

## BROMELIACEAE BROMELIAD OR PINEAPPLE FAMILY

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Plants perennial, herbaceous, and terrestrial, epipetric, or epiphytic. ROOTS usually present, poorly developed and serving more as holdfasts in epiphytic species. STEMS short and compressed to very elongate. LEAVES spirally arranged or distichous, simple and with a dilated sheath, usually covered with peltate, water-holding trichomes; margins entire to serrate (sometimes spinose). INFLORESCENCES spicate, racemose, or paniculate; bracts usually present and conspicuous. FLOWERS perfect or with staminate and pistillate flowers on different plants, symmetry radial to bilateral; perianth of 6 parts, often in 2 distinct sets of 3; stamens 6, in 2 series of 3; ovary inferior or superior; placentae axile. FRUITS capsules or berries. SEEDS naked, winged, or plumose. —ca. 60 genera, ca. 2600 spp. Tropical and subtropical areas in the New World, with one genus represented in w Afr. The pineapple, *Ananas comosus* (L.) Merrill, is in cultivation worldwide in tropical areas.

### **Tillandsia** L.

Plants epiphytic, herbaceous, and perennial. ROOTS lacking or poorly developed. STEMS short to elongate. LEAVES rosulate or distichous, entire, linear to triangular or ligulate, conspicuously covered by trichomes. INFLORESCENCE a distichous spike, sometimes reduced to a single polystichous spike or even single-flowered; floral bracts broad and conspicuous. FLOWERS perfect; sepals symmetric, distinct or posterior pair united; petals free and glabrous; ovary superior and glabrous; ovules many. FRUITS septicidal capsules. SEEDS narrowly cylindrical with basal, white, plumose appendage. —ca. 550 species; Neotropics. (Named after the Swedish botanist E. Tillands, 1640-1693.)

#### **Tillandsia recurvata** (L.) L. (recurved or curved backwards). Ball-moss.

—Plants typically in dense ball-like clumps to 15 cm diameter. STEMS compressed. LEAVES grayish-green, in 2 ranks, recurved, densely covered with peltate trichomes; leaf bases sheath-like, not inflated or forming pseudobulbs; blades subulate medially to terete distally; apex acute to attenuate. INFLORESCENCES scapose, erect and conspicuously held above the leaves; floral bracts imbricate and covering the rachis at anthesis. FLOWERS 1 or 2; sepals free and glabrous, lanceolate with an acute apex; petals united, violet; stamens included; stigma 1, included and erect. FRUITS to 2 cm long. SEEDS many, to 1 mm long, with numerous thread-like hairs to 2 cm long. [*Renealmia recurvata* L., *Diaphoranthema recurvata* (L.) Beer]. —Growing on trees

and shrubs: Cochise, Graham, Pima, Santa Cruz cos.; below 1500 m; May-Sep; FL, GA, LA, TX; Mex. to S. Amer. and W. Ind.

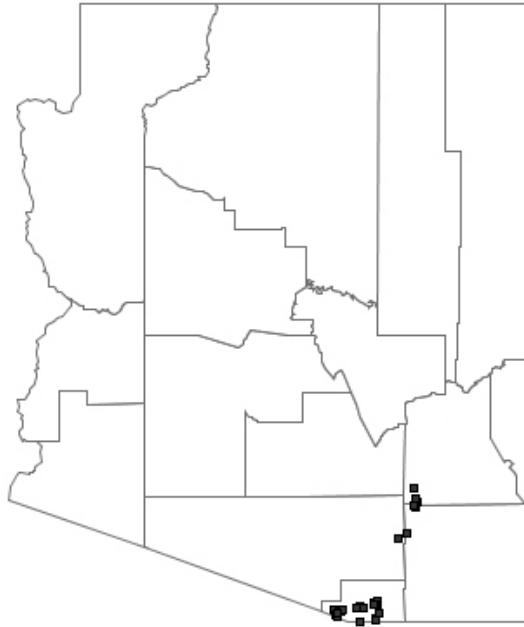
#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank E. Gilbert and P.D. Jenkins (ARIZ), S. Doan, L.R. Landrum, and E. Makings (ASU), and D.Z. Damrel and W.C. Hodgson (DES) for making specimens available for study. I would also like to acknowledge the anonymous reviewers whose comments have helped to improve the quality of this publication.

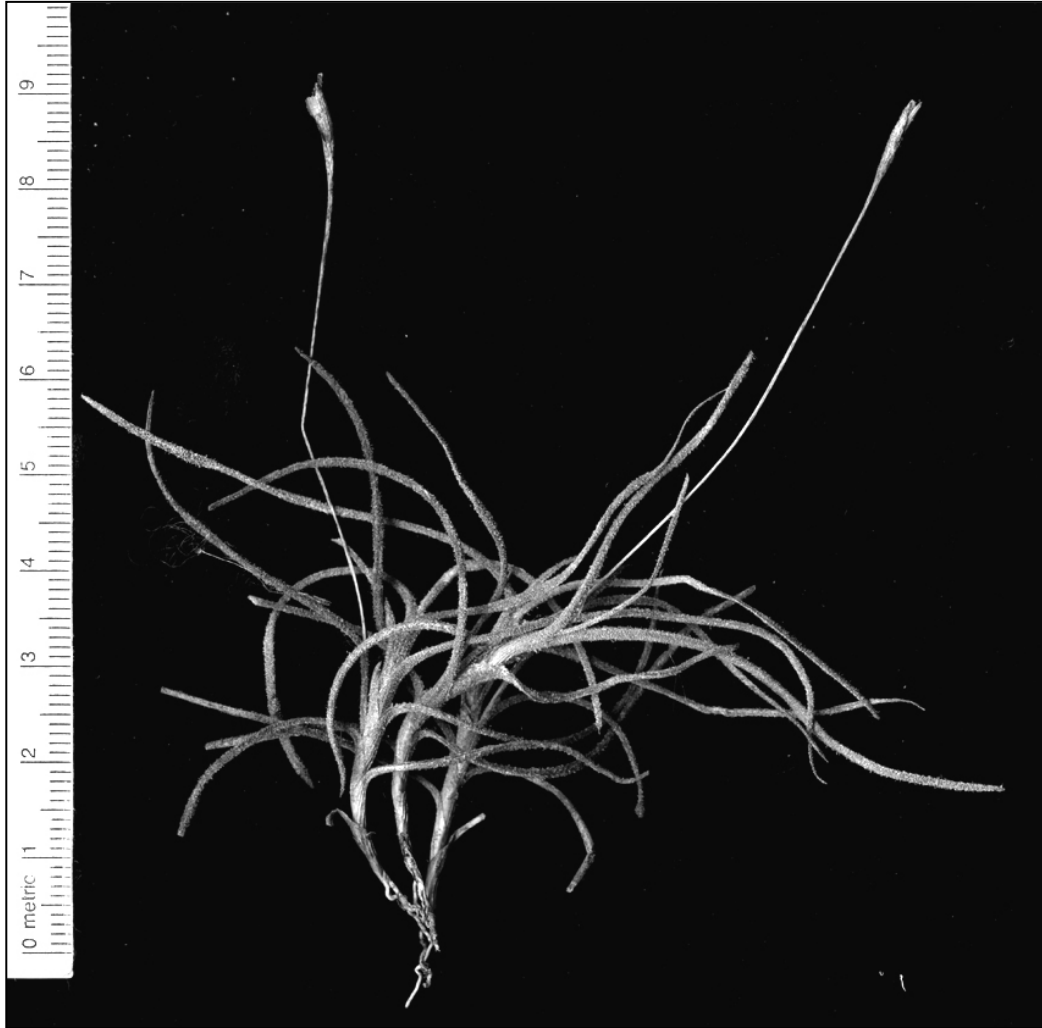
#### LITERATURE CITED

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**Bromeliaceae** Figure 1. Distribution of: *Tillandsia recurvata*.



**Bromeliaceae** Figure 2. *Tillandsia recurvata*, entire plant.