Supporting Information

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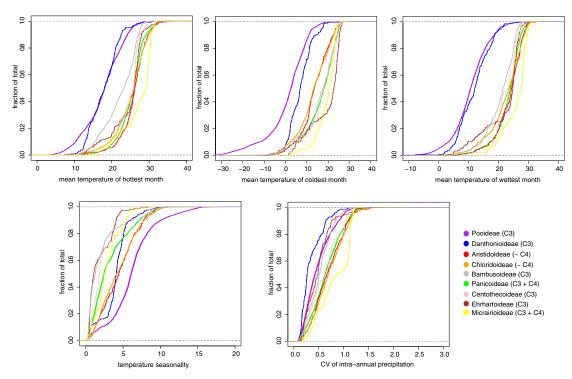


Fig. S1. Species accumulation curves for climate variables, sorted by major grass lineage. These data represent 1,584,351 independent collection localities spread across 10,469 taxa. Each point in the curve is a species' mean value.

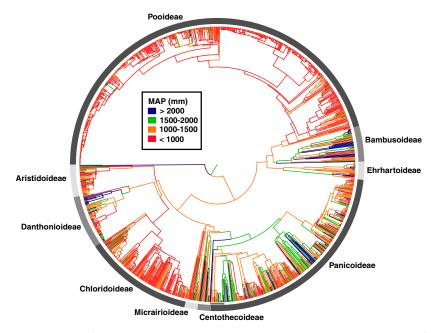


Fig. S2. Maximum likelihood reconstructions of mean annual precipitation (MAP), using species' mean values generated from 1,146,612 geo-referenced herbarium specimens.

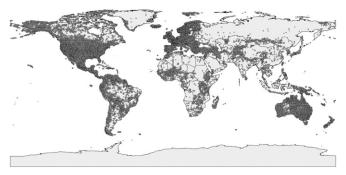


Fig. S3. Global distribution of 1,584,351 geo-referenced grass collections, accessed via the Global Biodiversity Information Facility web portal (http://www.gbif.org/).

Table S1. Node descriptions, bootstrap support, and climatic ranges for descendant species of C₃/C₄ nodes

Node description	ML bootstrap support values	# C ₃ species	# C ₄ species	C₃ range MAT	C ₄ range MAT	C_3 range T_{max}	C ₄ range T _{max}	C₃ range T _{min}	C_4 range T_{min}	C ₃ range T _{wettes t}	C ₄ range T _{wettest}
Danthoniodeae/ Chloridoideae	61	71	148	4–19	8–28	10–29	16–34	-7-18	-7-25	2–22	5–29
Danth+Chloridoid/ Aristidoideae	83	219	43	4–28	12–28	10–34	21–32	-7-25	-2-24	2–29	12–29
C ₃ Centothecoideae/ Tristachya avenaceae	37	4	1	17–25	20–20	24–26	23–23	11–24	17–17	12–26	22–22
C ₃ Centothecoideae/ Loudetia simplex	39	3	1	15–18	25–25	26–27	28–28	3–7	22–22	18–20	24–24
Streptostachys asperifolia/ Axonopus	51*	1	2	26–26	20–25	27–27	25–26	25–25	13–24	26–26	22–24
Ichnanthus/Axonopus +Paspalum	69*	7	28	20–26	16–25	22–27	18–28	13–25	6–23	21–26	17–26
Steinchisma laxa/ Panicum decompositum	85*	1	1	21–21	24–24	27–27	26–26	13–13	22–22	25–25	25–25
Steinchismal Steinchisma hians	96*	3	1	21–24	18–18	25–27	27–27	13–21	9–9	24–25	21–21
Panicum pilosum/ Panicum amarum	70*	1	1	16–16	25–25	26–26	26–26	25–25	25–25	23–23	25–25
Steinchisma- Hymanachne/ Leptocoryphium Ianatum	67*	11	1	16–25	24–24	25–27	26–26	6–23	22–22	21–26	25–25
Panicum mertensii/ Panicum caricoides	96*	1	1	26–26	26–26	27–27	28–28	25–25	24–24	26–26	26–26
Panicum mertensii- caricoides/ Panicum stenodes	100*	2	1	26–26	26–26	27–28	27–27	25–25	24–24	26–26	26–26
Apochloa chnoodes/ Panicum prionits clade	94*	1	4	21–21	15–23	22–22	25–27	20–20	3–18	21–21	19–25
Homolepis etc./ Cyphonanthus discrepans	0*	11	1	15–26	26–26	22–28	28–28	3–25	25–25	19–26	26–26
X = 10 Paniceae/ Andropogoneae	46*	60	103	15–26	9–27	18–28	19–31	3–25	-4-25	17–26	10–30
Homopholis prolutal Panicum repens	100*	1	1	17–17	20–20	24–24	27–27	9–9	13–13	16–16	20–20
Panicum sp./ Echinochloa	0*	4	11	20–22	10–28	23–26	18–32	16–19	1–23	20–22	12–29
Acroceras-Ottochloa/ Alloteropsis	0*	2	2	24–24	23–24	26–26	27–27	21–22	18–20	25–26	26–26
Forest shade clade/ Digitaria-Cenchrus- Setaria	0*	47	85	10–28	7–29	18–32	15–34	-2-24	-2-24	12–29	13–29
Centothecoideae +Panicoideae/ Loudetiopsis	94	314	1	7–29	23–23	16–34	25–25	-4-25	20–20	10–30	24–24
chrysothrix Isachne/ Eriachne	100	2	5	21–21	22–27	22–23	26–31	17–19	14–23	21–22	26–28

Because of high topological uncertainty within Panicoideae, this region of the tree was subjected to additional Bayesian sensitivity analyses. Bold lettering indicates the C₄ component of the sister taxa. Shaded pairs were removed for the 17-node analyses because of uncertainties either in character coding (*Steinchisma hians*) or in taxon identification from National Center for Biotechnology Information entries (remaining three). Temperature values are °C; precipitation values are mm ^{-year}. MAT, mean annual temperature; ML, maximum likelihood; T_{max}, average temperature of the warmest month; T_{min}, average temperature of the coldest month; T_{wettest}, average temperature of the wettest month.

^{*}The node is found within Panicoideae.

Table S2. Node descriptions, bootstrap support, and climatic ranges for descendant species of C₃/C₄ nodes

Node description	ML bootstrap support value	# C ₃ species	# C ₄ species	C ₃ range T _{seasonality}	C ₄ range T _{seasonality}	C₃ range MAP	C ₄ range MAP	C ₃ range P _{seasonality}	C ₄ range P _{seasonality}
Danthoniodeae/Chloridoideae	61	71	148	0.3-9.4	0.8-10.8	237–3540	70–2601	0.14-0.75	0.20-1.4
Danth+Chloridoid/Aristidoideae	83	219	43	0.3-10.8	0.7-9.5	70-3540	138-2293	0.14-1.42	0.19-1.5
C ₃ Centothecoideae/ <i>Tristachya</i> avenaceae	37	4	1	0.7–4.7	2.3–2.3	425–2906	1140–1140	0.34–0.62	1.13–1.13
C ₃ Centothecoideae/Loudetia simplex	39	3	1	7.4–8.4	1.9–1.9	1187–1337	1019–1019	0.20-0.22	1.01–1.01
Streptostachys asperifolia/Axonopus	51*	1	2	8.0–8.0	0.6–4.4	2335–2335	1606–2288	0.38-0.65	0.63-0.63
Ichnanthus/ Axonopus +	69*	7	28	0.5-4.4	0.7-7.3	1606-2823	499-3054	0.38-0.65	0.24-1.1
Paspalum									
Steinchisma laxal	85*	1	1	5.2-5.2	1.6–1.6	936–936	1979–1979	0.79-0.79	0.54-0.54
Panicum decompositum	0.54	_		4653	65.65	026 4070	4220 4220	0.46.070	0.24 0.24
Steinchisma/ Steinchisma hians	96*	3	1	1.6–5.2	6.5–6.5		1239–1239	0.46-0.79	
Panicum pilosum/	70*	1	1	7.4–7.4	1.1–1.1	813-813	2496–2496	0.79–0.79	0.52–0.52
Panicum amarum	674			4474		043 3530	4024 4024	0.00.005	0.64.0.64
Steinchisma-Hymanachne/Leptocoryphium	67*	11	1	1.1–7.4	1.4–1.4	813–2529	1931–1931	0.23-0.95	0.61–0.61
lanatum	0.54				4040	4402 4402	044.044	0.65.0.65	42.42
Panicum mertensii/Panicum caricoides	96*	1	1	0.9–0.9	1.0–1.0	1183–1183	914–914	0.65–0.65	1.2–1.2
Panicum	100*	2	1	0.9-1.0	1.0-1.0	914–1183	1844-1844	0.65-1.2	0.69-0.69
mertensii-caricoides/Panicum									
stenodes									
Apochloa chnoodes/Panicum prionits clade	94**	1	4	0.5–0.5	3.6–8.3	1061–1061	1198–1919	0.46–0.46	0.20–0.73
Homolepis etc./Cyphonanthus discrepans	0*	11	1	0.5–8.3	0.9–0.9	914–2520	1319–1319	0.20–1.2	0.42-0.42
X = 10 Paniceae/ Andropogoneae	46*	60	103	0.5–8.3	0.6–9.4	499–3054	409–2571	0.20–1.2	0.19–1.3
Homopholis proluta/Panicum repens	100*	1	1	5.6–5.6	5.1–5.1	486–486	1017–1017	0.24-0.24	0.64-0.64
Panicum sp./ Echinochloa	0*	4	11	1.8-3.8	3.0-8.9	1500-1803	429-1448	0.33-0.99	0.23-1.3
Acroceras-Ottochloa/Alloteropsis	0*	2	2	1.3-2.1	2.5–3.4	1806–2414	1051–1530	0.47-0.61	
Forest shade clade/	0*	47	85	0.8–9.1	0.8–9.1	364–2417		0.18–1.32	
Digitaria-Cenchrus-Setaria	-					-			
Centothecoideae+Panicoideae/ Loudetiopsis chrysothrix	94	314	1	0.5–9.4	1.8–1.8	258–3180	1296–1296	0.11–1.39	0.70-0.70
Isachne/ Eriachne	100	2	5	0.8-2.1	1.9-5.5	1615–2527	491–1508	0.61-0.73	0.64-1.17

Because of high topological uncertainty within Panicoideae, this region of the tree was subjected to additional Bayesian sensitivity analyses. Bold lettering indicates the C₄ component of the sister taxa. Shaded pairs were removed for the 17-node analyses because of uncertainties either in character coding (*Steinchisma hians*) or in taxon identification from National Center for Biotechnology Information entries (remaining three). Temperature values are in °C; precipitation values are mm ^{-year}. MAP, mean annual precipitation; ML, maximum likelihood; P_{seasonality}, coefficient of variation of monthly average precipitation; T_{seasonality}, standard deviation of monthly average temperature.
*The node is found within Panicoideae.

Table S3. Independent contrast analyses across Bayesian posterior distribution of 7,001 Panicoideae topologies

Variable	Mean value of C ₃ node (±1 SE)	Mean value of C ₄ node (±1 SE)	Mean magnitude of contrast (C ₄ relative to C ₃)	# trees that were positive $(P < 0.05)$	# trees that were negative (P < 0.05)	# trees that were not different from zero (P < 0.05)	# trees with significant sign tests
MAT (°C)	22.3 (± 0.04)	21.3 (± 0.04)	-1.00	0	2	6,999	29 (–)
T _{max} (°C)	25.4 (±0.02)	26.0 (±0.02)	0.64	120	0	6,881	36 (+)
T _{min} (°C)	18.9 (±0.07)	16.0 (±0.07)	-2.83	0	320	6,681	33 (–)
T _{wettest} (°C)	23.1 (±0.04)	23.4 (±0.03)	0.26	0	0	7,001	0-
T _{seasonality}	2.35 (±0.03)	3.61 (±0.03)	1.27	768	0	6,233	1,256 (+)
MAP (mm year ⁻¹)	1762 (±7.3)	1361 (±4.5)	-400	0	5,442	1,559	1,961 (–)
P _{seasonality}	0.50 (±0.00)	0.62 (±0.00)	0.11	4,441	0	2,590	331 (+)

MAP, mean annual precipitation; MAT, mean annual temperature; $P_{seasonality}$, coefficient of variation of monthly average precipitation; T_{max} , average temperature of the warmest month; T_{min} , average temperature of the coldest month; $T_{seasonality}$, SD of monthly average temperature; $T_{wettest}$, average temperature of the wettest month.