

Table 1. Diagnostic, morphological characters for **Ruscaceae** Spreng.  
nom. cons,  
Rudall *et al.*, 2000 and Bogler *et al.*, 2006

Character state	Value	Exceptions
Phytomelan absent	All genera	
Few (1-3) ovules per locule	Most genera incl. <i>Dracaena</i>	<i>Convallaria</i> , <i>Eriospermum</i> , <i>Polygonatum</i> , <i>Therapogon</i>
Articulated pedicel	Genera not listed	<i>Liriope</i> , <i>Ophiopogon</i> , <i>Peliosanthes</i> Found outside <i>Ruscaceae</i> in <i>Asparagoid</i> genera
Base chromosome number and karyotype	Is significant, various base numbers and karyotypes given	Needs further clarification.
Ovary position	Significant to subdivide the family	Not useful to delimit the family
Arborescence	Significant to subdivide the family	Not useful to delimit the family