

Key to the species of *Megalastrum* in the West Indies

1. Indusia present *M. villosum*
1. Indusia absent.
 2. Basal pinnae equilateral; pinnules 1.0–1.5 cm long
 3. Basal pinnae about half the length of the medial ones; scales of the petiole bases brown; segment margins of medial pinna crenate to pinnatifid *M. angustum*
 3. Basal pinnae nearly the same size as the medial ones; scales of the petiole bases golden; segment margins of medial pinnae entire or nearly so *M. aripense*
 2. Basal pinnae inequilateral; pinnules > 1.5 cm long
 4. Laminar tissue between veins abaxially either pubescent (the hairs erect or spreading, often acicular) or glandular-pubescent.
 5. Laminae 4-pinnate-pinnatisect at base, 3-pinnate-pinnatisect medially; laminar tissue between veins on both surfaces conspicuously pubescent, the hairs 1–2 mm long *M. pulverulentum*
 5. Laminae 3-pinnate-pinnatisect at base, 2-pinnate-pinnatisect medially; laminar tissue between veins glabrous adaxially, inconspicuously pubescent abaxially, the hairs 0.1–0.2 mm long
 6. Glands between the veins abaxially stalked, typically dense; hairs on the costules abaxially 0.5–1 mm long *M. gilbertii*
 6. Glands between the veins abaxially sessile, sparse; hairs on the costules abaxially 0.1–0.2 mm long
 7. Scales on the pinnae rachises and costules abaxially linear-lanceolate, entire to subentire; costules abaxially glandular, the glands ca. 0.1 mm long, spherical, yellowish, sessile *M. caribaeum*

7. Scales on the pinnae rachises and costules abaxially linear,
denticulate; costules abaxially eglandular..... *M. martinicense*
4. Laminar tissue between veins abaxially glabrous or nearly so
(sometimes with appressed uniseriate reddish scales)
8. Pinnules broadly adnate to the pinna rachises; pinna rachises
pubescent abaxially *M. macrotheca*
8. Pinnules sessile or short-stalked; pinna rachises without hairs or
nearly so abaxially
9. Scales of the costules abaxially 0.3–0.7 mm wide, lanceolate,
enlarged toward the base..... *M. subincisum*
9. Scales of the costules abaxially 0.1–0.3 mm wide, linear to linear-
lanceolate, parallel sided and scarcely enlarged toward the base
10. Scales on the pinnae rachises and costules abaxially linear-
lanceolate, entire to subentire; costules abaxially glandular, the
glands ca. 0.1 mm long, spherical, yellowish, sessile *M. caribaeum*
10. Scales on the pinnae rachises and costules abaxially linear,
denticulate; costules abaxially eglandular..... *M. martinicense*