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The Maldive Islands, Indian Ocean

by

F. R. Fosberg

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Along the west coast of India and extending far south beyond the tip of peninsular India and across the equator stretch two long chains of atolls, the Laccadive group to the north and the Maldives to the South, with the isolated Minicoy Island between the two. These islands have been surveyed and described in the literature perhaps more thoroughly than most Pacific groups, as will be seen in examining the index to the Atoll bibliography in Island Bibliographies (Sachet and Fosberg 1955). Some historical and scientific highlights among the published works on the Maldives may be briefly recalled here.

In 1854-58, C. Deffrémy and R. R. Sanguinetti published a French translation and edition of the voyages of Ibn Batûtah, an Arab voyager who visited the Maldives around 1343, lived there for a while, and gave an extremely vivid account of the islands and of life on them. This work has been considered the earliest descriptive account of the Maldives, and the manuscript may also be the earliest description of an atoll group. There are earlier references to these islands in ancient literature, but probably no detailed account.

A Frenchman, Pyrard de Laval, lived in the Maldives in the first years of the 17th century, after the ship Corbin, on which he travelled, was wrecked in 1602. His narration of his adventures is one of the most delightful travel accounts ever written, and includes much valuable information on the Maldives and their inhabitants.

Another "first", of course, for the Maldives group is the fact that the word atoll, or atollon, originated there. In this connection, a little-known paper by a French Navy officer may be of interest. In a letter to his former superior on the Corvette la Coquille, Commander L. I. Duperrey, with whom he had visited many Pacific Island groups, J. de Blosseville mentioned his visit to the Maldives in 1827 while serving on the Corvette la Chevrette. He wrote (1828, p. 700) "Vous vous rappelez sans doute que nous avons souvent parlé des rapports qui devaient exister entre les Atollons des Maldives et les groupes d'îles basses de la Polynésie; les traits de ressemblance sont parfaits, et je persiste à croire que la désignation de ce genre d'îles sous le nom d'Atollons, jeterait une grand clarté dans la nomenclature en devenant générale." Whether or not this young man was the first person to make this suggestion is not so important as the fact that our commonly used term for ringed-shaped low coral islands came from the Maldivian language and was generalized by observant voyagers more than a hundred years ago.

Some historical and other information on the Maldives is summarized in a work compiled by Bell (1883). From the point of view of natural

history besides the observations by Agassiz, Sewell, and others, the largest single contribution is J. Stanley Gardiner's monumental monograph: The fauna and geography of the Maldivian and Laccadive Archipelagoes, 1901-1906, and other papers resulting from his work there. An account of the flora was published by J. C. Willis and J. Stanley Gardiner in 1901, extracts from which are given below in the list of plants.

Brief Report on a Trip to Hālé Atoll, Maldives

There has been little of a scientific nature published on the Maldives since the results of the investigations of Prof. J. Stanley Gardiner mentioned above. Therefore, it seems worth while to place on record an account of a brief visit to Hālé in April 1956, made possible through the courtesy of the government of His Highness Ali Amir Mohammed Farid Didi, Sultan of the Maldives and by financial aid from the Pacific Science Board. My sincere gratitude is expressed to the Hon. Philip F. Crowe, then U. S. Ambassador to Ceylon, for placing me in contact with the Maldivian authorities; to His Excellency, Ibrahim Ali Didi, Prime Minister of the Maldives, for an invitation to visit Hālé as a guest of the Maldivian Government, for courtesies and comforts extended to me while there, and for much information on the Maldives; to Misses. Lajeki Ebrahim Didi, U. Abdallah, Adnan Husain, and Farouk Ismail, all of Hālé, for many kind attentions and much information on the Maldives; and to Capt. H. Bloch, of H. S. Hugo Arlt, for many courtesies and pleasant company during the voyage from Colombo to Hālé and return.

Hālé is a large atoll lying north of the center of the Maldivian Archipelago, about 470 miles NE of Colombo, Ceylon. Hālé Islet, the principal islet and capital of the group, lies on the southeast corner of the atoll, at Lat. 4° 10' N, Long. 73° 30' E. It has an area of about one-half square mile and a population of approximately 8,000; the total population of the archipelago is about 37,000.

Departure from Colombo aboard H. S. Hugo Arlt was early on the morning of April 8, 1956. During the voyage the sea was calm and the sun hot, but there was little breeze; the temperature dropped somewhat at night. We sighted Hālé Atoll on the morning of April 10 and anchored in the lagoon about the middle of the forenoon. The Hugo Arlt carried a cargo of rice, flour, and other supplies for Hālé, and was to pick up "Maldivian fish", a special sort of dried bonito, to take to Ceylon.

The islets of Hālé Atoll, seen on approaching and entering the lagoon, are mostly, with the exception of Hālé itself, well covered by coconut trees, with some lower marginal forest at the tops of the beaches. Hululé Islet, immediately north of Hālé, has a conspicuous road cut through the coconuts for its full length. A feature different from most Pacific atolls is the number of islets scattered within the lagoon, in addition to those along the peripheral reef. All except some very small ones are covered by coconut groves, surrounded, or partially so, by trees of several kinds. The outer reef on both sides of the channel is broad
and its outer edge is exposed at mid-tide. This outer margin, however, is of brownish rocks, not the pink algal ridge common on Pacific reefs. Except for this margin a few yards wide, the reef is covered with water up to the beach. A pale greenish color suggests that the reef flat is generally sandy.

The first close-up view of Malé Islet is a distinct surprise to one familiar only with Pacific atolls. Almost the entire islet is surrounded by a low stone wall. White stone buildings of two and even more stories dominate the lagoon shore. Centrally located is an ancient stone fort, said to be of Portuguese construction. Along the entire lagoon shore, enclosing a busy inner boat harbor, is a sea-wall of stone carefully laid but without mortar. This wall is necessary to protect the boats against the rough water of the lagoon during the monsoon season. During my visit, however, the lagoon surface remained like a sheet of glass. The wall is said to be 300 years old, and is in excellent shape though it requires annual repairs after battering by lagoon waves during the monsoon. Just outside the sea-wall the bottom drops off abruptly to 30 fathoms. This depth extends for some distance, to near the first lagoon islets, and provides an excellent anchorage for the Maldivian schooners and "bugaloes" as well as for visiting steamers such as the Hugo Arlt. Loading and unloading of steamers is by lighter.

Visitors are taken ashore in smartly rowed boats, conducted to the customs house, and treated with a quiet unfailing courtesy and hospitality that could serve as an example for officials of any country. One of the conspicuous features of the entire visit was the general kindness and friendliness of everyone, from the Prime Minister to the child on the street or the boatman in the harbor. Another was the complete lack of women in the crowds on the streets. In striking contrast to Ceylon, the only glimpses of Maldivian women were caught when an occasional attractive brown face peeped over the walls that line all the streets. Still another feature, notable in an Asiatic city, was the spotless cleanliness to be observed everywhere. Even Holland could do little more than match it. This cleanliness applied, so far as could be seen, to the streets, the shops, the houses, the courtyards and to the white blouses and sarongs with which most of the people were clothed.

The entire islet of Malé, except the green, or playing field on the east end and several parks or squares, is laid out in geometrically straight streets lined with stone or masonry walls about head high. Inside the walls and extending above them is a profusion of trees and ornamental shrubs of many kinds. The parks show a neatness and order that is comparable with that of a European formal garden. The green smooth lawns are not of grass but of the creeping hardy Lippia nodiflora, with bright green leaves and heads of tiny white flowers. Shrubs with bright flowers or colored foliage are planted as though laid out with the aid of surveying instruments. The court-yards of the houses are covered by a smooth layer of coarse white sand, largely made up of joints of the articulated calcareous green alga, Halimeda. This special sand is said to be collected on the beaches of some of the other islets at particular seasons when the waves wash it up.
An unusual feature of Malé is the large variety of cultivated plants, some of them scarcely expected on a coral atoll. It seems probable that one factor favoring some of them is the prevalence of walls that provide shelter from salt spray driven by the monsoon and storm winds. Coconut trees are relatively few on Malé Islet, itself. Breadfruit, mango, Thespesia, and Hibiscus tiliaceus are the most common trees. Inside the walls weeds seem to be nonexistent. Anything that grows is there because it is planted and permitted to grow. Botanizing for spontaneous plants is a fruitless pursuit except on the narrow flat strip outside the wall and on an unexpected tiny meadow-like area within the ramparts of the ancient fort. On these bits of relatively unused land small areas of well-trampled sod, scattered strand plants, weeds, clumps of bushes, and even a small thicket of an unpleasantly spiny Pandanus manage to maintain themselves. On the south side is a flat of broken coral pebbles and cobbles with very little vegetation. Familiar plants, to one used to Pacific atolls, found in these places include Scaevola sericea, Prenna obtusifolia, Terminalia catappa, Morinda citrifolia, Eleusine indica, Fimbristylis cymosa, Tridax procumbens, Paspalum vaginatum, Eragrostis anabilis, Euphorbia hirta, Vernonia cinerea, Ochrosia oppositifolia, Guettarda speciosa, Clerodendrum inerme, Thuarea involuta, Wedelia biflora, Portulaca oleracea and many others. Other species are either quite unfamiliar or found chiefly on high islands in the Pacific. In the latter category are Turnera ulmifolia, Alysicarpus vaginalis, Indigofera tinctoria, Calotropis gigantea, Thespesia populnea, Lippia nodiflora, and Acalypha lanceolata. A full list of plants collected or seen, both wild and planted, is appended.

The only wild birds seen on Malé Islet were occasional crows, similar to those seen in Ceylon, and two individuals of a kind of large heron. Chickens, rats, cats, and three or more species of lizard were seen. Curiously, the Maldivian language is said to have no word for lizard, though they are common and conspicuous. Mosquitoes of at least two, and probably more, species are abundant. Both day- and night-biting kinds were found. A few flies were noticed.

During the three days on the atoll scarcely a breath of breeze stirred, and the heat was terrific, moderating only a little at night. This weather was said to be unusual and the monsoon was expected shortly. A visit was made to two islets of Malé Atoll other than Malé itself. These were both uninhabited except for custodians who look after the coconut plantations and harvest nuts. One of these was Kuda Bados Islet, in the lagoon, the other was Furannafuri Islet, on the east reef, the third fairly large reef-islet north of Malé. These islets were fairly different in their physical aspect, but whether typical, respectively, of lagoon and reef islets it is not possible to say.

Kuda Bados, as other lagoon islets passed in reaching it, was made up of sand surrounded by narrow sandy beaches. The beach sand was white and fine. Small pieces of pumice were not uncommon. On the south side of this islet the beach was apparently being eroded, as the mat of coconut roots
was exposed for some distance and the small lagoon wavelets caused a swash to go up under the mat for an appreciable distance, though the surface layer of sand on top of the mat was disturbed for only the outer few decimeters. Shallow water with a sand bottom extended out 25 m or so, suggesting possibly this much erosion. The coconut trees are apparently unaffected by this process until they fall over. Evidences of similar erosion were noticed on parts of the shores of various islets where the beach is un-protected by a fringe of bushes.

Around the north part of the islet the sand forms a very low beach ridge, only 3 - 4 dm above high tide level and cut into by waves at that level. This ridge is covered by scrubby wood forming a narrow band. It is composed largely of *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, with some *Herendia*, *Guettarda*, *Pemphis*, *Calophyllum*, *Scaevola*, and *Hassierschmidia*, and with a little *Pandanus*, *Suriana* and *Terminalia*. This wood is dense but can be walked through at various places. This marginal band is scarcely developed on the south side of the islet.

The general level of the islet surface, except for the beach ridge, was very little above high tide level. The soil in a relatively open strip just inside the beach ridge was dark brown when moist, and almost black in the coconut grove. These soils did not change in the first 3-4 dm down. Earthworm casts were very abundant on the surface. Small fragments of brown consolidated material closely resembling the phosphate rock from Pacific Atolls were common in the soils, and larger fragments, up to cobble size, were scattered freely over the surface. Nothing like a continuous layer of this material was seen, nor were any *Pisonia grandis* trees found, such as would have been expected on a Pacific atoll with such phosphate rock. It is likely that a thousand years of close human occupation would have eliminated "useless" and easily destroyed trees like *Pisonia*, along with the birds that supplied the guano for the phosphate.

Under the coconut trees a few plants survived. *Hibiscus*, *Calophyllum* and a large *Pandanus* with edible fruit were scattered commonly in the groves, with some *Norinda citrifolia* and a few small *Ochrosia* saplings. *Tecca* and *Crinum* were common herbs, generally, with young plants of *Flagellaria*, tall spindly *Abutilon*, and occasional prostrate plants of *Sida*. In openings *Dolichos* formed mats. On open sand *Nostoc* colonies were locally abundant. Near the one house there was a patch of *Turnera*, a few small chlorotic breadfruit trees, a single tree each of *Norinda* and *Tamarindus*.

Chickens were common on this islet, scratching up the surface soil, possibly looking for earthworms. No other birds were seen except a small sandpiper.

The general aspect of this islet is fairly luxuriant, though the undergrowth is extremely sparse. Possibly the burning of piles of coconut trash, of which there is abundant evidence, may have something to do with this scarcity of undergrowth.
Furannafuri Islet on the east reef has an entirely different character than Kuda Bados. From a distance it appeared drier, the coconut trees were more sparse, and the brushy forest surrounding them more abundant. The islet was visited in the hope that it might show remnants of the original higher reef platform of the atoll, if there really had been such a platform. No such remnants, nor any consolidated rock, whatever, were found on the islet itself, though a few meters out from shore on the reef flat some extremely eroded snags of rock protrude above high-tide level. The nature of these was not investigated because of lack of time and because they could not be readily seen as the tide was high. The entire reef in this area was well covered by water.

The islet, elongated transversally to the reef, is a few hundred meters long and a hundred to two hundred meters wide. The lagoonward end, both the soil and the beach, is sandy and seems nowhere to reach more than about one meter above high tide level. As the outer end is approached the soil and beaches become more and more pebbly, until the outer hundred meters or more of the islet are a loose pebble flat surrounded by a sharp beach ridge a meter or more high of loose coral fragments from pebble to cobble size, very sharp and unworn. The soil, generally, on this islet, is a gray-brown more poorly developed type than on Kuda Bados, and nowhere was any phosphatic cemented rock seen.

Near the center but toward the lagoonward end is a well lined with concrete. Here, at the time of examination, the water level was about one meter or less below the general ground surface. The water was perceptibly brackish but would have been drinkable. This was near the end of the dry season of the year.

The general aspect of the vegetation is more luxuriant toward the inner end of the islet, possibly because of the sandy rather than pebbly nature of the soil. Here, besides a sparse stand of coconuts, the trees are mainly Hibiscus tiliaceus, Calophyllum inophyllum, and Terminalia catappa, with some Ficus, Hernandia and small Massoniasia. A shrub layer, rather scattered but denser at the top of the beach, is mainly Scaevola sericea with some Guettarda speciosa and Pemphis acidula. This shrub layer is especially developed on the north side of the islet, and is very sparse at the south. In open and sparse places, especially near the center and to seaward, Medelia biflora is common. The herbaceous layer is very sparse to almost absent, with locally some Fimbristylis cymosa and very locally, very stunted and dwarfed plants of Boerhavia.

Around the single house on the islet were a tree or two of Moringa oleifera, a scrubby lime, and a single small tree of the long-leafed edible species of Pandanus. All other Pandanus seen, the few trees around the beach on the inner end of the islet and thickets on the outer, were of the small-fruited very spiny inedible species.
Coconuts become more sparse on the outer part of the islet and are absent from the pebble flats on the extreme end. The outer end is largely occupied by an uneven thicket of Pemphis acidula, Cordia subcordata, and Pandanus, interspersed with pebble-lined pools containing a species of mangrove, Bruguiera. In one place, just back of the beach ridge, such a mangrove depression has been filled with pebble gravel, probably by storm waves, covering the bases of the mangrove trunks. The larger trees here are dead, the medium ones very sick-looking, and the small ones apparently quite healthy.

In the thickets there is no shrub or herb layer, no true undergrowth of any kind. However, its place is filled by stiff dead branches of Pemphis, low tangled limbs of Cordia and stilt roots of Pandanus, that make walking next to impossible except in openings between patches and clumps of thicket. The thicket changes from the north side to the south, and becomes locally dominated by Cordia, then by a mixture of Cordia and Pemphis, then by pure Pemphis, which extends well along the south shore toward the lagoon. Near the south shore are giant old "pollarded" Pemphis stumps, bushy with sprouts and up to almost a meter in diameter, that have obviously been cut back many times. Locally are Cordia of exactly the same habit, with even larger trunks.

Two crows were seen on this islet, and on the inner beach a flock of what seemed to be white terns, but these were not seen closely enough for identification.

Farucolefouri Islet was only examined from a distance from the lagoon side. Its central half is occupied by a dense coconut grove, thinning and becoming lower toward the ends, so that the fourth of it on each end is noticeably sparse, and by a pronounced scrub or scrub forest lining the shore and covering the ends of the islet; this is probably mostly of Pemphis. It is especially dense on the southwest corner where it seems a bit "wind-sheared", possibly from spray driven by the southwest monsoon. There is a sandy beach the entire length of the islet on the lagoon side, but in the center the beach is apparently subject to erosion, and a mat of coconut roots is exposed.

General features of what was seen of the atoll were the presence of broad bands of reef in the lagoon, covered by sand and irregular small growth of coral; extremely low altitude and little relief of the islets; lack of emerged reef conglomerate or of any development of beach rock; prevalence of islets within the lagoon; common occurrence of active beach erosion by lagoon waves; scarcity of birds; and general intensive human influence on and control of all features of the land surface.

On the basis of this brief visit, it is not possible to make any generalization whatever as to the atolls of the Maldivie group. It is worth noting, however, that in many respects the observer gains an impression of dissimilarity with the Pacific atolls, of perhaps greater
complexity in geologic structure, and of a strong difference in human ecology, economy, and culture. These impressions strongly suggest that a longer investigation of this group of atolls would be desirable before much in the way of generalization on atoll geology and atoll ecology is attempted. It is clear that such an investigation by qualified scientists would be of benefit to the people of the Maldives, would be welcomed by their government, and that excellent cooperation could be expected.

Systematic list of plants of the Maldives Islands

In 1901 Willis and Gardiner compiled a list of 284 species of plants known to occur in the Maldives Islands, including about a dozen very dubious reports of plants not determined to species. The list is largely based on plants collected by Mr. Gardiner during his zoological and oceanographic investigations but includes also all species previously reported in the literature or sent in by other collectors. In addition to the systematic list the authors include a detailed description of the vegetation, considerations of economic plants of various sorts, a list of vernacular names, and a discussion of the origin of the flora.

With only two days at my disposal and many other observations to make, my collecting was of necessity very hasty and superficial compared with the thorough work of Gardiner. Nevertheless, my collection includes 29 species not mentioned in the Willis and Gardiner list. They are mostly weeds and cultivated plants. In the course of working up the collection the nomenclature used by Willis and Gardiner was largely revised. Therefore, it seems desirable to present a complete enumeration of the plants known from the archipelago, giving references to Willis and Gardiner, the native names recorded by them and those given me by Mr. Lajeki Ebrahim Didi, of Male, for the plants I collected. For plants not recorded by Willis and Gardiner notes on occurrence and use are included. In addition to plants actually collected, 15 species cultivated in gardens in Male and unreported by Willis and Gardiner are listed as seen but not collected; these reports can, except where otherwise noted, be regarded as fairly reliable, as these species are familiar ones.

Gardiner's collections were not available for examination, and the identification of a few plants seems open to doubt; for those a note has been made of what is probably the modern name of the plant, if it is different from that used by Willis and Gardiner. The doubtful records, not determined to species by them, have been excluded from the present list.
The total vascular flora, thus recorded here, is 323 species, to which are added two mosses and one Hoatoc. Mr. W. W. A. Phillips has recently made a collection which I have not seen. Other species may be added when his list becomes available. A full set of my specimens will be deposited in the U. S. National Herbarium. The abbreviation W & G refers to the record for a species in Willis and Gardiner's list. Only the atolls from which the plant is recorded and the native names have been extracted. For further information the original paper can be consulted.

Note:

After this paper had been prepared, a letter was received from Mr. A. S. A. Packeer, Assistant Warden, Department of Wild Life in Colombo, reporting on the plants collected by Mr. Phillips. They are:

1. Luminitzera coccinea (see L. littorea in systematic list)
2. Tournertoria argentea (see Messerschmidia argentea)
3. Scaevola frutescens (see S. sericea)
4. Calotropis gigantea
5. Pemphis acidula
6. Averrhoa bilimbi
7. Indigofera tinctoria
8. Rhoeo discolor
9. Wedelia biflora
10. Nephrolepis exaltata
11. Premna serratifolia (see P. obtusifolia)
12. Cyperus conglomeratus

We acknowledge with thanks the opportunity to add these records to this report.
ALGAE
Nostocaceae
Nostoc sp.
Malé Atoll, Malé Islet, common locally on bare sand, Fosberg 36829.

BRYOPHYTA
Calympereaceae
Calympere hyophilaceum C. Müller
Malé, Kuda Bados I., on base of coconut tree, Fosberg 36899b, det. H. A. Miller.

PTERIDOPHYTA
Psilotaceae
Psilotum nudum (L.) Griseb.
Goifurfehendu; Haddumati; Suvadiva. W & G p. 112 as Psilotum triquetrum Sw. "Frumo."

Polypodiaceae
Asplenium nidus L.
Kolumadulu; Haddumati; Suvadiva. W & G p. 112 as Thamnopteris nidus L.

Nephrolepis exaltata (L.) Schott
Malé; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; Haddumati; Suvadiva. W & G p. 112. "Kees fila", "Makunu hungal."
Probably not this species.

Thelypteris dentata (Forsk.) C. P. St John
Haddumati. W & G p. 112 as Nephrodium molle Desv.

GYMNOSPERMAE
Cycadaceae
Cycas circinalis L.
Malé, island near Male' I. W & G p. 111.
ANGIOSPERMAE

Pandanaceae

**Pandanus hornei** Balf. f. ?
Male, Kuda Sados I., Fosberg 36899; Male’ I. (in market), Fosberg 36899. "Karikio."
A large tree with spines close together and appressed, fruit heads large, fruit eaten.
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; N. Mahlos; Addu, etc. W & G p. 104. "Karikeo", "Keeva" (in Addu Atoll).

**Pandanus odoratissimus** L.f.?
Male, Male’ I., forming thicket, Fosberg 36916. "Bokia."
A rather small species with the leaves somewhat persistent, the spines fairly remote and diverging strongly, the heads small and the fruits inedible.
S. Mahlos; Addu, etc. W & G p. 104. "Bokeo", "Divihe keeva" (in Addu).

Gramineae

**Apluda varia** var. aristata L.
Goifurfehendu; Male; Kolumadulu; common in the whole group. W & G p. 109. "Ona hui."

**Bambusa arundinacea** Willd.
Male and other islands. W & G p. 111.

**Bambusa multiplex** (Lour.) Rauschel?
Maldives. W & G p. 111.

**Bambusa vulgaris** Schrad.
Miladumadulu. W & G p. 111.

**Brachiaria subquadripara** (Trin.) Hitchc.
Male, Male’ I., occasional in dense weedy sod, Fosberg 36864. "Ono vina."

**Cymbopogon nardus** (L.) Rendle
Male. W & G p. 110 as **Andropogon nardus** L. "Kasinji."

**Digitaria sanguinalis** (L.) Scop.
Goifurfehendu; Suvadiva. W & G p. 107 as **Paspalum sanguinale** (L.) Lam.
Tropical specimens referred to this species are more often actually **D. ciliaris** (Retz) Koel.

**Eleusine aegyptiaca** (L.) Desf.
Goifurfehendu; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 110.

**Eleusine coracana** (L.) Gaertn.

**Eleusine indica** (L.) Gaertn.
Male, Male’ I., common, Fosberg 36863. "Vina"—small grass.
Eragrostis amabilis (L.) W. & A.
Malé, Malé I., Fosberg 36860. "Tumbuli vina."
Malé; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 111 as Eragrostis tenella var. plumosa Stapf. "Tubuli hui", "Sannipoo."

Ischaemum ciliare Retz.

Ischaemum muticum L.

Oplismenus compositus (L.) Beauv.
S. Mahlos; Malé; Kolumadulu; Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 107. "Ona hui."

Oryza sativa L.
Occasionally cultivated in some islands, but will not grow and set seed. W & G p. 108. "Handu."

Panicum miliaceuin L.
N. Mahlos; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 107. "Bai."

Paspalum vaginatum Sw.
Malé, Malé I., local back of lagoon shore, Fosberg 36853.

Pseudoraphis squarrosa (L.f.) Chase
Male; N. Mahlos; Suvadiva. W & G p. 110 as Andropogon squarrosus L.f. "Lancimo", "Lunsimoo."

Saccharum officinarum L.
Malé, Malé I., seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
"Nearly all the larger islands of the group..." W & G p. 109. "Udandi."

Setaria italica (L.) Beauv.

Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench
"Formerly cultivated in the Maldives." W & G p. 110 as Andropogon sorghum Brot. "Zoowari."

Spinifex squarrosus L.
N. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu, etc. W & G p. 107.

Stenotaphrum complanatum Schrank
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 108.

Thuarea involuta (Forst.f.) R. & S.
Malé, Malé I., Fosberg 36822.
S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; common throughout archipelago. W & G p. 108. as Thuarea sarmentosa Pers.

Zea mays L.

Zoysia pungens Willd.
Malé. W & G p. 108.
Cyperaceae

**Cladium jamaicense** Grantz  

**Cyperus bulbosus** Vahl  
Male, Male I., common in grassy area on top of old fort, Fosberg 36912, "gok kulanduru."  
Roots and tubers fragrant, sometimes used as incense.

**Cyperus conglomeratus** Rottb.  
Male, Kuda Bados I., on beach, Fosberg 36886.  
Nut broadly elliptical, light chestnut brown.

**Cyperus driebus** Rottb.  

**Cyperus hyalinus** Vahl  
Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 105, as **Pycreus pulsilus** Nees.

**Cyperus javanicus** Houtt.  
Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 106 as **Mariscus albescens** Gaud. ?

**Cyperus polystachyos** Rottb.  
Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 105 as **Pycreus polystachyus** Beauv. "Kuna."

**Cyperus rotundus** L.  
Male Male I., on low waste ground near lagoon, Fosberg 36840."dandukari!

**Fimbristylis cymosa** R. Br. var.  
Male, Male I., common in open bare places, Fosberg 36848.  
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 106 as **Fimbristylis spathacea** Roth.

Araceae

**Acorus calamus** L.  
Male. W & G p. 105 "Huva."

**Alocasia indica** (Roxb.) Schott  

**Colocasia esculenta** (L.) Schott  
Tiladumati; Addu; sparsely throughout archipelago. W & G p. 104 as **Colocasia antiquorum** Schott. "Ala."

/**Cyrtosperma** sp.?  
In some islands. W & G p. 104 as "identical with...**Cyrtosperma edule** Schott."

**Raphidophora pertusa** Schott  
Lemnaceae

*Lemna oligorrhiza* Kurz?
Malé, Malé I., covering surface of water in well, Fosberg 36906.

Palmae

*Areca catechu* L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Miladumadulu; Malé; Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 102. "Femfors"; "Fo" or "Fakou" (nut).

*Cocos nucifera* L.
Malé, Malé I., Kuda Bados I., Furannafuri I., seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
"Practically all the islands other than mere sandbanks." W & G p. 103. "Khari", "Kairi" (Addu), "Bo."

*Phoenix dactylifera* L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Flagellariaceae

*Flagellaria indica* L.
Malé, Kuda Bados I., common in coconut plantation, only sterile plants seen, Fosberg 36896. "Vihalla gondi."

Bromeliaceae

*Ananas comosus* (L.) Merr.
Ari. W & G p. 99 as *Ananas sativus* L. "Anana."

Commelinaceae

*Commelina benghalensis* L.
Malé. W & G p. 102. "Diyamudoli."

*Commelina kurzii* Clarke
S. Mahlos; Malé; Haddumati; Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 102. "Tilo lagundi."

*Cyanotis cristata* Schultes f.
Haddumati. W & G p. 102.

*Rhoeo discolor* Hance
Malé; Addu. W & G p. 102 as *Rhaeo discolor*. "Re kandolu."

Liliaceae

*Asparagus racemosus* Willd.

*Cordyline terminalis* (L.) Kunth
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Gloriosa superba L.

Amaryllidaceae

Crinum asiaticum L.
Goifurfehendu; everywhere in archipelago. W & G p. 99.

Hippeastrum puniceum (Lam.) Urb. ?
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Hymenocallis littoralis (Jacq.) Salisb.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956. This is possibly the plant reported by W & G as Pancratium sp.

Pancratium zeylanicum L.
Suvadiya. W & G p. 100.

Dioscoreaceae

Dioscorea alata L.
Malé; all over the group. W & G p. 101. "Billi-kattala."

Dioscorea fasciculata Roxb.

Dioscorea globosa Roxb.?

Dioscorea pentaphylla L.

Dioscorea purpurea Roxb.?

Dioscorea rubella Roxb.?

Taccaceae

Tacca leontopetaloides (L.) O. Kuntze
Malé; Kuda Bados I., Fosberg 36883. "hit tala."
Malé; Goifurfehendu; "common in the whole archipelago." W & G p. 100 as Tacca pinnatifida Forst. "Hitala", "Hittala", Heith-thala."

Musaceae

Musa sapientum L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Tiladumati; N. Malhos; Suvadiya; most islands. W & G p. 99. "keo", "dongkeo."
Gasuarinaceae

*Casuarina equisetifolia* L.
Male, Male I., cultivated, trimmed into hedges, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Piperaceae

*Piper betle* L.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956. Male; Miladumadulu; Addu; all atolls. W & G p. 93. "Billi"; "Wang" and "Billaton" (Addu) are names for leaf.

*M. W & G p. 93.

Moraceae

*Artocarpus altilis* (Park.) Fosb.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956. Male; S. Mahlos; N. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; "nearly every inhabited island of the group." W & G p. 90 as *Artocarpus incisa* L.f. "Bambukea," "Banke" (Addu).

*Artocarpus heterophylla* Lam.
Male. W & G p. 98 as *Artocarpus integrifolia* L.f. "Sakkeyo."

*Ficus benghalensis* L. ?
Male; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 97. "Nika."

*Ficus infectoria* Roxb.
Male, Male I., occasional, banyan-like but multiple trunk and aerial roots not much developed, Fosberg 36845. "Dumbu."

Male, W & G p. 98. "Dumbu."

*Ficus mysorensis* Heyne?
Male, Male I., one tree seen on playground near outer beach, Fosberg 36821. "Fili."
Possibly the same as the *Ficus* sp. with this vernacular name reported by W & G p. 97.

*Ficus religiosa* L.
Male; Fua Mulaku; Suvadiva. W & G p. 98. "Boi."

*Ficus retusa* L. ?
Male, W & G p. 98. "Kudhi."

Urticaceae

*Fleurya interrupta* Gaud.
Male; Kolumadulu; W & G p. 98. "Gakehebuli."

Pilea microphylla L.
Male, Male I., in crevices in walls along streets, Fosberg 36914.
Pouzolsia indica Gaud.

Polygonaceae

Antigonum leptopus H. & A.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male. W & G p. 93.

Nyctaginaceae

Boerhavia diffusa L.
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; common throughout archipelago.
W & G p. 90. "Burundagondi", "Nanubedi."

Boerhavia erecta L.
Male, Male I., weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36859.

Boerhavia repens L.?
Male, Male I., rare in dense weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36869, 36870. "Burunda gondi."
No. 36869 abnormal, possibly infected by Albugo.
Male, Furunnafuri I., common along trails in sparse coconut plantation,

Bougainvillea spectabilis Willd.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male, W & G p. 91.

Mirabilis jalapa L.
Male, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male, W & G p. 91. "Asuraffole re"(red), "Asuraffole hudu" (white),
"Re asaruman", "Asarumu."

Pisonia aculeata L.?
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 91.

Pisonia grandis R. Br.
Male, Malé I., doubtfully seen, cultivated, but not collected, Fosberg
in 1956.
Male; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 91 as Pisonia morindaefolia Br. "Los."

Amaranthaceae

Achyranthes aspera L.
Male; S. Mahlos. W & G p. 92. "Kahhi léibú."

Aerua lanata L.
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; everywhere except in Addu.
W & G p. 92."Hudufupila."

Amaranthus caudatus L.
Male, W & G p. 92."Raiddisagu."
Amaranthus spinosus L.
Male, W & G p. 92.

Amaranthus tricolor L.
Male, W & G p. 92 as Amaranthus gangeticus L.

Amaranthus viridis L.
Male, W & G p. 92. "Massagu."

Celosia argentea L.
Haddumati, W & G p. 92.

Nothosaerua brachiata Wight
Male, Male I., Fosberg 36868. "hduhup pila."
Male, W & G p. 92.

Aizoaceae

Sesuvium portulacastrum L.
Male, W & G p. 74. "Mapijja."

Portulacaceae

Portulaca oleracea L.
Male, Male I., common in open places, Fosberg 36847.
"Rai-geda" eaten as potherb.
Male, W & G p. 53. "Rai-geda."

Portulaca quadrifida L.
Male, Male I., local, Fosberg 36831.
Male, W & G p. 54. "Makuna-fila"

Portulaca tuberosa (Roxb.) Trim.
Male; Gofurfehendu; Kolamedulu, W & G p. 54. "Riindu-filia."

Annonaceae

Annona muricata L.
Male; fairly common throughout northern atolls; Suvadiva; Addu, W & G p. 52. "Anona," "Ata."

Annona squamosa L.
Male; Addu, W & G p. 52. "Ata."

Artabotrys odoratissimus R. Br.

Menispermaceae

Tinospora cordifolia Miers
Male, W & G p. 52.
Lauraceae

Cassytha filiformis L.
Male, Kuda Bados I., climbing over trees, not abundant, Fosberg 36893. "Vela buli."
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 93. "Dom velam buli,"
"Vele buli."

Hernandiaceae

Gyrocarpus jacquini Roxb.
S. Mahlos; through the whole group. W & G p. 69.

Hernandia sonora L.
Male, Kuda Bados I., common in scrub forest on beach ridge, Fosberg 36889. "Kandu."
Male; Goifurfehendu; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; common in whole group.

Papaveraceae

Argemone mexicana L.
Male; Addu. W & G p. 52. "Zagmu."

Capparidaceae

Cleome viscosa L.
Goifurfehendu; Miladumadulu; Malé. W & G p. 53. "Ráeburi."

Gynandropsis gynandra (L.) Briq.
Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 53 as Gynandropsis pentaphylla DC.

Cruciferae

Brassica juncea Hook.f. & Th.
Male. W & G p. 52. "Revi."

Moringaceae

Moringa oleifera Lam.
Male, Kuda Bados I., one tree in coconut plantation, Fosberg 36885.
"Moronga" leaves and fruit eaten as pootherb.
Male; Kolumadulu; common in all the group. W & G p. 62 as Moringa pterygosperma Gaertn. "Muranga."

Crassulaceae

Kalanchoe pinnata (Lam.) Pers.
Male, Malé I., occasional, Fosberg 36823. "Fatungas fala,"
Male; very sparsely through the group. W & G p. 68 as Bryophyllum calycinum Salisb. "Bodu faru," "Fatunfaifila."
Rosaceae

Rosa sp.
Malé; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 68. "Fini-femna."

Leguminosae

Acacia farnesiana (L.) Willd.
Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; common in south of group, rare in north. W & G p. 67. "Bés-góbili."

Adenanthera pavonina L.
Malé, W & G p. 67.

Albizia lebbek L.
Malé, Malé I., one tree seen in open flat at end of island, Fosberg 36838. "Biitikas."

Alysicarpus vaginalis (L.) DC.
Malé, Malé I., common in dense weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36866.

Caesalpinia bonduc (L.) Roxb.
Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Malé; common in whole archipelago. W & G p. 65 as Caesalpinia bonducella Fleming. "Karikuburu."

Caesalpinia major (Medic.) Dandy & Exell?
Maldive. W & G p. 65 as Caesalpinia bonduc?

Caesalpinia pulcherrima (L.) Sw.
Malé, W & G p. 66. "Fatangu."

Canavalia ensiformis DC.
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 64. "Talafuri."

Canavalia lineata DC.
Malé; S. Mahlos. W & G p. 64. "Manifa."

Cassia auriculata L.
Malé, W & G p. 66. "Ranawia."

Cassia occidentalis L.
Malé; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 66. "Kuhada."

Cassia sophora L.
Goifurfehendu; Malé; Kolumadulu; Addu; Suvadiva. W & G p. 66. "Rana-rua."

Cassia surattensis Burm. f.
Malé, Kuda Bados I., rare in semi-open place, Fosberg 36895. "Rana ura."
Malé. W & G p. 66 as Cassia glauca var. suffructicosa Koenig. "Rana-ura."

Cassia tora L.
Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 66.
Clitoria ternatea L.  
Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 65.

Crotalaria retusa L.  
Male, Malé I., rare in coconut plantation, Fosberg 36898. "Viha giguna."  

Delonix regia (Boj.) Raf.  
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.  

Desmodium gangeticum (L.) DC.  
S. Mahlos. W & G p. 63.

Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC.  

Desmodium umbellatum (L.) DC.  
Goifurfehendu; very common in archipelago. W & G p. 63.

Dolichos lablab L.  
Male, Kuda Bados I., "climbing in bushes and trees and creeping on ground in open or partially open places, Fosberg 36894.  
"Du himeri", bean eaten by some people.  

Entada scandens Benth.  
Male. W & G p. 67.  
Probably is E. puraetha DC. (vide Brennan, Kew Bull. 1955: 161-170) but since only the seeds are known and these were found on the beach the species can scarcely be determined and the plant is probably not a member of the Maldive flora.

Erythrina indica L.  
Male. W & G p. 64. "Berebedi."

Indigofera enneaphylla L.?  
Male, Malé I., common in grassy area on top of old fort, Fosberg 36911.

Indigofera tinctoria L.  
Male, Male I., occasional, Fosberg 36828, 36862. "Fang hiti."  
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 62. "Viha-filia."

Mimosa pudica L.  

Pachyrhizus erosus (L.) Urb.  
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.  
W & G p. 65 as Pachyrhizus angulatus Rich. "Viha-toli."

Peltophorum pterocarpum (DC.) Backer ex K. Heyne  
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.  
W & G p. 67. "Viha-toli."

Phaseolus lunatus L.  
Male. W & G p. 64. "Himerri."
Samanea saman (Jacq.) Merr.
Male, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Sophora tomentosa L.
Male; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 65.

Tamarindus indica L.
Male; Goifurfehendu; Addu; "sparsely near villages everywhere." W & G p. 67. "Helebeli."

Tephrosia purpurea var. pumila Baker
S. Mahlos. W & G p. 63.

Tephrosia tenuis Wall
Male. W & G p. 63. "Fesko."

Vigna marina (Burm.) Merr.
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 64 as Vigna lutea A. Gray.

Oxalidaceae

Averrhoa bilimbi L.
Male, Malé I., commonly planted around houses, Fosberg 36907.
Male. W & G p. 58. "Bilimagu."

Averrhoa carambola L.

Zygophyllaceae

Tribulus terrestris L.
Male. W & G p. 58.

Rutaceae

Citrus aurantiifolia (Christm.) Swingle
Male, Furannafuri I., seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Maldives; "generally cultivated." W & G p. 59 as Citrus medica var. acida Brandis. "Limbo."

Citrus aurantium L.

Citrus decumana L.
Male; Addu. W & G p. 59. "Niyaduru."

Citrus limon Burm.f.

Murraya koenigii Spreng.
Triphasia trifoliata DC.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male; "very scarce in the N., and not in the S., of Archipelago." W & G p. 58. "Kudalimbo" (small lime).

Simarubaceae

Suriana maritima L.
Malé, Male I., occasional at top of beach, Fosberg 36890. "Hala veli.
Male; Goifurfefhenu. W & G p. 59. "Hala veli", "Halia veli."

Meliaceae

Azadirachta indica Juss.
Malé, Male I., planted, Fosberg 36908. "Hit."

Polygalaceae

Polyzala erioptera DC.
Goifurfefhenu; S. Mahlos; "fairly common everywhere in the north."
W & G p. 53.

Euphorbiaceae

Acalypha amentacea vars.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, Fosberg 36880.
This is the plant with red leaves commonly called A. wilkesiana M.-A. The form called A. wilkesiana var. circinata was seen also, but not collected.

Acalypha indica L.
Malé; Goifurfefhenu; Addu. W & G p. 96. "Vaffufuli."

Acalypha lanceolata Willd.
Malé, Male I., locally common in dense weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36871.
Male; Goifurfefhenu; Kolumadulu; Swadiva; Addu. W & G p. 97 as Acalypha fallax M.-A. "Bissagu", "Cave."

Acalypha paniculata Miq.

Agynelia bacciformis A. Juss.
Addu. W & G p. 95.

Aleurites moluccana (L.) Willd.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Codiaeum variegatum (L.) Bl.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, Fosberg 36879. "Dumphai baguitsa."

Croton tiglium L.
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 96.
Euphorbia atoto Forst.
Goifurfehendu; Male; frequent in group. W & G p. 94. "Kirutina."
Very probably not this species, possibly E. chamissonis Boiss.

Euphorbia clarkeana Hook. f.
Male, Male I.; occasional to common locally in waste places, Fosberg 36830.
This may be what W & G report as E. thymifolia L. from Kolumadulu Atoll.

Euphorbia heterophylla L.
Male, Male I.; very common in waste places, Fosberg 36850.

Euphorbia hirta L.
Male, Male I.; common, Fosberg 36867. "Kirutina."
Male; S. Mahlos. W & G p. 95 as Euphorbia pilulifera L. "Kirutina."

Euphorbia hypericifolia var. parviflora L.
S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; Addu. W & G p. 94. "Kerutina."

Euphorbia thymifolia L.
Kolumadulu. W & G p. 95.

Glochidion littorale Forst.?

Manihot esculenta Crantz
Male, Male I.; cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male. W & G p. 96 as Manihot utilisima Pohl.

Micrococa mercurialis (L.) Benth.
Male, Male I.; rare, Fosberg 36872.

Pedilanthus tithymaloides Poit.
Male; Addu. W & G p. 94. "Kala kiru."

Phyllanthus amarus Schum. & Thonn.
Male, Male I.; occasional in weedy sand back of beach, Fosberg 36861.
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 96 as Phyllanthus niruri L.

Phyllanthus debilis Klein ex Willd.
Male, Male I.; common in weedy places, Fosberg 36856.
"Kaalu lumbo."

Phyllanthus distichus M.-A.
Male. W & G p. 96. "Gobili."

Phyllanthus maderaspatensis L.
Male, Male I.; common, Fosberg 36873. "Kudihiti."
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 95. "Meia limbo",
"Kudingke."
Phyllanthus nivosus Bull
Male, Male I., cultivated, Fosberg 36877.
This should probably be placed in a separate genus, usually called
Bremia Forst., but this generic name is a later homonym of
Bremia L. and no name is available for the genus at present.

Phyllanthus urinaria L.
S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 95.

Ricinus communis L.
Male, Male I., common, Fosberg 36843. "Raing amanaka."
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; "all over the islands." W & G p. 97.
"Amanaka."

Trevia nudiflora L.? 

Anacardiaceae

Mangifera indica L.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Sapindaceae

Allophylus cobbe Bl.
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 61. "Dom Moussa."

Cardiospermum halicacabum L.
Male. W & G p. 61.

Dodonaea viscosa L.
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 61. "Kudiruvali."

Rhamnaceae

Colubrina asiatica (L.) Brongn.
Male; S. Mahlos; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 60. "Ra-rohi."

Zizyphus jujuba (L.) Lam.
Male, Male I., Fosberg 36875. "Kun' nar."
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; common in whole group. W & G p. 60.
"Kuma'ru", "Konara."

Vitaceae

Vitis linnaei Wall?
Male. W & G p. 60.

Tiliaceae

Corchorus aestuans L.
Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 57 as Corchorus
Corchorus capsularis L.
Malé, W & G p. 57. "Bulúkiya."

Muntingia calabura L.
Malé, Male I., spontaneous in crevice in old fort, Fosberg 36914.
"Jaam" fruit eaten.

Malvaceae

Abutilon indicum (L.) Sweet
Malé, Kuda Bados I., occasional in coconut plantation, Fosberg 36897.
"Ma bula" leaves eaten in curry.
Malé; Goifurfefendu; very common everywhere. W & G p. 55. "Ma-Dulá."

Gossypium barbadense var. acuminatus Roxb.
Malé; Goifurfefendu; Kolumadulu; "sparsingly cultivated in whole group."
W & G p. 56. "Bodu kafa."

Gossypium herbaceum L.
Malé, Male I., occasional, Fosberg 36841. "Ok kafa."
A shrub 2 m tall growing spontaneously, with some doubt referred
to this species.
Malé; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 56. "Kafa."

Hibiscus abelmoschus L.
Suvadiva; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 56.

Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L.
S. Nilandu. W & G p. 56.

Hibiscus solandra L'Her.
Malé, Kuda Bados I., rare in plantation, Fosberg 36884.
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfefendu; Kolumadulu; "sparsingly everywhere in

Hibiscus tiliaceus L.
Malé, Male I., common on seaward flats, Fosberg 36832. "Dika."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfefendu; Kolumadulu; common throughout group.
W & G p. 56. "Diga."

Hibiscus (ornamental hybrids)
Malé, Male I., several cultivated ornamental hybrid Hibiscus seen,
but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Sida carpinifolia L.

Sida humilis Wild.
Malé, Malé I., Fosberg 36846, 36854. "Weodikka", "reodikka."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Addu. W & G p. 54. "Veyo-diga."

Thespesia populnea (L.) Sol. ex Correa
Malé, Malé I., common generally, especially along lagoon shore, Fosberg
36852. "Hirundu." Wood used for freeboard of boats.
Malé; "all over-archipelago." W & G p. 56. "Hirundu."
Bombacaceae

*Adansonia digitata* L.
Male; *W & G* p. 57. "Foh."

*Ceiba* sp.
Male, Male I., a large buttressed tree probably belonging to this genus seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Sterculiaceae

*Abroma augusta* L.

Guttiferae

*Calophyllum inophyllum* L.
Male, Kuda Bados I., common in and around coconut plantation, Fosberg 36887. "Funa."
Male; N. Mahlos; very common in S. of group. *W & G* p. 54. "Funa."

Turneraceae

*Turnera ulmifolia* var. *elegans* (Otto) Urb.
Male, Male I., common generally especially along lagoon shore, Fosberg 36849, also seen on other islets. This is large-leafed, yellow-flowered form of this species.

Passifloraceae

*Passiflora coerulea* L.
Male, *W & G* p. 72.

*Passiflora edulis* Sims
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Caricaceae

*Carica papaya* L.
Male, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu. *W & G* p. 72. "Falo."

Cucurbitaceae

*Benincasa cerifera* Savi.
Male, *W & G* p. 73. "Fufu."

*Citrullus colocynthis* Schrad.?
Male, *W & G* p. 73. "Kara."

*Citrullus vulgaris* Schrad.
"Commonly cultivated in the Archipelago." *W & G* p. 73.
Cucumis sativus L.
Malé; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 73. "Kekuri."

Cucurbita maxima Duch. ?
Malé; Addu. W & G p. 74.

Cucurbita moschata Duch.
Malé; Addu. W & G p. 74.

Cucurbita pepo L.
Malé, W & G p. 74. "Burubo."

Luffa aegyptiaca Mill.?
Malé, W & G p. 73. "Tora."

Momordica charantia L.
Malé, W & G p. 73. "Paga."

Trichosanthes cucumerina L.
N. Mahlos; Addu. W & G p. 73.

Lythraceae

Lagerstroemia indica L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Lawsonia inermis L.
Malé, Malé I., planted in park, Fosberg 36915.
Leaves said to be crushed in milk to impart red color to women's hands.
Malé; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 71 as Lawsonia alba Lam. "Heena", "Innapa."

Pemphis acidula Forst.
Malé, Kuda Bados I., abundant at top of beach, on sand, Fosberg 36991.
"Kuredi" wood used for keels of boats.
Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; S. Mahlos; "common in all the Maldives." W & G p. 71. "Dhadukuradi", "Kuredi", "Kuradu."

Sonneratiaceae

Sonneratia alba J. Sm.
Malé; Addu; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 71 as Sonneratia acida L. "Kulowa."

Funicaceae

Punica granatum L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Malé; N. Mahlos; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 72. "Amãrã."

Rhizophoraceae

Bruguiera cylindrica (L.) Bl.
Malé, Furannafuri I., common around saline pools near outer end of islet, Fosberg 36903. "Kandu" embryo radicle boiled and eaten.
Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 68 as Bruguiera caryophylloides Bl. "Kandu."
Rhizophora mucronata Lam.
Addu; Suvadiva; "in damp jungle all over the group." W & G p. 68.

Combretaceae

Lumnitzera littorea (Jack) Voigt
Malé, W & G p. 69 as Lumnitzera coccinea W. & A. "Kandu."

Lumnitzera racemosa Willd.
Suvadiva. W & G p. 69.

Terminalia catappa L.
Malé, Malé I., occasional in scrub at top of seaward beach, Fosberg 36833. "Mididi."
Malé; Kolumadulu; Goifurfehendu; Suvadiva; Addu; abundant all over the group. W & G p. 69. "Midili", "Medili", "Domadu", "Gobu."

Lecythidaceae

Barringtonia asiatica (L.) Kurz
Malé, Futannafuri I., thicket in from beach, Fosberg 36900. "Kimbi."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 70 as Barringtonia speciosa Forst. "Kimbi."

Myrtaceae

Eugenia jambolana Lam.
Malé. W & G p. 70. "Lamdi."

Eugenia jambos L.
Malé; Addu. W & G p. 70. "Jambu?"

Eugenia javanica Lam.
Malé; Malé I., cultivated, Fosberg 36876. "Jamburo." Fruit eaten.
Malé? W & G p. 70. "Jamburool."

Eugenia malaccensis L.
Malé; Addu. W & G p. 70. "Jambu?"

Psidium guajava L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Malé. W & G p. 70. "Péru."

Araliaceae

Polyscias guiifoulei (Bull) Bailey
Haddumati. W & G p. 74 as Aralia guiifoulei F. von M.

Myrsinaceae

Ardisia humilis Wahl
Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 79.
Sapotaceae

*Mimusops elengi* L.
Malé, W & G p. 80. "Munima."

Oleaceae

*Jasminum auriculatum* Vahl
Malé, W & G p. 80. "Kudima."

*Jasminum azoricum* L.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, Fosberg 36881. "Glenura ma."

*Jasminum officinale f. grandiflorum* (L.) Kobuski
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, Fosberg 36882. "Wandu ma."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 80 as *Jasminum grandiflorum* L. "Huwanduma."

*Jasminum sambac* (L.) Ait.
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Haddumati; Addu. W & G p. 80. "Irudema", "Re Irudema."

Apocynaceae

*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G. Don
Malé, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.
Malé. W & G p. 81 as *Vinca rosea* L. "Maliku ruva."

*Nerium indicum* Mill.
Malé, Male I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

*Nerium oleander* L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

*Ochrosia oppositifolia* (Lam.) K. Schum.
Malé, Malé I., occasional near outer beach, Fosberg 36824. "Dumburi."
Malé; S. Mahlos. W & G p. 81 as *Ochrosia borbonica* Gmel. "Dumburi", "Dumburi."

*Plumeria obtusa* L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

*Plumeria rubra* L.

*Thevetia peruviana* (Pers.) Merr.
Malé. W & G p. 81 as *Thevetia neriifolia* Juss.? "Hinbatu."

Asclepiadaceae

*Calotropis gigantea* (Willd.) R. Br.
Malé, Male I., common, Fosberg 36827. "Ruwa."
Convolvulaceae

Convolvulus parviflorus Vahl
   Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; throughout the group. W & G p. 84. "Walu mirihi."

Evolvulus alsinoides L.
   Male; S. Mahlos; Haddumati. W & G p. 84. "Vevo magu", "Mea limbo."

Hewittia bicolor W. & A.
   S. Mahlos. W & G p. 84.

Ipomoea batatas (L.) Poir.
   Male; Addu; throughout whole group. W & G p. 83. "Oludukattala."

Ipomoea littoralis Bl.
   Kolumadulu. W & G p. 84 as Ipomoea denticulata Chois.

Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) Sweet
   Male; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 84 as Ipomoea biloba Forsk. "Taburu", "Thaburu."

Ipomoea quamoclit L.

Ipomoea tuba (Schlecht.) G. Don.
   Male, Furannafuri I., very rare in Cordia-Pemphis thicket, sterile, Fosberg 36902.
   Goifurfehendu; Addu. W & G p. 83 as Ipomoea grandiflora Lam.

Ipomoea turpethum (L.) R. Br.

Merremia dissecta (Jacq.) Hall.f.
   Male, Male I., climbing in scrub at top of seaward beach, Fosberg 36839.

Trichodesma zeylanicum (L.) R.Br.
   Male; N. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Addu. W & G p. 83. "Malebu."

Borraginaceae

Cordia subcordata Lam.
   Male, Furannafuri I., abundant in thickets on very stony ground, rare on beaches, Fosberg 36905. "Kaani."
   Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Suvadiva. W & G p. 82. "Kani."

Messerschmidia argentea (L.f.) Johnst.
   Male, Kuda Bados I., occasional at top of beach, rare inland, Fosberg 36892. "Bori."
   Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 82 as Tournefortia argentea L.f. "Bori", "Mabori."
Solanaceae

Capsicum frutescens L.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956. Probably this species. Hot pepper sauce very widely used in Maldivian food.

Capsicum minimum Roxb.
Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Mahlos; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 85. "Mirus."

Datura metel L.
Malé, Malé I., spontaneous in waste places, Fosberg 36842. "Hudu orani." Malé; Miladumadulu; Kolumadulu; Addu. W & G p. 85 as Datura fastuosa L. "Orhani."

Datura suaveolens H. & B.
Malé. W & G p. 86.

Nicotiana tabacum L.
Malé; Mahlos; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 86. "Dumpai."

Physalis minima L.
Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; sparsely in the whole group. W & G p. 85. "Mureki."

Solanum melongena L.
Malé; Kolumadulu; Addu; cultivated in whole group. W & G p. 85. "Bari", "Kara."

Verbenaceae

Clerodendrum indicum (L.) Kuntze ?
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956. Probably this species.

Clerodendrum inerme (L.) Gaertn.

Lantana mixta L.
S. Mahlos; "all over the north of the Archipelago." W & G p. 87.

Lippia nodiflora L.

Premna obtusifolia R. Br.
Malé, Malé I., common in scrub at top of seaward beach, Fosberg 36835. "Dakanda." Goifurfehendu; Suvadiva; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 88 as Premna integrifolia L. "Kude", "Gelavalie."
Stachytarpheta jamaicensis Vahl
   Malé, Malé I., occasional in open places, Fosberg 36821. "Malembu."
   Malé, W & G p. 88 as Stachytarpheta indica var. jamaicensis.
   "Malaembu", "Mumay."

Tectona grandis L.
   Malé, W & G p. 88.

Vitex negundo L.
   Malé; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 88. "Dunnika."

Labiatae

Anisomeles ovata R. Br.
   Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Addu. W & G p. 90.
   "Muskotan", "Maskota."

Leucas biflora R. Br.
   Malé; Suvadiva; Addu. W & G p. 90. "Veo miri", "Veo mirihi."

Leucas zeylanica (L.) R. Br.
   Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; "also in other islands where yams are cultivated."
   W & G p. 90.

Ocimum basilicum L.
   Malé; N. Mahlos; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 89. "Gandakoli."

Ocimum gratissimum L.
   Malé, W & G p. 89. "Fontulá."

Ocimum sanctum L.
   Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Plectranthus zeylanicus Benth.?
   Malé; Haddumati; N. Milandu. W & G p. 89. "Huvadukotun", "Huvaduka."

Scrophulariaceae

Bacopa monnieri (L.) Pannell
   Malé; Miladumadulu. W & G p. 86 as Herpestis monniera H.B. & K.
   "Veppila."

Bignoniaceae

Tecoma stans L.
   Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Acanthaceae

Barleria prionitis L.
   Malé; Miladumadulu; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; "cultivated everywhere."
   W & G p. 86. "Dai kurandu," "Ma tumba", "Hai kurudo."
Justicia procumbens L.
Malé, W & G p. 87.

Pseuderanthemum carruthersii Seem.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, Fosberg 36876.

Pseuderanthemum carruthersii var. atropurpureum (Bull) Fosb.
Malé, Malé I., cultivated, seen but not collected, Fosberg in 1956.

Ruellia ringens L.
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; Haddumati. W & G p. 86.
"Nita bodi", "Nitu badi."

Rungia parviflora Nees
Malé; Miladumadulu; Addu; "frequent in the group". W & G p. 87.

Rubiaceae

Borreria ocymoides (Burm.f.) DC.
S. Mahlos; "in many islands." W & G p. 76 as Spermacoce ocymoides Burm.f.

Guettarda speciosa L.
Malé, Malé I., occasional in scrub at top of seaward beach, Fosberg 36836. "Wuni."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; "very common throughout the group." W & G p. 75. "Uni."

Hamelia patens Sw.
Malé, W & G p. 75.

Hedyotis biflora (L.) Lam.
Malé; Goifurfehendu; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; "throughout the group." W & G p. 75 as Oldenlandia biflora L. "Kudingaybelamaw,"Eyaganawatura", "Beem magu."

Hedyotis corymbosa (L.) Lam.
Malé, W & G p. 75 as Oldenlandia corymbosa L.

Hedyotis umbellata (L.) Lam.
Malé, Malé I., common in grassy area on top of old fort, Fosberg, 36909; common in dense weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36857. "Em mudi." Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 75 as Oldenlandia umbellata L. "Emmuli."

Morinda citrifolia L.
Malé, Furannafuri I., occasional in coconut plantation, Fosberg 36904. "Ahi."

Morinda citrifolia var. bracteata Hook.f.
Malé, Kuda Bados I., occasional in coconut plantation, Fosberg 36888. "Ahi."
Malé; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; S. Mahlos. W & G p. 76. "Ahi."
Goodeniaceae

**Scaevola sericea** Vahl
- Male, Male I., dominant in scrub at top of seaward beach, Fosberg 36834. "Magu."
- Male; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; "the most numerous shrub in the group."
  - W & G p. 79 as *Scaevola koenigii* Vahl. "Magu."

**Compositae**

**Adenostemma viscosum** Forst.
- Male; S. Mahlos; Kolumadulu; Goifurfehendu; Addu, W & G p. 77. "Poni-loli."

**Ageratum conyzoides** L.

**Artemisia vulgaris** L.

**Blumea membranacea** DC.
- Kolumadulu; Haddumati. W & G p. 77.

**Eclipta alba** (L.) Hassk.
- Male; Kolumadulu. W & G p. 77. "Kalukadili."

**Emilia sonchifolia** (L.) DC.
- Male, Male I., common in dense weedy sod back of beach, Fosberg 36855.
  - A dwarfed fleshy form found also on Ceylon beaches. "Hiri Kulla."
- Male; Goifurfehendu; in S. of Archipelago. W & G p. 78. "Hirikulla."

**Lactuca polycephala** Benth.
- Goifurfehendu. W & G p. 78.

**Lactuca pinnatifida** Cass.
- Male; Male I., common in grassy area on top of old fort, Fosberg 36910.
  - "Hula fila." Used as potherb.
- Male; Goifurfehendu; N. Mahlos. W & G p. 78. "Dardu fila", "Kadapi", "Kulla fila."

**Spondrella nodiflora** (L.) Gaertn.
- Male, Male I., common locally in waste places, Fosberg 36851.
  - "Mirihivan kandidi."

**Tithonia diversifolia** A. Gray

**Tridax procumbens** L.
- Male, Male I., very common generally, Fosberg 36865. "Mavina."

**Vernonia cinerea** (L.) Less.
- Male, Male I., common, Fosberg 36874. "Walu kafa."
- Male; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; common throughout group.
  - W & G p. 76. "Walu kafa."
Wedelia biflora (L.) DC. ex Wight
Malé, Malé I., common in inner edges of scrub at top of seaward beach,
Fosberg 36837. "Mirihi."
Malé; S. Mahlos; Goifurfehendu; Kolumadulu; common in entire group.
W & G p. 77. "Mirihi."
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