

Gnetum of Kenong

Family : Gnetaceae
Genus : *Gnetum*
Species : *Gnetum microcarpum* Blume.



The gymnosperm genus, *Gnetum* is only known from one tree species, *G. gnemon* and five species of woody climbers. However, during The Scientific Expedition for Forest Biodiversity of Kenong Forest Park, a large-fruited *G. macrocarpum* Blume had been discovered which proved to be a new species to Peninsular Malaysia.

This species is considered as the sixth woody climbers of the genus, *Gnetum*. The climbers are common in tropical rainforests and also form important links among the forest components. Many species of climbers provide foods and ecological support for the animals, especially the primates, birds and insects. Some of them become hosts to some of the parasitic plants, such as *Rafflesia* and *Rhizanthus*.