aquatilis* represented the same species but chose incorrectly to retain Ridley's specific epithet rather than his own.

Hence the correct name is:

***Calamus erinaceus* (Becc.) Dransfield, comb. nov.**

Daemonorops erinaceus Becc. in Rec. Bot. Survey. India 2: 225 (September, 1902), & in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 12(1): 232 (1911). Type: Sarawak, Siboo, near Kuching, Beccari P.B. 2192 (holotype, FI).

Calamus aquatilis Ridley in Journ. Roy. Asiat. Soc. Str. Branch 41: 43 (January, 1904), & Mat. Fl. Malay Peninsula 2: 210 (1907); Beccari, Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 11: 393, tt. 168 & 169 (1908); Ridley, Flora of Malay Peninsula 5: 63 (1925); Merrill, Univ. Calif. Publ. Bot. 15: 22 (1929); Furtado, Gard. Bull. Singapore 15: 52, t2 (1956).

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