

This work aims to summarise the recent knowledge of the distribution of the subfamily Alpinioideae and suggest the possible patterns of distribution and dispersal for individual genera, particularly for South-East Asia, where the majority of genera is found. Alpinioideae is a quite recently established and unresolved group and some of its genera are polyphyletic. The main part of the subfamily is distributed throughout South-East Asia to Australia and Oceania, two genera (*Aframomum* and *Renealmia*) are found in Africa and the genus *Renealmia* has undergone long-distance dispersal to South America. Three genera (*Leptosolena*, *Paramomum* and *Siamanthus*) are monotypic endemics. Alpinioideae is further divided into the tribes Alpinieae and Riedelieae.