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Occurrence of Anisophylly and Anisoclady within the Amaranthaceae [Abstract]

Anisophylly and anisoclady, features considered rare in the Amaranthaceae, were observed within some members of the subfamily Gomphrenoideae (Amaranthaceae) during collection of specimens for molecular phylogenetic analysis. Phyllotaxy, equality of leaf size in opposite leaves at a single node, and branching pattern were surveyed within the family to determine their occurrence and potential taxonomic utility. Taxonomic occurrence of anisophylly and anisoclady within Amaranthaceae and the potential significance of their presence are discussed.