

LYTHRACEÆ.

Pemphis acidula, Forst.

Pemphis acidula, Forst. ; Miq., Fl. Ind. Bat., i. 1, p. 619 ; Benth., Fl. Austr., iii. p. 300 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind., ii. p. 573 ; Oliver, Fl. Trop. Afr., ii. p. 482 ; Nadeaud, Enum. Pl. Tahiti, p. 78.

ARROU ; KI ; MARU ; TIMOR LAUT.—An exceedingly common seaside shrub in many parts of the tropics of the Old World, including the eastern coast of Africa. It is also in many of the coral islands of Polynesia, though not exclusively on coral islands, as the Rev. T. Powell states on a label in the Kew Herbarium, for Barclay collected it in Tahiti, and Wright collected it in Loochoo, and Chamisso collected it in Romanzoff Island. Seemann does not include it in his Flora Vitiensis, nor are there specimens thence in the Kew Herbarium. Dr Coppinger, of H.M.S. "Nassau," collected it in Du Lise Island, Gloriosa Group, and Poivre Island, Amirante group, in 1882. Seed-vessel small and dry, containing numerous small, light, angular seeds. Darwin, as quoted by Henslow (Annals of Natural History, i. p. 340), says of this shrub: "No sooner has a new reef become sufficiently elevated by the accumulation of sand upon its surface, but this plant is sure to be the first to take possession of the soil." *Ipomæa biloba* (*Ipomæa pes-capræ*) is another plant that forms part of the earliest phanerogamic vegetation in such situations.

SAMYDACEÆ.

Casearia sp.

MOA ; LAKOR.—The genus *Casearia* is a large one, generally spread in the tropics, but most numerous in America.

CUCURBITACEÆ.

Luffa ægyptiaca, Miller.

Luffa ægyptiaca, Miller ; Miq., Fl. Ind. Bat., i. p. 666 ; Benth., Fl. Austr., iii. p. 316 ; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind., ii. p. 614 ; Oliver, Fl. Trop. Afr., ii. p. 530.

Luffa cylindrica, Roem., Synops., ii. p. 63.

Luffa insularum, A. Gray, U.S. Expl. Exped., Bot. i. p. 644.

KI ; LARAT ; WETTER ; TIMOR LAUT.—Commonly cultivated throughout the tropics for the fruit, which is eaten in a young state. The ripe fruit is ultimately fibrous and very light, and the plant is consequently very widely dispersed in a wild state. There are several allied species not easily distinguishable in the absence of ripe fruit. *Luffa insularum* is a common maritime form in the Fiji, Tahiti, Tongan Islands, &c. Cogniaux (in DC. Monogr. Phanerog., iii. p. 456) retains Roemer's name, *Luffa cylindrica*, for this species, reducing to it a number of species of various botanists.