

# Pollen flower classification now and then: Vogel (1978) revisited

Journal:	Plant Biology
Manuscript ID	Draft
Wiley - Manuscript type:	Research Article
Date Submitted by the Author:	n/a
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Keyword:	ambophily, androecium, buzz pollination, floral traits, pollination syndrome, stamen

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### Pollen flower classification now and then: Vogel (1978) revisited

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Short title: Pollen flower classification

 Key message of the paper: A new classification of pollen flowers has been proposed in a more objective way that allows these flowers to be recognized and compared based on their morphological traits.

#### **Abstract**

- "Pollen flower" describes flowers that present pollen as the only resource available for their pollinators. Such flowers are mainly pollinated by bees and present a series of morphological and functional adaptations, especially in their male reproductive organs, related to their tight interaction with pollinators. In 1978, these adaptations led the botanist Stefan Vogel to classify pollen flowers into three types: *Magnolian*, *Papaver* and *Solanum*. However, Vogel's classification was based on limited access to data from that time and, for that reason, it did not encompass all the variability of floral traits and ecological interactions that pollen flowers are currently known to present.
- In this study, we revisit the pollen flower classification of Vogel to assess whether it can still accurately describe the currently known diversity of pollen flowers or whether a new classification is needed.
- Pollen flowers were identified in 75 of the 420 angiosperm families recognized in the APG IV. Analyses of their floral morphospace identified three functional groups that are different from the original categorization proposed by Vogel and are here named poricidal type, inconspicuous type, and brush-blossom type.
- We propose a new classification that is more objective and allows pollen flowers to be compared using only their morphology rather than the type of pollinator that visits them.
- Key-words: ambophily, androecium, buzz pollination, floral traits, pollination syndrome, stamen.

#### Introduction

Despite their high variability in flower morphology, all angiosperm species produce pollen grains as the male gamete carriers during their sexual reproduction. Pollen grains may also attract and can be directly consumed by pollinators creating an evolutionary dilemma: pollen is needed as both a nutritive resource for pollinators and for plant reproduction (Westerkamp 1996; Luo *et al.* 2008). Such dilemma is deeper in flowers that offer only or mainly pollen as a reward for pollinators. The botanist Stefan Vogel (1978) called these flowers "pollen flowers", in contrast to other flowers that offer, for example, nectar, oil, or resin as reward to pollinators. In his own words

"... these are flowers which offer a surplus of pollen as the only reward to their insect visitors, instead of nectar or other substances".

Although the evolutionary transitions between pollen flowers and those that have other types of floral resources have been discussed since the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Stäger 1092; Beutler 1953) it was in this seminal paper that Vogel firstly described their evolutionary trends, presenting a classification based on both floral morphology and potential pollinators. He described the morphological traits of pollen flowers, especially of the male reproductive organs, based on presumed floral adaptations to interaction with pollinators, especially bees. He classified all variability of pollen flowers in three basic floral types called: *Magnolian, Papaver*, and *Solanum*.

According to Vogel, the *Magnolian* type would represent the most "ancestral" pollen flower. The high amount of pollen in this group is related to primary polyandry, inherited from anemophilous ancestors. This assumption was also shared by contemporaneous botanists such as Cronquist (1968), who believed that an androecium

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with many stamens was more "primitive" than those observed in oligandric flowers. The main representatives of this floral type are found in the orders Magnoliales and Nymphaeales and the pollen grains, released by small stamens, are directly eaten by beetles, which are also the main pollinators of this flower type. The *Papaver* type is also polyandric. In such flowers, pollen is predominantly used by female bees not to be directly eaten but to feed their offspring and, for this reason, this type was considered a specialization within the melittophily syndrome. Polyandric families such as Papaveraceae and Ranunculaceae represent this floral type, in addition to members of Ochnaceae, Dilleniaceae, and Cistaceae. Finally, the Solanum type comprised all oligandric, and often zygomorphic, pollen flowers. This type was considered strictly melittophilous and floral visitors have a morphological match with flowers during the visit. Pollen is released in small portions like a cloud, from the mechanical vibratory movements produced by the bees. Still according to Vogel (Vogel 1978), although some of these oligandric pollen flowers, such as Primulales, Melastomataceae, and Commelinales, probably never had nectaries, many ancestral representatives of the Solanum type are derived from oligandric nectar flowers, which sometimes still show a rudimentary and non-functional nectary.

Over the past years, there have been significant advancements in our understanding of floral trait evolution and plant-pollinator interactions (Hetherington-Rauth & Johnson 2020; Phillips *et al.* 2020; Mackin *et al.* 2021). However, it is surprising to note that there has been limited exploration regarding pollen flower classification since Vogel's seminal research, which is now more than four decades old. Vogel mentioned 37 flowering plant families to exemplify his pollen flower types and their

interaction with pollinators. Though this shows an extensive knowledge of the subject given the information accessibility of that time, it is noteworthy that his categorization was based on the angiosperm classification systems contemporary to his time (e.g., (Cronquist 1981; Takhtajan 1980). Furthermore, Vogel emphasized an evolutionary hierarchy between his three floral types (from the most 'primitive' - *Magnolian*, to the most 'modern' or 'derived' - *Solanum*) which is no longer coherent with our current understanding of the evolutionary history of floral traits. Several environmental conditions can impact the evolution of floral traits (Mackin *et al.* 2021; Trunschke *et al.* 2021) and, given that different traits are under different selective pressures (Melo *et al.* 2021; Kriebel *et al.* 2022), we cannot generalize whole clades as being more or less evolved. Moreover, there is little information about the distribution of pollen flowers in modern phylogenies, which precludes our understanding of whether different pollen flower types evolved sequentially, as proposed by Vogel, or independently, appearing several times in different clades.

In this study, we revisit Vogel's seminal work on the classification of pollen flowers with three specific aims: 1) to review which angiosperms families have species with pollen flowers in the current classification of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group IV (APG IV); 2) to analyse the phylogenetic distribution of pollen flowers in modern family-level angiosperm phylogenies to understand how they might have evolved and; 3) to analyse whether the floral types coined by Vogel have statistical support, based on our current knowledge of pollen flower biology.

#### Methods

#### Angiosperm families with pollen flowers

To compile a comprehensive list of flowering plant families that present species with pollen flowers, published data was reviewed by searching papers published from 1978 until 2022. We used the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group IV - henceforward APG IV (Chase *et al.* 2016) classification, which recognizes 64 orders and about 416 families, as a reference for our search, using each family name as a search term until all 416 families were covered. The review was performed using mainly two platforms: the Angiosperm Phylogeny website (Stevens 2016), and Google Scholar. In addition, taxonomical publications with species descriptions and herbarium photos available online (nybg.org) and, Reflora (reflora.jbrj.gov.br) were consulted to confirm some morphological traits. Family names cited before 2016, including those in Vogel (1978), required synonymization because taxonomic classification has changed over time and some families or genera have been split or merged into other groups (Stevens 2016).

#### Trait data scoring

From each of the plant families sampled, the following three floral traits were recovered from Vogel's original work: (1) type of anther dehiscence (poricidal or longitudinal), (2) pollen release (shed, exposed or small portions) and (3) number of stamens (polyandric or oligandric). Pollinator's type and behaviour, criteria investigated by Vogel, was not included in the analysis because they are extrinsic factors not directly linked to floral morphology. We did, however, take note of primary pollinators (bees, beetles, or others) and their interactions with the flower when this information was available (Table SI-1).

With this information gathered, we selected additional traits that are currently known to influence the behaviour of pollinators in pollen flowers and could improve floral type classification. The new traits annotated were: (1) stamen dimorphism (Vogel 1978; Vallejo-Marin *et al.* 2009), (2) isolated or grouped flowers (Krick & Ackerman 2015; Costa *et al.* 2017; Timerman & Barrett 2018), (3) floral display as "shooting-star", "brushblossom" or none (Russell *et al.* 2016), (4) reduced petals (Matthews & Endress 2006), (5) colour contrasting stamen in relation to the petal colour (Lunau *et al.* 2017; Dellinger *et al.* 2021; Melo *et al.* 2021), (6) radial or zygomorphic floral symmetry (Stebbins 1974; Marazzi *et al.* 2007; Vallejo-Marín *et al.* 2010), (7) diurnal or nocturnal anthesis (Cordeiro *et al.* 2021), and (8) other floral resources (e.g., thermogenesis and oil offered by glands) (Silberbauer-Gottsberger *et al.* 2001). These new floral traits were selected based on their morphological relevance and functional importance during flower-pollinator interaction (Stebbins 1951; Sargent 2004; Endress 2011; Paterno *et al.* 2020) - Table SI-2.

To perform a statistical revaluation of the pollen flower types described by Vogel (1978), we compared three morphospaces. The first one included only the three floral traits and angiosperm families mentioned by Vogel (Vogel 1978). The second uses only the three floral traits mentioned by Vogel but includes both the original families cited by him plus those recovered as having pollen flowers in our literature review. Finally, the third morphospace includes all families (original Vogel plus our review) and uses eight additional floral traits that were found to be relevant to pollen flower pollination along our review. By comparing the three morphospaces, our goal was to discuss how adding new possibilities of trait combinations could cluster new pollen-flower groups.

The scoring was performed at the family level, i.e., the attributed value refers to the existence of at least one species or genus with those traits in that family - as listed in - Table SI-1. For example, although we know that not all Fabaceae species have pollen flowers, the family was included in our list because some genera and species within this family have pollen flowers. In fact, in the case of Fabaceae, there are two clearly distinct types of pollen flowers within the family, which here are called Fabaceae 1 (e.g., *Acacia* sp. and *Swartzia* sp.) and Fabaceae 2 (e.g., *Cassia* sp., *Chamaecrista* sp. and *Senna* sp.). With the exception of Fabaceae where at least two types of pollen flowers are clearly present, all other families were represented by a single data point.

### Morphospaces and Cluster Analysis

To visualize how families are distributed in the morphospace, we performed non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) based on floral traits considering the Euclidean distances between data points, using the *metaMDS* function of the *vegan* package (Oksanen *et al.* 2022) to find a stable solution. We used several random starts and the *geom\_jitter* function of the *ggplot2* package (Wickham 2016), which adds a small amount of random variation to the location of each point, for visualization.

Subsequently, to assess whether there was statistical support for clustering of families in the morphospace, a k-means cluster analysis was performed based on the family scores on the NMDS1 and NMDS2 axis of the morphospace. K-mean clustering is a simple non-supervised algorithm that estimates the best position of the centroid for each previously defined k clusters on the morphospace by minimizing the distances between the centroid and the data points (Frades & Matthiesen 2010). At the end of the process, a given data point (family) is ascribed to its nearest centroid, defining the

clusters. To search for the optimal cluster number, we used a gap statistic which compares the total intracluster variation for different values of k (in our case from 2 to 10) with their expected values under a null reference distribution generated by Monte Carlo simulations (Tibshirani *et al.* 2001). The gap statistic is computed using the function *clusGap* from the *cluster* package (Maechler *et al.* 2022). The optimal number of clusters is the one with highest gap statistic which can be assessed using the function  $fviz\_gap\_stat$  from the package factoextra (Kassambara & Mundt 2020). All analyses were performed in the R environment (Core Team 2020).

## Phylogenetic distribution of pollen flowers

We used the family-level phylogeny of seed plants made by (Qian & Zhang 2014) to visualize the distribution of families with different pollen flower types over the angiosperm phylogeny. This phylogeny included 425 families of angiosperms – (12 gymnosperms families were removed) and was chosen because it is appropriate for phylogenetic analyses of functional traits at the family-level, being the closest family-level phylogeny to the current classification (APG IV) used to review families with pollen flowers. We indicated the presence of the different flower pollen types in this family-level phylogeny using iTOL - Interactive Tree of Life (Letunic & Bork 2021).

#### Results

Pollen flower types based on morphological traits

Vogel's original work described species or genera of pollen flowers in 38 botanical families belonging to 19 angiosperm orders, of which eight belonged to the *Magnolian* type, 11 to the *Papaver* type and 18 to the *Solanum* type. In our review, 130

works were analysed, including books and papers and we identified 78 families presenting pollen flowers and belonging to 28 angiosperm orders (Table SI-1). The 40 newly recognized families encompass species with pollen flowers in at least one of their genera. The families Corsiaceae, Rhabdodrendaceae, Clethraceae, Calceolariaceae, and Hydinoraceae present species with pollen flowers, but they were removed from subsequent analyses due to limited morphological data.

We identified a clear clustering in the morphospace built using the original three floral traits and 38 families of pollen flowers proposed in Vogel's original work (Figure 1A). However, when all 73 families with pollen flowers are analysed for these traits, an overlap between clusters is observed, showing that the original traits do not allow a clear distinction between the pollen flower types proposed by Vogel when current pollen flower diversity is considered (Figure 1B). Finally, when analysing the morphospace containing all 73 families and adding the eight additional floral traits, we recover three clusters, suggesting three floral types (Figure 1C). These new clusters, however, do not coincide with Vogel's original types in terms of traits nor taxonomic representation at the family level.

In these new clusters, we found that the vast majority of pollen flowers analysed are bisexual, presenting gynoecium and androecium in the same flower. The first group of pollen flowers is composed of plant families that present flowers with anthers with longitudinal dehiscence, shed or exposed pollen grains, radial symmetry, many stamens (polyandric) and commonly brush-blossom floral display. This group, which we call the "brush-blossom type" (Figure 2A) includes families such as Myrtaceae, Lythraceae, Papaveraceae, Magnoliaceae, Nymphaeaceae, among others (Table SI-3). The second

group is composed of families that also have flowers with anthers with longitudinal dehiscence. However, in this group, their flowers are mostly grouped, small and with reduced petals and few stamens (oligandric). The families Araceae, Canellaceae, Cyperaceae, Ruppiaceae, among others, belong to this group (Table SI-3), which we call the "inconspicuous type" (Figure 2B). The last group comprises families that mostly have anthers with poricidal dehiscence and the pollen grains being released through small portions. In addition, they often have few stamens (oligandric), which contrast with the petal's colours, radial symmetry, and a shooting-star floral display (Vallejo-Marin & Russell 2024). We call this the "poricidal type" (Figure 2C). This group includes families such as Melastomataceae, Primulaceae, Commelinaceae, Iridaceae, Ochnaceae, Solanaceae and Fabaceae 2 (Table SI-3).

## Distribution of pollen flowers in the angiosperm phylogeny

A visualization of the phylogenetic distribution of pollen flowers over the angiosperm phylogeny suggests that there is no single origin for any of the pollen flower types recognized in our analyses. They have probably arisen several times independently, under different pressures and environmental contexts. The brush-blossom type is more common within the ANA grade, the Magnoliids and Monocots clades. The poricidal type, on the other hand, is represented by families in several clades throughout the phylogeny, from Magnoliids to Asterids. Finally, the inconspicuous type also has a more restricted distribution to clades of early diversification within flowering plants (Figure 3).

#### Discussion

The three pollen flower types originally proposed by Vogel do not comprise all the morphological diversity of pollen flowers currently known. By including new information on floral diversity and updated angiosperm classification, our results recovered 40 additional families with pollen flowers than what had been described in Vogel's 1978 seminal work. This means a significant increase in the number of families and potentially morphological diversity of pollen flowers, which also allowed us to refine the interpretation of floral types based on their shared morphology. Our results show that, considering recent data on floral traits linked to interaction with pollinators, pollen flowers are better classified in three new functional types. These previously unveiled morphological combinations, together with the pollination systems that they may be associated with, is likely to facilitate our understanding of the ecology and evolution of pollen flowers.

The role of pollination biology studies in understanding pollen flower classification

Pollination syndromes and floral biology had been debated long before the first studies on pollen flowers (Stäger 1092; Vogel 1954; Werth 1956; van der Pijl 1961; Faegri & van Der Pijl 1966) and the types proposed by Vogel were important for understanding the interaction between these flowers and their pollinators. However, Vogel grouped families that are very morphologically distinct together based mainly on the fact that they tend to be pollinated by similar functional group of pollinators (e.g., he classified Araceae and Magnoliaceae flowers as *Magnolian* type due to beetle pollination), rather than classifying them in terms of individual floral traits, which in turn can be easily measured and compared. Including information about the pollination biology in this type of categorization may be impractical because, despite the conserved floral morphology within species, floral visitors can be diverse and vary with location (Lefebvre

et al. 2018; Dellinger et al. 2021). However, information on pollination biology can be used a posteriori to interpret morphological groupings, as exemplified by analyses of pollination syndromes (Ollerton et al. 2009).

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Currently, some plant-pollinator interactions in pollen flowers are already well known and described (e.g., Melastomataceae and bees (Konzmann et al. 2020; Bochorny et al. 2021; Passos et al. 2022; Valadão-Mendes et al. 2022). However, others need more studies and observations, such as plants that show ambophily, as some flowers in Cyperaceae. This family is characteristically anemophilous, but there are some reports of species adapted to entomophily as well. For example, reproductive tests indicated that Rhynchospora ciliata is self-incompatible and that ambophily enhances its reproductive success (Costa & Machado 2012). Ambophily, i.e., plants that are pollinated either by biotic or abiotic vectors (Culley et al. 2002), are not addressed by Vogel in his work. However, in our literature review we identified at least 10 families with flowers that offer only pollen as floral resource for insect pollinators that may also spread their pollen through wind (e.g., Cyperaceae and Ranunculaceae) or water (Hydrocharitaceae and Ruppiaceae) (Tanaka et al. 2004; Duan et al. 2009; Costa et al. 2017), all of which belong to the inconspicuous type as described here. As stated earlier, information about the pollination systems of these families is still scarce and further investigations are needed. It is also necessary to understand whether these ambophilous examples are truly adapted to two pollination modes, or whether they are mainly adapted to aquatic ecosystems (Taylor et al. 2018), or to wind, like some anemophilous systems (Tanaka et al. 2004), and only opportunistically use insects as vectors. In addition, some plants, like some of the families mentioned above

(Cyperaceae and Hydrocharitaceae), can act in more than one pollination mode and thus ensure greater reproductive success (Tanaka *et al.* 2004; Costa & Machado 2012; Costa *et al.* 2017).

A new perspective on the diversity of pollen flowers

Vogel's classification leaves little room for trait combinations that do not strictly follow one of his originally proposed pollen flower types. Therefore, families or clusters that have unpredicted trait combinations are not classifiable in his system. For example, the genus *Dalechampia* (Euphorbiaceae) has species with both poricidal anthers and polyandry and belongs to our newly categorized brush-blossom type, but it does not fit into any of Vogel's original floral types (Armbruster *et al.* 2013). Although we also found three functional clusters of pollen flowers, our classification is perhaps more flexible because the new clusters include previously unclassifiable families. Also, the new classification is more objective, and the plants can be compared depending on their morphological traits, and not directly on the type of pollinator that visits them.

When we compare both classifications, our brush-blossom type brings together eight families of the *Papaver* type and six families of the *Magnolian* type of Vogel's (1978). In addition to these, nine new families containing a set of specific traits of this group are presented (Table SI-3). It is interesting to note that this group includes two of the families that named two of Vogel's three original floral types, namely Papaveraceae and Magnoliaceae. The fact that they belong to the same group in our new classification highlights the similarities in their floral traits. Flowers of the brush-blossom type usually have large and striking petals. The stamens are many, sometimes contrasting with the petals, and are often highlighted in a brush-blossom display, which favours the contact

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of floral visitors with the anthers with longitudinal dehiscence. Thus, we suggest that this group has the most morphologically generalist pollen flowers - sensu (Ollerton *et al.* 2011), as they are attractive (considering their colours, shapes, and sizes) to different pollinator groups, and the pollen grains are completely available. For the flowers analysed from these families, visits from beetles, bees, flies, thrips, and other small insects were reported in the literature (Endress 1986; Bhunia *et al.* 2012; Erbar 2014).

According to our newly proposed classification, the inconspicuous type is not very representative for the families originally presented by Vogel. Only three families cited by Vogel were classified within this group (Philydraceae, formerly Solanum type, and Araceae and Pandanaceae, formerly Magnolian type). None of the other 18 families belonging to this group were considered by Vogel's seminal paper, including Juncaginaceae, Piperaceae, Poaceae, Zosteraceae, among others (Table SI-3). It is worth to mention that they were not considered at the time of Vogel's work perhaps because they were seen only as anemophilous flowers. However, some more recent studies have proposed that the floral structures do offer resources and allow legitimate interactions with animal pollinators in Cyperaceae, Poaceae and Trimeniaceae (Bernhardt et al. 2003; Wolowski & Freitas 2015; Costa et al. 2017). The main morphological traits of the flowers of this cluster are related to the pollination systems in which these pollen flowers are involved. For example, although many of these flowers have reduced petals (thus being comparatively less attractive to animal pollinators than other pollen flower types), longitudinal dehiscence may leave pollen grains more exposed to visitors and easily accessible during the plant-pollinator interaction (Costa et al. 2017). The studies reviewed reported visits by beetles, flies, hoverflies, bees, some small insects and even

vertebrates in flowers of this group, such as the pollination of *Freycinetia reineckei* (Pandanaceae) by flying foxes (Pteropidae – flying foxes) (Cox 1990).

There are 28 families in the poricidal type, including 18 families that belonged to Vogel's *Solanum* type; two families, classified as *Papaver* type (Begoniaceae and Ericaceae) and seven new families included by our review (Asphodelaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Iridaceae, Mayacaceae, Pittosporaceae, Pontederiaceae and Tecophilaeaceae). Most families, unlike those in the other two groups, bear anthers with poricidal dehiscence. In this way, pollen is not easily accessible and is released in small portions like a cloud by mechanical vibratory movements of bees (De Luca & Vallejo-Marin 2013). This interaction is known as *buzz pollination* and occurs in species from 65 angiosperm families (De Luca & Vallejo-Marín 2013; Vallejo-Marin 2019). Vogel presented the *Solanum* type as being the most specialized (i.e. strictly 'melittophilous') and, in fact, poricidal anthers may exclude some visitors (e.g. pollen eating beetles and flies), which corroborates a more specialized interaction (De Luca & Vallejo-Marin 2013).

In addition, poricidal anthers combined with stamen dimorphism, another common trait in families of this group, can help increase the efficiency of pollen transfer by releasing pollen into specific areas of the pollinator's body called "safe sites" (Vallejo-Marin & Russell 2024; Koch *et al.* 2017). Heteranthery occur in 16 families of angiosperms (Vallejo-Marin *et al.* 2010), 12 of which present pollen flowers (Aizoaceae, Commelinaceae, Tecophilaeaceae, Dilleniaceae, Malvaceae, Bixaceae, Fabaceae 2 (*Cassia, Senna* and *Chamaecrista*), Lythraceae, Malpighiaceae, Melastomataceae, Lecythidaceae, and Solanaceae). As one set of stamens offer pollen grains as a food source for bees while the other produce pollen for pollination, the presence of two

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stamen sets of different morphologies within the same flower has been interpreted as a functional division of labour (Luo *et al.* 2008; Vallejo-Marin *et al.* 2009). The two sets of stamens can be distinct in their colour, for instance when one set present colour contrast in relation to the petal, while the other set has a cryptic colour, such as *Microlicia cordata* (Melastomataceae) (Velloso *et al.* 2018). In other cases, the difference in size between the sets of stamens may be more relevant than the colour contrast - as seen in (Brito *et al.* 2021; Melo *et al.* 2021). The division of labour between the two sets of stamens further reinforces the presence of a well-specialized plant-pollinator relationship (Dellinger *et al.* 2019; Telles *et al.* 2020; Nunes *et al.* 2021).

The floral traits associated with the poricidal type are seen as an evolutionary convergence to the "solanoid" floral form which has been pointed out several times in the past by Delpino (1868) and cited in (Vallejo-Marin & Russell 2024; Macior 1964; Faegri 1986; Harder & Barclay 1994). Some common traits of these flowers are reflected petals, prominent stamen cone, poricidal anthers and absence of nectar (Endress 1994; Matthews & Endress 2002). Flowers that have reflected petals often present a shootingstar display, which strongly highlight their stamens at the front of the flower. Even though these flowers have few stamens, these are prominent to floral visitors (Harder & Barclay 1994). The evolution of poricidal dehiscent anthers likely had a significant impact on the ability of different types of pollinators to remove pollen (Buchmann 1983; De Luca & Vallejo-Marin 2013; Pereira Nunes & Vallejo-Marin 2022). Although pollen release by vibration is not associated with a single type of floral morphology (Buchmann 1983), some floral morphologies, such as "solanoid" or "Solanum type", appear to have evolved specifically in response to pollen collection by vibrating bees and represents an adaptative peak for buzz-pollinated plants (Vallejo-Marin & Russell 2024; Faegri & van

Der Pijl 1966; Vogel 1978; Harder & Barclay 1994; Matthews & Endress 2002; De Luca & Vallejo-Marin 2013). In his work, Vogel (1978) focuses on pollination by deceit, and the flowers belonging to this group are those that present the morphology that best allows the flower to "deceive" the pollinator [e.g. ref]. In that way, the poricidal type is perhaps the closest representation of the more classic view of pollen flower in the context originally proposed by Vogel.

During our review, we noticed that *buzz pollination* occurs in families that do not belong to the poricidal type. Thus, this pollination mode is not exclusive to plants with poricidal anthers. Bees may also perform vibratory movements to collect pollen in some plants with longitudinal opening anther, such as the flowers of the genus *Swartzia* (Fabaceae 1) that are visited by carpenter bees (*Xylocopa*) (Lopes & Machado 1996; Pinheiro *et al.* 2018; Basso-Alves *et al.* 2022). Other authors, including Vogel himself, also mention the use of vibration in the pollination of other species with non-poricidal anthers (Buchmann 1985; de Oliveira & Sazima 1990; Fidalgo *et al.* 2009; Nevard *et al.* 2021).

#### Pollen flowers in the angiosperm phylogeny

The brush-blossom flowers are common in early-diverging angiosperm families, such as those of the ANA grade, Magnoliids and Chlroranthales. They can be also found in families of the order Ranunculales, as well as in Myrtales and Caryophyllales. Although most prevalent in these groups, this type of flower has likely arisen multiple times throughout evolutionary history of flowering plants. Many families within the brush-blossom type are classified as *Magnolian* type according to the classification proposed by Vogel (1978). In his work, he suggested that these flowers probably predated nectar

flowers and could be the oldest pollen flowers in the evolutionary history of angiosperms. Interestingly, a recent reconstruction of the flower of the most recent common ancestor of all extant angiosperms bears a remarkable resemblance to the flowers found in the brush-blossom type (Sauquet *et al.* 2017), potentially supporting Vogel's idea.

Families belonging to the poricidal type are not present among the early-diverging angiosperm families. The diversification of these flowers is probably influenced by several biotic and abiotic factors in their respective habitats (e.g., pollinators, temperature) and the emergence of important innovations (traits flexibility) that may have facilitated the adaptation and diversification of these plants as suggested by (Onstein 2020). The inconspicuous type families tend to appear earlier on the phylogeny. They can be found in the clades Canellales, Piperales, Pandanales, Poales and Ranunculales. Its emergence is less frequent and concentrated in clades that share a common origin. This indicates that they form a more conserved group within the evolutionary history of pollen flowers. It is important to note that most of the families mentioned in this category were not included in Vogel's work and were only recognized for having pollen flowers after our study.

## **Conclusion**

Vogel's work in 1978 was undoubtedly significant for classifying flower types based on their interactions with pollinators. However, we find that his original classification is insufficient considering our current understanding of the vast diversity of pollen flowers. Attempting to fit all recognized pollen flowers into the existing floral types of *Magnolian, Papaver*, and *Solanum* would be impractical and insufficient. In our

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research, we present a new perspective on the classification of pollen flowers. Rather than relying mainly on pollinator interaction, we advocate the analysis of individual morphological traits, spanning the full spectrum of known pollen flower diversity. By expanding the sampling of floral morphological traits, we can reach a wider range of combinations between these characters. In conclusion, our research suggests a move away from Vogel's classification and encourages a more inclusive and comprehensive classification of pollen flowers based on morphological traits.

## 441 Acknowledgements

442 We thank Anselmo Nogueira, Agnes Dellinger, Lucas Bacci, Thuane Bochorny, Marcelo 443 Monge, and Ana Flávia Versiane as well as one anonymous reviewer for their feedback helping us to improve your manuscript substantially. This study was financed in part by 444 445 the Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior – Brazil (CAPES) – 446 Finance Code 001 to LRFM. Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de Minas Gerais [grant RED-00253-16 and RED-00039-23] and Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento 447 Científico e Tecnológico [grants 308107/2021-7, 423939/2021-1, 401843/2022-0 and 448 449 350145/2022-9 to VLGB].

E. C.

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#### Captions

**Figure 1**. (A) Morphospace is based on three floral traits proposed by Vogel (1978), including the 38 families of pollen flowers he mentioned. (B) Morphospace based on the same three floral traits as in A, but this time including both Vogel's (1978) original families plus 35 new families found to have pollen flowers in our review. (C) Morphospace is based on 11 morphological traits and includes all 73 families. The families included in the three highlighted clusters do not coincide with those present in Vogel's original pollen flower classification (*Magnolian, Papaver*, and *Solanum*).

Figure 2. The most important floral traits composing each pollen flower group in our reviewed analyses using 11 floral traits in 73 families. The predominance of floral traits (A) for the 24 families within the brush-blossom type, (B) for the 21 families within the inconspicuous type, and (C) for the 28 families within the poricidal type.

**Figure 3.** Families of the three groups of pollen flowers proposed in the new classification, along the Phylogeny of Angiosperm Families (*Qian & Zhang 2014*)- adapted. The illustrations are available in (*Watson & Dallwitz*). Version: 25th July 2023. (Illustrations edited by João Pedro Santos Pereira).





## **Supplementary information**

Table SI 1 – List of species or genera analysed within each family considering traits proposed by Vogel.

CaryophyllalesAizoaceaeSesuviumSesuvium portulacastrumL.papaverlongitudinalexposedbeesforagebiotic6MagnolialesAnnonaceaeAnnonaceaeAnnona squamosaL.magnolianlongitudinalshedbeetlesactively eatbiotic25AlismatalesAraceaePhilodendronPhilodendron bipinnatifidumSchottmagnolianporicidalshedbeetlesactively eatbiotic1AustrobaileyalesAustrobaileyaceaeAustrobaileya scandensWhitenewlongitudinalshedfliesactively eatbiotic12CucurbitalesBegoniaceaeBegoniaBegonia integerrimaSpreng.papaverporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic30MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic30LamialesByblidaceaeByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalsmall portionbeesbiotic30CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiaEmpaverexposedbeesforagebiotic15	1 to 12 12 to 25 4 to 100 50 to 150 5	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [8]
MagnolialesAnnonaceaeAnnona squamosaL.magnolianlongitudinalshedbeetlesactively eatbiotic25AlismatalesAraceaePhilodendronPhilodendron bipinnatifidumSchottmagnolianporicidalshedbeetlesactively eatbiotic1AustrobaileyalesAustrobaileyaceaeAustrobaileyaAustrobaileya scandensWhitenewlongitudinalshedfliesactively eatbiotic12CucurbitalesBegoniaceaeBegoniaBegonia integerrimaSpreng.papaverporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic5MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic5LamialesByblidaceaeByblisByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalsmall portionbeesbiotic5CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiaExposedbeesforagebiotic15	25 to 100 1 to 12 12 to 25 4 to 100 50 to 150	[3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [8]
Alismatales Araceae Philodendron Philodendron bipinnatifidum Schott magnolian poricidal shed beetles actively eat biotic 1  Austrobaileyales Austrobaileyaceae Austrobaileya Austrobaileya scandens White new longitudinal shed flies actively eat biotic 12  Cucurbitales Begoniaceae Begonia Begonia integerrima Spreng. papaver poricidal small portion bees buzz biotic 4  Malvales Bixaceae Bixa Bixa orellana L. solanum poricidal small portion bees buzz biotic 50  Lamiales Byblidaceae Byblis Byblis gigantea Lindl. new poricidal small portion bees buzz biotic 50  Caryophyllales Cactaceae Opuntia papaver exposed bees forage biotic 15  Romero,	1 to 12 12 to 25 4 to 100 50 to 150 5	[3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [8]
AustrobaileyalesAustrobaileyaceaeAustrobaileyaAustrobaileya scandensWhitenewlongitudinalshedfliesactively eatbiotic12CucurbitalesBegoniaceaeBegoniaBegonia integerrinaSpreng.papaverporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic4MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic5LamialesByblidaceaeByblisByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalbeesbiotic5CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiapapaverexposedbeesforagebiotic15	12 to 25 4 to 100 50 to 150	[5] [6] [7] [8]
CucurbitalesBegoniaceaeBegoniaBegonia integerrinaSpreng.papaverporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic4MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic50LamialesByblidaceaeByblisByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalbeesbiotic5CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiapapaverexposedbeesforagebiotic15Romero,Romero,Bomero,Romero,RomeroBomero	4 to 100 50 to 150 5	[5] [6] [7] [8]
MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic50LamialesByblidaceaeByblisByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalbeesbiotic5CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiapapaverexposedbeesforagebiotic15Romero,Romero,	50 to 150 5	[6] [7] [8]
MalvalesBixaceaeBixaBixa orellanaL.solanumporicidalsmall portionbeesbuzzbiotic50LamialesByblidaceaeByblisByblis giganteaLindl.newporicidalbeesbiotic5CaryophyllalesCactaceaeOpuntiapapaverexposedbeesforagebiotic15Romero,	5	[8]
Caryophyllales Cactaceae Opuntia papaver exposed bees forage biotic 15 Romero,		
Caryophyllales Cactaceae Opuntia papaver exposed bees forage biotic 15 Romero,	15 to 100	[9]
Lamiales Calceolariaceae Calceolaria Calceolaria comulcana Bussmann & new bees biotic  Puppo		[10]
Canellalles Canellaceae Cinnamodendro n Cinnamodendron dinisii Schwacke new longitudinal bees biotic		[11]
Canellalles Canellaceae Canella new longitudinal		[12]
Chloranthales Chloranthas Chloranthus Chloranthus Serratus Thunb. new longitudinal thrips biotic		[13]
Chloranthales Chloranthas Chloranthus Chloranthus fortunei A. Gray new longitudinal thrips biotic		[13]
	1 to 2	[14]
	3 to 100	[15]
	10	[16]
Ericales Clethraceae Rariglanda Rariglanda jerseyensis Martinez & new bees biotic		[16]
Commelinaceae Murdannia Murdannia nudiflora (L.) Brenan solanum poricidal small portion bees biotic 1	1 to 6	[17]
Commelinaceae Dichorisandra Dichorisandra thyrsiflora J.C.Mikan solanum poricidal bees buzz biotic		[18]
Liliales Corsiaceae Corsia Becc. new longitudinal fly/fungi biotic 6	6	[19]
Pandanales         Cyclanthaceae         Cyclanthus         Cyclanthus bipartitus         Poit. ex A. Rich.         new longitudinal         beetles         biotic         10	10 to 150	[20]
Poales         Cyperaceae         Rhynchospora         Rhynchospora ciliata         (Vahl) Kukenth         new         longitudinal         bees; wind         biotic and abiotic         3	3 to 22	[21]
Magnoliales         Degeneriaceae         Degeneria         I.W. Bailey & A.C.Sm.         magnolian         longitudinal shed         beetles         biotic         30	30 to 50	[12]
Dilleniales Dilleniaceae Hibbertia Hibbertia fasciculata R.Br. ex DC. solanum poricidal small portion insects buzz biotic 15	15 to 150	[22]
Dilleniales         Dilleniaceae         Hibbertia         Hibbertia cistiflora         N.A.Wakef         solanum         poricidal         bees         buzz         biotic		[18]
Oxalidales Elaeocarpaceae Sloanea L. new poricidal small portion bees buzz biotic 12	12 to 100	[23]
Oxalidales Elaeocarpaceae Tetratheca Sm. solanum poricidal bees buzz biotic		[18]

Ericales	Ericaceae	Conostephium		Benth.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic	8 to 10	[24]
Ericales	Ericaceae	Sprengelia	Sprengelia incarnata	Sm.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[25]
Malpighiales	Euphorbiaceae	Dalechampia			new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	1 to 1000	[26]
Magnoliales	Eupomatiaceae	Eupomatia	Eupomatia laurina	R.Br.	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	beetles		biotic	25 to 100	[12]
Fabales	Fabaceae	Swartzia	Swartzia apetala	Raddi	solanum	longitudinal		bees	buzz	biotic		[27]
Fabales	Fabaceae	Cassia	Cassia alata	L.	solanum	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[28]
Fabales	Fabaceae	Senna	Senna multijuga	Rich.	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[29]
Fabales	Fabaceae	Chamaecrista	Chamaecrista desvauxii	Collad.	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[30]
Fabales	Fabaceae	Acacia	Acacia retinodes	Schltdl.	papaver	longitudinal		bees	buzz	biotic		[31]
Gentianales	Gentianaceae	Exacum	Exacum affine	Balf. f.	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	4 to 12	[18]
Lamiales	Gesneriaceae	Ramonda	Ramonda myconi	(L.) Rchb.	solanum	poricidal		bees		biotic	2 to 5	[32]
Laurales	Gomortegaceae	Gomortega	Gomortega nitida	Ruiz & Pavon	new	longitudinal		Syrphids		biotic	5 to 10	[33]
Magnoliales	Himantandraceae	Galbulimima	Galbulimima baccata	F.M.Bailey	magnolian	longitudinal		beetles		biotic		[12]
Magnoliales	Himantandraceae	Galbulimima	Galbulimima belgraveana	(F.Muell.) Sprague	magnolian	longitudinal		beetles		biotic		[12]
Piperales	Hydnoraceae	Hydnora	Hydnora africana	Thunb.	new	longitudinal		beetles	actively eat	biotic	3 to 10	[34]
Alismatales	Hydrocharitaceae	Egeria	Egeria densa	Planch.	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic	4 to 100	[35]
Alismatales	Hydrocharitaceae	Blyxa	Blyxa japonica	Maxim. ex Asch. & Gürke	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic		[35]
Alismatales	Hydrocharitaceae	Ottelia	Ottelia alismoides	(L.) Pers.	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic		[35]
Alismatales	Hydrocharitaceae	Stratiotes	Stratiotes aloides	L.	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic		[35]
Alismatales	Hydrocharitaceae	Hydrocharis	Hydrocharis dubia	Backer	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic		[35]
Malpighiales	Hypericaceae	Hypericum	Hypericum roeperianum	G.W.Schimp. ex A.Rich.	papaver		exposed	bees	forage	biotic		[36]
Asparagales	Hypoxidaceae	Hypoxis	Hypoxis camerooniana	Baker	solanum	longitudinal	small portion	bees; flies	buzz	biotic	4 to 6	[37]
Asparagales	Iridaceae	Ixia	Ixia scillaris	L.	new							[38]
Alismatales	Juncaginaceae	Tetroncium		Willd.	new	longitudinal		wind		abiotic	3 to 8	[39]
Ericales	Lecythidaceae	Gustavia	Gustavia augusta	L.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic	40 to 1000	[40]
Myrtales	Lythraceae	Lagerstroemia	Lagerstroemia indica	L.	solanum	longitudinal	exposed	bees	forage	biotic	4 to 35	[41]
Magnoliales	Magnoliaceae	Liriodendron	Liriodendron chinense	Hemsl.Sarg	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	beetles; bumblebees	actively eat	biotic	50 to 200	[12]
Magnoliales	Magnoliaceae	Liriodendron	Liriodendron tulipifera	L.	magnolian	longitudinal		beetles; bumblebees		biotic		[12]
Magnoliales	Magnoliaceae	Magnolia	Magnolia grandiflora	L.	magnolian	longitudinal		beetles		biotic		[12]
Malpighiales	Malpighiaceae	Hiptage		Gaertn.	solanum			bees		biotic	10	[42]
Malvales	Malvaceae	Apeiba		Aubl.	solanum			bees	buzz	biotic	5 to 100	[43]
Malvales	Malvaceae	Keraudrenia	Keraudrenia velutina	Steetz.	solanum	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[18]
Malvales	Malvaceae	Sparmannia	Sparmannia africana	L.f.	solanum					biotic		[44]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Rhynchanthera	Rhynchanthera grandiflora	DC.	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	4 to 100	[45]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Pleroma	Pleroma raddianum	Triana	solanum	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[46]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Osbeckia	Osbeckia wynaadensis	C.B Clarke	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[47]
Myrtales		DI ·	70.7	*		2.24.4	11 41	bees	1	1-1-41-		[48]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae  Melastomataceae	Rhexia Meriania	Rhexia virginica Meriania longifolia	L. (Naudin) Cogn.	solanum solanum	poricidal poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz buzz	biotic biotic		[49]

Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Clidemia	Clidemia capitellata	(Bonpl.) D. Don	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[50]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Trembleya	Trembleya laniflora	Cong.	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[51]
Myrtales	Melastomataceae	Melastoma	Melastoma malabathricum	L.	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic		[52]
Ranunculales	Menispermaceae			Juss.	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic	1 to 40	[53]
Laurales	Monimiaceae	Wilkiea	Wilkiea huegeliana	(Tul.) A.DC.	new	longitudinal		thrips		biotic	10 to 150	[54]
Magnoliales	Myristicaceae	Myristica		Gronov.	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	beetles	actively eat	biotic	2 to 30	[12]
Ericales	Myrsinaceae	Ardisia	Ardisia elliptica	Thumb.	solanum			bees	buzz	biotic	3 to 6	[55]
Myrtales	Myrtaceae	Eugenia	Eugenia uniflora	L.	new	longitudinal		bees		biotic	4 to 150	[11]
Myrtales	Myrtaceae	Myrcia	Myrcia multiflora	DC.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[56]
Myrtales	Myrtaceae	Gomidesia	Gomidesia schaueriana	O.Berg.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[56]
Myrtales	Myrtaceae	Blepharocalyx	Blepharocalyx salicifolius	(Kunth) O.Berg.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[57]
Nymphaeales	Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea	Nymphaea pubescens	Willd.	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	insects	actively eat	biotic	40 to 80	[58]
Nymphaeales	Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea	Nymphaea nouchali	Burm.f.	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	insects	actively eat	biotic	40 to 80	[58]
Nymphaeales	Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea	Nymphaea stellata	Willd.	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	insects	actively eat	biotic	40 to 80	[58]
Nymphaeales	Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea	Nymphaea pulchella	DC.	magnolian		shed	bee	actively eat	biotic	40 to 80	[59]
Nymphaeales	Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea	Nymphaea rubra	Roxb. ex Andrews	magnolian	longitudinal	shed	insects	actively eat	biotic		[58]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Sauvagesia		L.	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	10 to 100	[60]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Rhabdophyllum		Tiegh.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[61]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Ouratea		Aulb.	solanum	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[61]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Idertia		Farron	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[61]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Campylospermu m		Tiegh.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[61]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Luxemburgia		A.StHil.	solanum	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[61]
Malpighiales	Ochnaceae	Philacra		Dwyer	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[62]
Pandanales	Pandanaceae	Freycinetia		Gaudich.	new	longitudinal		vertebrate		biotic	10 to 100	[63]
Pandanales	Pandanaceae	Pandanus		Parkinson	new	longitudinal		wind		abiotic		[63]
Pandanales	Pandanaceae	Sararanga		Hemsl.	new	longitudinal		insect		biotic		[63]
Pandanales	Pandanaceae	Scisphila	Sciaphila nana	Blume	new	longitudinal		fly		biotic		[64]
Ranunculales	Papaveraceae				papaver	longitudinal	exposed	bees		biotic	16 to 200	[65]
Ericales	Pentaphylaceae	Ternstroemia	Ternstroemia laevigata	Wawra	new	longitudinal		bees	buzz	biotic	5	[66]
Commelinales	Philydraceae	Helmholtzia	Helmholtzia acorifolia	F.Muell.	solanum	longitudinal		insects		biotic	1	[67]
Piperales	Piperaceae	Peperomia			new	longitudinal		hoverflies, bees and beetles		biotic	1 to 10	[12]
Poales	Poaceae	Merostachys	Merostachys riedeliana	Rupr. ex Döll	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic		[68]
Alismatales	Posidoniaceae	Posidonia	Posidonia australis	J.D.Hooker	new	longitudinal		water		abiotic	3	[67]
Alismatales	Potamogetonaceae	Althenia	Althenia orientalis	(Tzvelev) Garcia-Mur. & Talavera	new	longitudinal		water		abiotic	4	[69]
Ericales	Primulaceae	Dodecatheon		(L.) ARMast & Reveal	new			bees	buzz	biotic	3 to 9	[32]
Ericales	Primulaceae	Cyclamen		L.	new			bees	buzz	biotic		[70]
Ericales	Myrsinaceae	Lysimachia		L.	new			bees	buzz	biotic		[71]

Ranunculales	Ranunculaceae	Anemone	Anemone pavonina	Lam.	papaver	longitudinal		beetles; bees		biotic	15 to 100	[72]
Ranunculales	Ranunculaceae	Thalictrum		L.	papaver	longitudinal		wind, small insetcs		biotic and abiotic		[73]
Poales	Rapateaceae	Cephalostemon	Cephalostemon riedelia	Körn.	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	6	[68]
Caryophyllales	Rhabdodendracea e	Rhabdodendron	Rhabdodendron macrophyllum	(Spruce ex Benth.) Huber	new	longitudinal		bees		biotic		[74]
Alismatales	Ruppiaceae	Ruppia		L.	new	longitudinal		water		abiotic	2	[75]
Piperales	Saururaceae	Saururus	Saururus chinensis	(Lour.) Baill.	new	longitudinal		wind and insects		biotic and abiotic	3 to 8	[12]
Alismatales	Scheuchzeriaceae	Scheuchzeria	Scheuchzeria palustris	L.	new	longitudinal		wind		abiotic	6	[69]
Austrobaileyales	Schisandraceae (Illiciaceae)	Illicium	Illicium floridanum	Ellis	new	longitudinal	shed	beetles	actively eat	biotic	4 to 80	[76]
Austrobaileyales	Schisandraceae (Illiciaceae)	Illicium	Illicium micranthum	Dunn.	new	longitudinal	shed	beetles	actively eat	biotic	5 to 80	[76]
Austrobaileyales	Schisandraceae (Illiciaceae)	Illicium	Illicium anisantrum	L.	new	longitudinal	shed	beetles	actively eat	biotic	6 to 80	[76]
Laurales	Siparunaceae	Siparuna	Siparuna guianensis	Aublet	new	longitudinal		flies; gall insects		biotic	2 to 100	[77]
Solanales	Solanaceae	Solanum		L.	solanum	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	5	[78]
Solanales	Solanaceae	Lycianthes		(Dunal) Hassl.	new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[79]
Dioscoreales	Taccaceae	Tacca		J.R.Forst. & G. Forst.	new	longitudinal		insects		biotic	6	[68]
Asparagales	Tecophilaeaceae	Cyanella		D.Royen	new	poricidal	small portion	bees	buzz	biotic	3 to 6	[80]
Asparagales	Tecophilaeaceae	Conanthera	Conanthera bifolia		new	poricidal		bees	buzz	biotic		[18]
Ericales	Theaceae	Ternstroemia		Mutis ex L.f.	new	longitudinal		bees	buzz	biotic	5 to 100	[81]
Austrobaileyales	Trimeniaceae	Trimenia	Trimenia moorei	Oliv.	new	longitudinal	shed	flies; bees	actively eat	biotic	7 to 23	[82]
Canellalles	Winteraceae	Drimys	Drimys angustifolia	Miers	new	longitudinal	shed	beetles, flies, thrips	actively eat	biotic	15 to 100	[83]; [12]
Alismatales	Zosteraceae	Zostera	Zostera marina	L.	new	longitudinal		water		abiotic	1	[84]

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Table SI 2 - List of families and traits considered for the cluster analyses.

				Pollen release					Floral	display					
Families	NMDS	Poricidal 1 Longitudinal 0	Shed	Small portion	Exposed	Polyandric 1 oligandric 0	Stamens dimorphism	Grouped flowers	Shooting star	Brush blossom	Stamen Petal contrast	Reduced petal	Radial symmetry	Nocturnal anthesis	Accessory resources
Actinidiaecae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Aizoaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Annonaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Araceae	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Asphodelaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Austrobaileyaceae	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Begoniaceae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bixaceae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
Byblidaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Cactaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Canellaceae	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chloranthaceae	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Circaeasteraceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cistaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Commelinaceae	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyclanthaceae	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cyperaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Degeneriaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Dilleniaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Elaeocarpaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ericaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Euphorbiaceae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Eupomatiaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Fabaceae2	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

Fabaceae1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Gentianaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Gesneriaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Gomortegaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Himantandraceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hydrocharitaceae	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Hypericaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
Hypoxidaceae	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Iridaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Juncaginaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lecythidaceae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Lytraceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Magnoliaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Malpighiaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Malvaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Mayacaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Melastomataceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Menispermaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Monimiaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Myristicaceae	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Myrsinaceae	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Myrtaceae	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Nymphaeaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1
Ochnaceae	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Pandanaceae	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Papaveraceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Pentaphylaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Philydraceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Piperaceae	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pittosporaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Poaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pontederiaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Posidoniaceae	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Potamogetonaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Primulaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ranunculaceae	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Rapateaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Ruppiaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Saururaceae	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Scheuchzeriaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Schisandraceae	1	0	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Siparunaceae	1	0	1	0	0	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Solanaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Taccaceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Tecophilaeaceae	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Theaceae	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Trimeniaceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Winteraceae	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Zosteraceae	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Table SI 3 – Families in the Vogel classification and families in the proposed new classification to pollen flowers.

		Annonaceae; Araceae; Degeneriaceae; Eupomatiaceae; Himantandraceae;
	Magnolian type	Magnoliaceae; Myristicaceae; Nymphaeaceae
		Actinidiaecae; Aizoaceae; Begoniaceae; Cactaceae; Cistaceae; Fabaceae;
	Papaver type	Hypericaceae; Papaveraceae; Ranunculaceae; Theaceae
Vogel 1978		Bixaceae; Byblidaceae; Commelinaceae; Dilleniaceae; Elaeocarpaceae; Fabaceae2;
		Gentianaceae; Gesneriaceae; Hypoxidaceae; Lecythidaceae; Lytraceae; Malpighiaceae;
	Solanum type	Malvaceae; Melastomataceae; Myrsinaceae; Ochnaceae; Philydraceae; Primulaceae;
		Rapateaceae; Solanaceae
		Aizoaceae; Annonaceae; Austrobaileyaceae; Cactaceae; Cistaceae; Degeneriaceae;
		Eupomatiaceae; Fabaceae 1 (Acacia and Swartzia); Himantandeaceae; Hydrocharitaceae
	5 111	Hypericaceae; Lytraceae; Magnoliaceae; Monimiaceae; Myrtaceae; Nymphaeaceae;
	Brush-blossom type	Papaveraceae; Pentaphylaceae; Ranunculaceae; Schisandraceae; Siparunaceae; Theacea
		Trimeniaceae; Winteraceae
		Araceae; Canellaceae; Chloranthaceae; Circaeasteraceae; Cyclanthaceae; Cyperaceae;
		Gomortegaceae; Juncaginaceae; Menispermaceae; Myristicaceae; Pandanaceae;
Melo et al. (2024)	Inconspicuous type	Philydraceae; Piperaceae; Poaceae; Posidoniaceae; Potamogetonaceae; Ruppiaceae;
		Saururaceae; Scheuchzeriaceae; Taccaceae; Zosteraceae
		Actinidiaceae; Asphodelaceae; Begoniaceae; Bixaceae; Byblidaceae; Commelinaceae;
		Dilleniaceae; Elaeocarpaceae; Ericaceae; Euphorbiaceae; Fabaceae2 (Cassia, Chamaecris
	Poricidal type	and Senna); Gentianaceae; Gesneriaceae; Hypoxidaceae; Iridaceae; Lecythidaceae;
		Malpighiaceae; Malvaceae; Mayacaceae; Melastomataceae; Myrsinaceae; Ochnaceae;
		Pittosporaceae; Pontederiaceae; Primulaceae; Rapateaceae; Solanaceae; Tecophilaeacea



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August 26, 2024

Christiane Werner and Theo Elzenga

German Society for Plant Sciences and the Royal Botanical Society of the Netherlands

**Plant Biology** 

Dear Editors,

We are pleased to submit our study on the classification of pollen flowers, entitled "Pollen flower classification now and then: Vogel (1978) revisited". Vogel's work in 1978 was undoubtedly significant for classifying flower types based on their interactions with pollinators. However, we have found that his original classification is insufficient in light of our current understanding of the vast diversity of pollen flowers. The results of this study identified 40 additional plant families of pollen flowers that were not previously described in Vogel's 1978 seminal work. This represents a significant increase in the number of families and potentially the morphological diversity of pollen flowers. Furthermore, it has enabled us to refine the interpretation of floral types based on their shared morphology. This study presents a novel perspective on the classification of pollen flowers, suggesting a move away from Vogel's classification and encouraging a more inclusive and comprehensive classification of pollen flowers based on morphological traits. As we near the 50th anniversary of this seminal work, revisiting it is crucial. Today, we have a much better understanding of plant biodiversity globally, and effectively communicating morphological strategies associated with pollen flowers can help us to further study their ecology and evolution.

I confirm that this contribution is original and that it has not been submitted to any other journal.

Please do not hesitate in contacting me if I can be of further assistance.

Lilian Melo

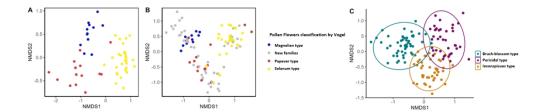


Figure 1. (A) Morphospace is based on three floral traits proposed by Vogel (1978), including the 38 families of pollen flowers he mentioned. (B) Morphospace based on the same three floral traits as in A, but this time including both Vogel's (1978) original families plus 35 new families found to have pollen flowers in our review. (C) Morphospace is based on 11 morphological traits and includes all 73 families. The families included in the three highlighted clusters do not coincide with those present in Vogel's original pollen flower classification (Magnolian, Papaver, and Solanum).

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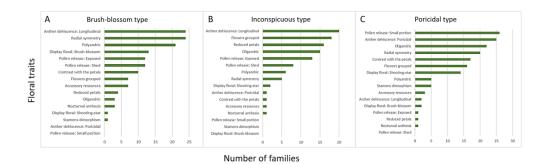


Figure 2. The most important floral traits composing each pollen flower group in our reviewed analyses using 11 floral traits in 73 families. The predominance of floral traits (A) for the 24 families within the brush-blossom type, (B) for the 21 families within the inconspicuous type, and (C) for the 28 families within the poricidal type.

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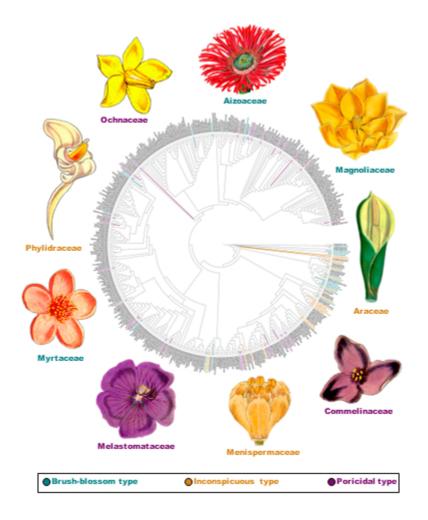


Figure 3. Families of the three groups of pollen flowers proposed in the new classification, along the Phylogeny of Angiosperm Families (Qian & Zhang 2014)- adapted. The illustrations are available in (Watson & Dallwitz). Version: 25th July 2023. (Illustrations edited by João Pedro Santos Pereira).

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