

## *Mangifera odorata* (Anacardiaceae) is a Hybrid

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### Abstract

*Mangifera odorata* Griff. (pro sp.) is confirmed as a hybrid between *M. foetida* Lour. x *M. indica* L.

### **Mangifera odorata**

Ding Hou (1978) first suggested that the polymorphous *Mangifera odorata* Griff., a well-known Malaysian fruit tree locally known as kuwini in Peninsular Malaysia, was a hybrid possibly between *M. foetida* Lour. and *M. indica* L. Corner (1988) also considered this possible because kuwini is difficult to separate from *M. foetida* in the sterile state. They had both noted that kuwini is only known from villages, whereas *M. foetida* is not only grown in villages but has also been collected wild from the forest. *M. indica* is the commercial cultivated mango. However, Kostermans and Bompard (1993) disputed its hybrid status and considered *M. odorata* a 'good species' that could be distinguished from *M. foetida* on leaf venation. Molecular analysis by Teo *et al.* (2002) using AFLP (amplified fragment length polymorphism) produced 28 monomorphic bands specific to *M. foetida* of which 20 occurred in kuwini; while *M. indica* had 22 monomorphic species-specific bands of which 16 occurred in kuwini. Kuwini, in contrast, had no species-specific bands but had additively inherited bands from *M. foetida* and *M. indica*. This provides evidence for the hybrid status of kuwini and that its parents are indeed *M. foetida* and *M. indica*.

Further, UPGMA (unweighted pair group method with arithmetic mean) analysis showed that kuwini has closer genetic similarity to *M. foetida* (76% similarity) than to *M. indica* (66 % similarity).

Kuwini therefore cannot be maintained as a distinct species and is here given taxonomic status as a hybrid.

*Mangifera odorata* Griff. (pro sp.)

= *M. foetida* Lour. x *M. indica* L.

Griffith, Notul. 4 (1854) 417; Ding Hou, Fl. Mai. 1,8 (1978) 437; Kostermans & Bompard, The Mangoes. (1993) 167.

**Type:** Griffith 1098 Malacca, (holo K, iso P).

## Acknowledgements

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## References

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