

Genus Datasheet

Datasheet No. G-005.001

(Family.Genus)

DBT- Network Programme

1. Genus: *Gnetum* L.

2. Systematic Position:

Christenhusz *et al.* (2011)

- Class: Equisetopsida C. Agardh
- Subclass: Cycadidae Pax
- Order: Cycadales Pers.
- Family: Gnetaceae Blume
- Genus: *Gnetum* L.

Bentham and Hooker (1862)

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Phanerogamia

Class: Gymnospermeae

Ordo: Gnetaceae Blume

Genus: *Gnetum* L.

3. Species:

Global: 41

India: 6

4. Taxonomic riddles:^{10,11}

5. Distribution:

Global: Distributed in tropical and humid regions of the world. Nearly all species, except *G. microcarpum*, occur below an altitude of 1500 metres.

India: It is found in Western Ghats near Khandala, forests of Kerala, Nilgiris, Godawari district of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

6. Habit and Habitat: Majority of the *Gnetum* species are tropical evergreen climbers except a few shrubs and trees. *G. trinerve* is apparently parasitic.

7. Economic Importance: The Seeds of *G. gnemon* are eaten after roasting or cooking. The orange red pulp is removed and the seed mashed into cakes, dried and fried in oil to make a cake or biscuit. The bark yields a strong fibre durable in sea water and therefore valued for fishing lines and nets. The fruits of *G. ula* are edible, the seeds also produce an oil that can be used for medicinal purposes or for burning.

8. DNA content range:

C-value 2C (4.54-7.74 pg)^{4, 7}

Methodology

Methodology: Feulgen microdensitometry^{4,7}

9. Basic chromosome number(s): $x=22^{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8}$

10. Zygotic chromosome number(s): $2n=44^{2, 3, 4, 7}, 48^8$

1. Gametic chromosome number(s): $n=22^{5, 6}$

12. Specialized chromosomes (B chromosomes/Sex chromosomes/Polytene Chromosomes/Neocentric chromosomes):

13. Ploidy level: Diploid $^{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7}$

14. Nature of polyploidy (auto, segmental, allo, autoallo):

15. Aberrant chromosome number(s) (aneuploidy, aneusomaty, polysomaty):

16. Karyograms: $2, 8, 9$

Meiosis: $^{5, 6}$

17. Banding pattern(s):

18. Physical mapping of chromosomes:Southern blot rDNA¹

GISH:

20. Cytogenetic mechanism (s) underlying evolution:

21. Linkage map:

22. Any other information: