

発表タイトル	Linguistic diversity of cultivated taro (<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>) and other aroid species among Formosan tribes in Taiwan
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Given the broad distribution area and species diversity of aroid plants in Asia, taro (*C. esculenta*) is widely used as food and assumed to be domesticated in the Indo-Malay region or New Guinea, based on the genetic comparison and archaeological evidence respectively. In addition to underground corms, the petiole, inflorescence and stolon of taro are also edible, and the whole plant can be used as husbandry for domestic animals. The migration of Austronesian people in-and-out of Taiwan beginning at 5,000 BP, then quickly scattering east to Polynesia and west to Madagascar within 2,000 years, promotes the dispersal of domestic crops and animals as well as languages. This study is aimed to investigate and exploit the folk name diversity specific to cultivated taro and other wild aroid species among Formosan tribes in Taiwan. Based on the regional comparative linguistic records of cultivated taro and its wild relatives, whether and how early Austronesian people in Taiwan acquired agricultural knowledge of taro *in situ* or *ex situ* can be inferred. In addition, the words of giant taro (*A. macrorrhizos*) can be found and reconstructed in the proto-Austronesian languages, however no evidence of *A. macrorrhizos* was found in Taiwan and another non-edible relative, *A. odora*, is widely distributed among the island. At final, this study emphasizes the necessity of revise on the current plant taxonomic information and previous linguistic records, to provide a more comprehensive relationship between Austronesian people and tuber plants (cultivated and wild) in Taiwan.

Key words: Austronesian, taro, *Colocasia esculenta*, *Alocasia*, Taiwan, comparative linguistics