The Palmateer

Volume 24, Number 2 *Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society* *June, 2004*

A familiar sight, the plant sale—here at the Carlsons' in Vero Beach at the March meeting. Virtually the same picture will appear as a testimonial of the June meeting, though it may not show Rick Nale bending over. . .what?

(Photo by Karen Barrese)

March 13th, Fort Pierce & Vero

By John Kennedy

"It started in 1956," Anne Michael told the group visiting Earring Point. "We were in Miami with the first grandchild. We thought we would kill an hour or two at Fairchild Tropical Garden before our flight north later that day. Instead, we spent *all* day at Fairchild. We were caught. Our palm collection dates from right then." Next to her in the golf cart, husband Joe nodded his agreement.

About 40 CFPACS members followed the Michaels on a guided tour of the palms at their home, Earring Point, Wabasso, a few miles north of Vero Beach. The setting is little short of spectacular: a 5-acre point jutting out into the Indian River lagoon from the barrier island. The weather cooperated, sunny and in the high 70s, with a slight breeze—more agreeable, by far, than during the chapter's last visit in 1994, when the wind

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Summer Meeting

Tampa Area, June 12th

We go to the West Coast for our third quarterly meeting of 2004. North Tampa, Lutz, and Land O Lakes are the three stops. Our hosts are, respectively, Jerold Crawford and Jeff Mullins, James Mayer, and Tom and Karen Barrese. No *Cyrtostachys renda*, *Carpoxylon macrocarpum*, or *Verschaffeltia splendida*, those dirt-common palms on Central Florida's tropic east coast. Instead of these wimpy species, we are promised hardy meat-and-potatoes palms of the kind that made America great.

In other words, palms that make it through winters that are often chilly and sometimes worse than that.

The palm-visiting begins at 10:00 a.m. at Jerold's and Jeff's. The CFPACS board will meet there at 9:00. Everyone, anyone is welcome to see Your Board At

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This is Petrea volubis*, the Queen's Wreath, a vine spectacular in flower, here at Heathcote Botanical Gardens in Fort Pierce on March 13th. (Lavender-purple is the color but what hue will the printer show?)*

Photo by Karen Barrese)

The Seed Bank Is *Not* Closed!

True, we don't have someone running the Seed Bank as a definite commitment. However, we are patching together some part-time assistance until someone or some group agrees to take it on. For the moment, Mike Dahme is handling seed offers until he returns to Puerto Rico in early July. So, continue to send seed to Charlene Palm, who will re-direct it. The Seed Bank supports this newsletter and the activities of CFPACS, including our small grants to scientific and research activities. Anyone—or any collective group—interested in continuing the work of the Seed Bank should contact our president, Ray Hernández at subtropicofcancer@hotmail. com

Definitely not a 'meat-and-potatoes' palm to be seen in Tampa, Lutz, and Land O Lakes. This is Calyptrogyne ghiesbreghtiana *(try saying it in one breath), in John Criswick's garden, St. George's , Grenada. (Photo by Robert Wilson)*

CENTRAL FLORIDA PALM & CYCAD SOCIETY

CONTENTS

First stop, Jerold Crawford & Jeff Mullins, 14709 Cactus Wren Pl., Tampa, FL
From the EAST: Take I-4 WEST to I-275 North. Exit Bearss Ave. (exit #53 (old exit #36)) and turn LEFT.
From the SOUTH: Take I-75 NORTH to I-4 WEST to I-275 NORTH. Exit Bearss Ave. and turn LEFT.
From the NORTH: Take I-75 SOUTH to I-275 SOUTH. Exit Bearss Ave. and turn RIGHT.

You are now heading WEST. Bearss Ave. turns into Ehrlich Rd. at Dale Mabry Hwy. Continue WEST on Ehrlich Ave. about 2.5 more miles. Turn RIGHT at the light on FARMINGTON BLVD and RIGHT on FULMAR DR. Turn LEFT at the first street, CACTUS WREN PL. Jerold's & Jeff's place is on the right (look for the RR crossing sign in yard).

Second stop, James Mayer, 18625 Livingston Ave., Lutz, FL
Leaving Jerold's & Jeff's, head SOUTH on CACTUS WREN PL. and turn RIGHT on FULMAR and LEFT on FARMINGTON BLVD. Turn LEFT on ERHLICH RD. and head EAST. One block BEFORE I-275, turn LEFT at the light on NEBRASKA AVE/ US-41N. Head north on US 41 for about 4 miles and turn RIGHT at light on SUNSET LANE. Take to LIVINGSTON AVE and turn LEFT. Go 2/10 mi. on right and look for sign that says "LANDSCAPING" and a yard with LOTS of palm trees, 18625 Livingston Ave.

Third stop, Tom & Karen Barrese, 5942 Ehren Cutoff, Land O Lakes, FL 34639
Leaving James', turn RIGHT on LIVINGSTON AVE. Go 1.8 miles to the next light which is COLLIER PKWY. Turn LEFT at light and go 1.5 miles to SR 54W and turn LEFT again. Head WEST about 1.7 miles and turn RIGHT on US 41N/LAND O LAKES BLVD (7-11 on corner). Stay on US 41N for 4 miles. Turn RIGHT at light on EHREN CUTOFF (BP gas station is on the corner). We are about .5 mile on the RIGHT in the first curve of the road. Look for a red brick house and a split rail fence.

Fastest way back to I-75 to head East or South: Left out of our driveway on Ehren Cutoff to US 41. Turn left on US 41 to SR 54 and make another left. Stay on SR 54 until it turns into SR 56. I-75 is .5 mile ahead.

—Tom & Karen Barrese

Tampa Area Meeting June 12th

(Continued from page 1)

Work, wrestling with the difficult decisions that must be faced.
Second stop, at James Mayer's in Lutz, is about a 20-25 minute drive. The group should arrive there about 11:30.
An opportunity to eat lunch comes after Lutz and before 2:00 p.m. in Land O Lakes at the Barreses'.
This last stop is, of course, the site of the plant sale. Vendors can leave plants with Tom and Karen before heading to Jerold's and Jeff's, then to James's.
Need it be said that our meetings are very social and sociable? While we look at palms, rare and not-so-rare, we are also busy chatting with friends not seen since the last meeting.
Directions and a long list of restaurants may be found elsewhere on this page. Tom Barrese, West VP, is the contact person for this meeting. Should anyone need to get in touch with Tom, his e-mail address is: palmnation@msn.com; phone: (813) 996-7148.

--John Kennedy

Places to Eat

between James Mayer's & Tom and Karen Barrese's

Sit down dining	*Fast food dining*
Chili's	**Arby's**
SR 54	SR 54
Supreme Pizza	**Taco Bell**
Collier Parkway	SR 54
Beef O'Brady's	**Wendy's**
SR 54 in Wal-Mart Center	SR 54
Pizza Villa	**KFC**
SR 54 in Wal-Mart Center	SR54
Steve's Fountainview	**McDonalds**
US 41	Corner SR 54
Hungry Harry's	US 41
Smokehouse	(retro diner w/
US 41	Harley theme)
ABC Pizza	
US 41	

The Skinny on *Syagrus*!

By Rick Leitner
(Lover of the Genus* Syagrus*)

"Pencil neck." "Choked up." "Frizzle topped." "Flecked and freckled." "Stunted." These are words and phrases that many of us would assume to come hurling from the mouth of a bully toward a struggling elementary aged kid. But that is not the case….that struggling kid is the genus *Syagrus*.

There are many unrecognized *Syagrus* species that deserve recognition as well as an honest attempt in any subtropical or tropical garden. But to many, *Syagrus* is associated only with one species---the "Queen" palm or *Syagrus romanzoffiana*.

It is my opinion, and only that, that the Queen palm has been handed a reputation that is not deserving. To the Queen's defense, this palm is typically used in trying environments, suffering a slow death. Is it the palm's fault? A sea of asphalt surrounding the lone Queen stuffed into a 3 foot curbed median in the shopping plaza parking lot does not make for a healthy specimen! Here, it gets only circumstantial irrigation at best, little nutritional supplementation, grass growing to the trunk, weed whacker wounds, shopping cart collisions, and trimmed to three fronds. Is it any wonder why this palm looks less than perfect? It's not the Queen's fault that:

1. It is a rapid grower;
2. Looks ultra tropical;
3. Can take a freeze;
4. Can transplant very easily;
5. Is drought tolerant once established;
6. And is very inexpensive!

I know. I know. To admit that I actually have planted and loved a Queen palm is grounds for seeking botanic psychiatric therapy. But I must say, that I planted five Queens at my former residence and these little guys grew into the most graceful, tropical, and stately palms. Yes, they were demanding in that the old fronds had to be removed, they continually seeded, drawing flies and bees, and were very heavy feeders. But what else in life makes it all the more special when you have to sacrifice for something?? Many non-palmophiles would ask what these huge fat trunked palms were and after my reply of "that's your well fed and watered Queen palm," they couldn't believe it. They honestly looked like a steroid version of the shopping center variety.

Of course, this one palm species is only a single representation of the entire genus. There are more species in this genus that deserve recognition. Here, I will attempt to outline the characteristics of the species that you may commonly see for sale at palm sales or in private collections. This by no means is a complete list of all *Syagrus* species, but the more readily available ones.

In addition, Syagrus has been proven to cross quite easily with other species within the same genus, and other genera as well. One noteworthy hybrid, commonly used in North and Central Florida, is *Syagrus romanzoffiana* crossed with *Butia capitata*. This cross lends itself to deeper green fronds although the *Syagrus* may take away from its cold hardiness. Another successful cross is that of *Syagrus romanzoffiana* and *Syagrus schizophylla*. This cross exhibits some of the most striking characteristics of both parents. The petioles are long with deep green leaflets possessing some small 'teeth' which hold some brown fibrous skirting.

As more and more *Syagrus* species are introduced into private collections, more hybridizations are sure to come.

The following species deserve special merit. These species are certainly worth a try and have proven

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Footnote references for the table on the opposite page may be found on page 6.

Areca guppyana *in John Criswick's garden, St. George's, Grenada. (Photo by Robert Wilson)*

Species	Single or Clustering	Height	Max. # of Fronds	Av. Frond Length	Ornamental Use	Native Habitat
S. amara[1]	S	45-65'	12-15	9'	yes	dry to wet coastal
S. botryophora[2]	S	18-54'	10-15	9'	yes	lowlands <1200'
S. cocoides	S	4.5-27'	14-22	12'	yes	rocky areas to rainforest
S. comosa	S	3-21'	6-12	5'		rocky outcrops
S. duartei	S	subterranean	6-12	3'		rocky outcrops
S. flexuosa	S/C	3-15'	7-15	1.5-3'	yes	woodlands, sandy to rocky soils
S. glaucescens	S	1.5-15'	7-15	>9		rocky outcrops
S. harleyi	S/C	subterranean	3-8	1.5-6'		rocky crevices
S. inajai	S	9-45'	15-18	>12'		lowland rainforest
S. oleracea	S	15-60'	15-20	6-12'	yes	forests, heavy organic soils
S. orinocensis	S/C	3-36'	8-10	>9'		lowlands, granite outcrops
S. picrophylla	S	3-24'	7-12	>6'		Atlantic rainforests
S. pseudococos	S	30-45'	18-20	6'	yes	organic forests
S. romanzoffiana	S	30-45'+	7-15	8-14'	yes	varies (dry to swamp)
S. ruschiana	C	6-24'	7-12	>9'	yes	open pastures
S. sancona[3]	S	21-90'	8-16	12'	yes	lowland forests
S. schizophylla[4]	S	3-12'	8-25	6'	yes	sandy soils
S. smithii	S	12-30'	5-18	>9'	yes	lowland forests
S. vagans	C	subterranean	10-30	>9'	yes	arid, sandy soils
S. werdermannii	S/C	subterranean	4-8	4.5'		organic forests

The Skinny on *Syagrus*!

(Continued from page 4)

themselves for many collectors from Central Florida to the Keys.

[1]***Syagrus amara*** is perhaps the most closely related to *Cocos nucifera*. Its larger trunk, although straight, may appear much like a coconut. The fronds are larger and deep green adding to its tropical appearance. The amara is content growing on hillsides throughout the Caribbean islands where salt spray and wind is the norm.

[2]***Syagrus botryophora*** is the new kid on the block, having just been introduced, at least on a wider scale. It is often referred to as the "fountain palm" due to its oldest fronds being held as green as the newest ones. *Botryophora* holds about a dozen finely pinnate fronds (reminiscent of *Phoenix roebelenii*) which curve gently back toward the smaller trunk, lending this palm its nickname. *Syagrus botryophora*'s success in Florida seems promising, but its cold tolerance is relatively unknown.

[3]***Syagrus sancona***, the "Colombian foxtail," is aptly named due to this palm's fronds looking similar to those of the *Wodyetia*. This tall, thin, stately palm is a rapid grower once established and is now available from many palm nurseries. Two of these palms framed the 'Overlook' at Fairchild Tropical Garden until they succumbed to Hurricane Andrew (1992) and were replaced by *Phoenix* species.

[4]***Syagrus schizophylla*,** in my opinion, is under utilized. This relatively slow growing palm seemingly does well in most of our Florida soils and tolerates salt spray. It appears to enjoy some shelter from the western summer sun and is an excellent choice for a containerized palm indoors or out. This palm will even tolerate low levels of light, adding to its commercial use in hotel and office lobbies.

Syagrus is an incredibly diverse genus. From lowland rainforests in deep shade to arid, rocky outcroppings along coastal areas—*Syagrus* has an interesting history and proves to be successful, with a little care, in most Florida landscapes.

The male Bo *at the Michaels', seen at the March 13th meeting: of particular interest to the picture-taker .*

(Photo by Charlene Palm)

Update

Florida Tech Botanical Garden

Volunteers were invited for a "dig-in" at FIT to plant palms on May 4-5. I arrived on the morning of the second day, expecting to man a shovel. The landscape architect, Susan Hall, had other plans for me. I found sites in the cleared-out area of the old Dent Smith Trail, and also out on the campus itself for many of the approximately 50 purchased palms. Ms. Hall is interested in donations; the grounds supervisor seems (fortunately) to know what he's doing. Anyone wishing to donate palms or cycads should contact me.

On May 13, I attended my first meeting of the Botanical Garden Advisory Committee, a broad-based group that represents (among others) faculty, staff, garden clubs, the City of Melbourne, and CFPACS.

If you're in the Melbourne vicinity, go take a look at what's being done. Much needs to happen, and will. Look for a story and pictures in the September issue of *The Palmateer*.

—John Kennedy

March Meeting, Fort Pierce & Vero

(Continued from page 1)

off the water approached gale force, with temperatures in the 50s.

Among the mature palms are some seldom seen in Central Florida: *Corypha umbraculifera* and two huge *Borassus aethiopum*. Through the generosity of the Michaels, the two Bo's (female and male) have helped to contribute seed nicely over the years, to the benefit of our chapter's treasury. The Michael place was the third and final stop in the quarterly spring meeting.

The day began at Heathcote Botanical Gardens in Fort Pierce, a small and pretty garden. Heathcote Board President Cris Adams welcomed the CFPACS board, explained the history of the garden, and outlined future expansion plans (now 5 acres, but somewhere ahead, 40+ acres to be added). She expressed the hope that CFPACS would return again soon. Heathcote has operated on a shoestring, receiving no public money, until a few months ago. Its straitened circumstances have, in the past, sharply limited future possibilities. Some chapter board members saw Heathcote as a potential recipient of palm and cycad donations that would raise public awareness in this locale. St. Lucie County (Fort Pierce/Port St. Lucie) is the southernmost county in the CFPACS service area. Nearly 30 people toured Heathcote's small palm and cycad collections. (Did anyone notice the *Cordia boissieri*, an unusual white-flowering tree near the front gate?)

Between Heathcote and the next stop in Vero Beach came lunch time. Some members went to the exuberant Farmers' Market along the waterfront in downtown Fort Pierce. Some produce, some plants, many edibles (one CFPACSer praised the conch chowder that he bought at a stand).

At least one person, probably more, reported going to McKee Botanical Garden in Vero to see the wonderfully landscaped parking lot. Others made a stop at Jules Horwitz's backyard nursery in Lakewood Park, north of Fort Pierce, to browse (and buy) the small palms and cycads offered there.

Vero Beach Aerodrome is the subdivision in which Ed and Joyce Carlson live, their house evident—as are all palm collectors' homes—by the lush vegetation (translation: **palms**) that distinguishes it from the well-manicured, sparsely landscaped houses on either side. The noteworthy feature of the development is a grass airstrip as a central common area; most houses have a hanger behind them that contains a small plane.

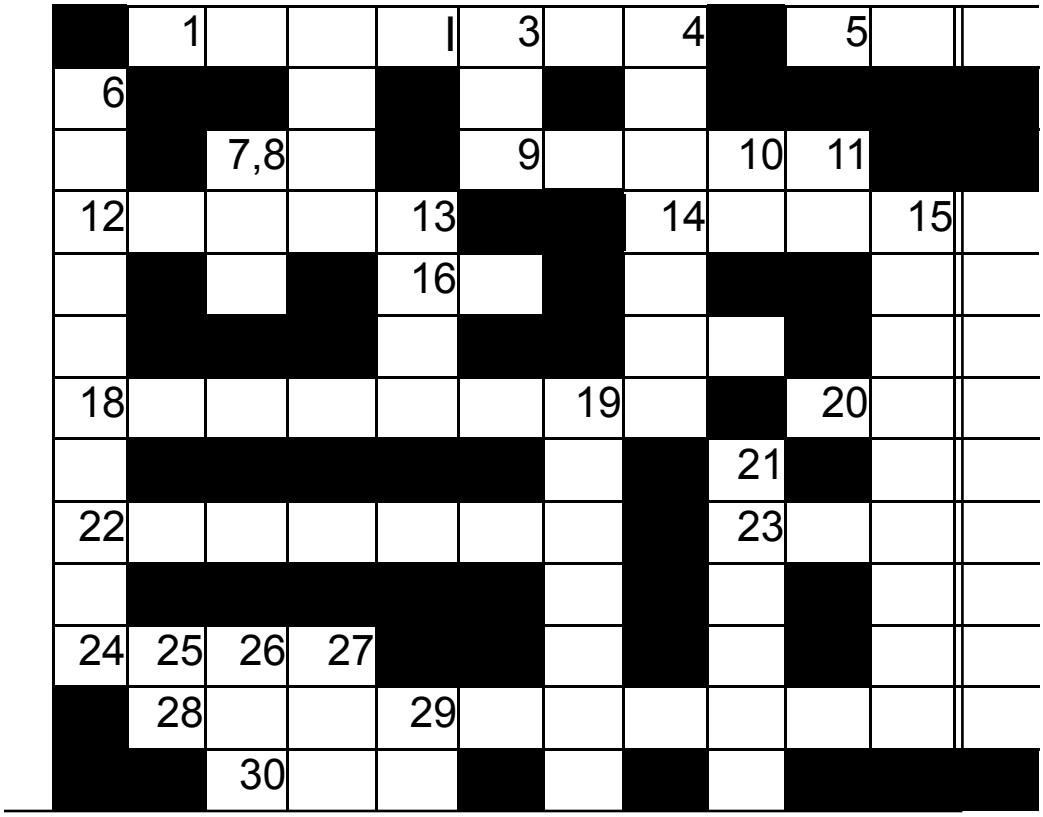
I didn't remember to ask whether Ed's plane is a Piper (built in Vero Beach and, thus, patriotic). Among the notable palms here are the two signature *Pseudophoenix sargentii* on either side of the front door. Then, there are all those different species of *Veitchia*, the beautiful *Syagrus amara*, that big *Dypsis leptocheilos*, the list (I'm afraid) goes on and on.

What is it? A first flower spike on a Borassus aethiopum *at Greg and Charlene Palm's in Satellite Beach. The proud parents won't find out whether it's a boy or girl for some time yet. (We'll keep you informed.) Charlene probably got the palm to this point in about five years, but we won't hold it against her. (Photo by herself? Greg?)*

Aside from looking at Ed's palms—and a substantial number of cycads—the attraction here was the plant sale and an opportunity of buying the CFPACS t-shirt. About 40 people came to the Carlsons', the same number (though not necessarily the same people) as appeared next at the Michaels'. As is usually the case, more people attend the later events and not everyone goes to every place.

Vans, SUVs, cars departing for points north and west of this, the southeast corner of Central Florida, seemed to contain gently waving fronds.

PALM PUZZLE by Rick Leitner



Can't figure it out? Too impatient to fill it in? Solution on page 14.

ACROSS

1. Large, cold-hardy *Livistona*
5. Classification following Genus (abbrev.)
8. Pigskin score (abbrev.)
9. *Heterospathe* _____ of the Philippine Islands
12. Cycad genus
14. South Pacific island (US Territory)
16. Year of the Lord (abbrev.)
17. Michigan locale where palms don't live. . . (abbrev.)
18. Spiny genus
20. Our northern neighbors (abbrev.)
22. Common name for our native *Zamia*
23 Computer language for a chuckle (abbrev.)
24. Precipitation necessary for optimal growth
28. Slow Cuban genus
30. "No known allergies" (abbrev.)

DOWN

2. To start over again
3. Adios!
4. Brazilian genus
6. *Dypsis* origin
7. Unit of measurement
10. "You" in *español*
11. Transportation to Hawaiian Biennial (abbrev.)
13. *Chuniophoenix* species
15. *Chamaedorea* species noted for tolerating low light
19. *Ptychosperma* species now considered a nuisance palm in South Florida
21. Pertaining to a white, waxy coating as seen on some *Ravenea* species
25. Floridian necessity in the summertime (abbrev.)
26. Charged atom
27. Major elements in fertilizer (chemical abbrev.)
29. Individual (abbrev.)

A Landscape Architect Talks About *Palms*

By John Kennedy

Meg Whitmer, a landscape architect, sees palms rather differently from the typical collector. Not just one-of-this and one-of-that, but as elements in a design that contribute to a visual, even aural, impact. Meg uses palms in a home landscape to create "shadow patterns" on driveways and lawns, to create "wind sounds," and to frame a view, especially a view of water.

"I like thatch palms and foxtails because they remain in scale, and don't get too large for their situation." And, yes, she does like Queen Palms: "Nothing can beat a Queen for blowing in the wind." It's that flexibility of the leaves. And, while not terribly fond of *Washingtonia*, she sees a real use for this palm: "In groups or groves, it's impressive and it also can frame a vista."

Meg is very knowledgeable about palms and likes to incorporate cycads, "particularly *Zamia*s, because they're smaller," into her designs.

In a rambling interview at her Stuart office (Collective Design, Inc.), Meg reiterated an old theme. Placement may be the most basic precept of all, yet is frequently violated. A broad, spreading palm, such as a *Bismarckia* or a large *Phoenix* just can't be put in a small space, coconut palms can't go where nuts drop on passersby, palms with fruit that stains can't be planted near a walkway. And, of course, thorny palms are a no-no close to pedestrians.

How do landscape architects determine which species of palms to use? The answer is complicated. First, "what are the goals of the project?" Sometimes, it's specialized such as using only indigenous plants. Often, the client's particular wishes and site are prevailing factors. "Is it windy? Is salt tolerance required?" Budgetary issues frequently arise; smaller size palms are less expensive. Well-off retirees, however, can't wait for that smaller palm to grow to maturity and want a mature palm <u>now</u>. Availability is the final factor in determining the variety of palm species used by landscape architects.

Palm collectors notoriously pay little or no attention to design. Yet Meg believes that hobbyist growers might keep several basic precepts in mind when planting palms. "The scale of the house should be considered along with the scale of the palm(s)." In her designs, Meg plans "rooms," separate areas in which palms form the structure or "walls." Palms also can be used for specific visual framing: "Where do you want to focus the line of sight?"

Meg Whitmer, Stuart landscape architect, in a setting of her own making.
(Photo from Collective Design, Inc.)

The success of home landscapes depends, in large part, on "the right plants in the right place," and on "companion plants that have the same soil, water, and light needs." The failure of home landscapes is the result of "not researching plants that don't do well," and to planting "too close, or in the wrong place." Often, homeowners don't ask a basic question about maintenance: what will the landscape look like, "long-term"?

OK, but what about the "ordinary" homeowner? How much does all this <u>cost</u>? (See the next page.)

FYI

Hiring a Landscape Architect Avoids Mistakes; Costs Vary

By Meg Whitmer

Ordinary homeowners CAN benefit from seeking the advice from licensed landscape architects in a number of ways.

The least expensive way for a homeowner to get professional advice is to request a one-hour consultation. This works well for homeowners with a fair amount of knowledge or interest in landscape - the people who already 'get it', and just need to confirm their ideas, or need some direction (the totally DYI person) A typical consultation fee can range from $100-$250 for the hour, depending upon travel time, etc.; on the low end of the fee range, the l.a. comes out, answers your questions, makes recommendations, and the homeowner takes notes. At high end of the fee range, the consultation may be followed up with a written report of issues that are discussed during that hour, including recommendations of reference books, nurseries and other resources. In order to get the most bang for the fee, the homeowner should be prepared to cover specific issues during this consultation (providing the l.a. with an outline before the consultation is helpful) - i.e. where to place certain plants, what are the best plants to screen a neighbor, the best placement for a prized tree or palm, etc. Keeping the meeting focused is very important. You are paying for their time and expertise - one hour evaporates quickly if you digress.

For homeowners who need a bit more detail, a plan is more helpful. The next fee level is a concept sketch - showing bedlines, general configuration or arrangement of trees, palms, shrubs, groundcovers (the spatial definition of the landscape) and general recommendations of plants, even rough ideas for a courtyard, deck, patio, arbor, lighting, etc.(referred to as hardscape) Depending upon the scope of work desired (landscape only, or landscape and hardscape) the fee for this level of detail can range from $350 - $850.

For the homeowner who wants a totally designed landscape, who has a specific budget, who wants a finished look immediately, and/or intends to have a contractor install it, a landscape 'master plan' will provide a property owner with a fully detailed set of plans, suitable for bidding - bed layout, all plants labeled, plant names (botanical and common) planting details and specifications, quantities, including qtys of mulch, sod, boulders, stepping stones, irrigation system performance standards, and an itemized preliminary cost estimate. This is helpful if the homeowner wants to phase the work. For landscape only, fees can range from $900 - $1500. If hardscape design, details, and specifications are desired, add another $900 - $1500. Fees are typically based upon how many drawing sheets are required to provide the necessary details for competitive bidding by contractors. $1000-$1500 per sheet is average for smaller lots (under 1/2 acre).

These fees are based upon the $130,000 tract home scenario. It is important to know that residential design is a specialization within the profession of landscape architecture. Not all landscape architects provide these services to individual homeowners, and not all l.a.'s are well-versed in horticulture.

However, by retaining the services of a professional, a homeowner can save money and avoid making costly mistakes in the long run.

Three large Syagrus sancona *just planted in an expansion of Gizella Kopsick Palm Arboretum in St. Petersburg. Dedication was May 1, details and pictures in September issue.*
(Photo by Phil Stager)

The Central Florida Palm Society: How It Got Started

By Ed Hall

Back in time long ago before most of the present CFP&CS members knew how to spell the word Palm, people in Central Florida joined together to enjoy the plant family. The first meeting Nancy & Ed attended was in Vero Beach at the home of Bill Bidlingmayer. Dave Besst, a fellow employee [of Martin Marietta, Orlando], asked me and my wife to join him and Marian. Upon arriving and seeing so many unusual palms we were excited. Sitting near the house there appeared this tall, very dignified man with a hand held tape recorder coming toward us. He turned out to be Dent Smith, founder of the International Palm Society. This was probably 1975 give or take a year.

Several years later in the fall of 1978 or '79 (none of us can remember) Dave Besst asked us toattend a meeting at his house with Pat and Gordon Smith and Hershel and Jackie Womble. His desire was to explore reorganizing the Central Florida Palm Society. We gathered around his dining room table and formulated a set of by-laws to revise CFPS based upon what Dave found to be working in Southern California. The Southern California Palm Society extends north and south farther than the Central Florida Palm Society extends east to west. Like Southern California we split the Central Florida area into 3 sub areas with a vice president for each area to coordinate meetings in their area. Any notes Nancy took were passed on to the next Secretary, which I believe to be Edgar Hall. Several more times Dave Besst and Nancy met in his home to prepare the by-laws to be presented at the organizational meeting the following Spring.

The first meeting to explore the possibility of reorganizing was held at the home of Pat and Gordon. As secretary Nancy kept track of the date and who attended. We were able to get a list of all IPS members in the central Florida area and invitations went out to them.

Several more informal meetings were held gradually gathering new members. March 6, 1982 the Central Area co-chairman Hershell Womble organized a meeting at Walt Disney World. Fifty-five members attended. We first toured Discovery Island. Lunch was then served on the 15th floor of The Contemporary Hotel. After lunch we enjoyed a presentation given by Katie Warner, Superintendent of the Tree Farm and Nursery of WDW. Interim officers were 'elected' at one of those meetings. They were Jerry Keuper-East Coast Co-Chairman; Hershel Womble-Central Area Co-Chairman; Tom Pavluvcik-West Coast Co-Chairman; Nancy Hall, Secretary; Ed Hall, Treasurer, Dave Besst, Coordinator; and Frank Radosta, Editor. The first newsletter went out to members in April 1982.

The following meeting was held May 16, 1982 at the St. Petersburg, Palm Arboretum, now referred to as

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Maybe not on a Stuart landscape architect's list? This is Zamia roezlii*, growing in Robert Wilson's Trinidad garden. (Photo by himself)*

Growing Cycads in Central Florida

By Tom Broome

Encephalartos ferox is an excellent cycad to be used in our landscapes throughout most of our member area here in central Florida. It would be marginal without some sort of extra protection in our northernmost range near Gainesville.

Encephalartos ferox comes from coastal areas in Mozambique and South Africa. It typically grows in sandy areas, which makes it just fine for our sandy soils here in Florida. In containers, a well draining mix is important. It is a medium to large cycad, and a fairly fast grower. It can attain a 10-foot spread and get 6 feet tall in 10 years. In time, this species can grow to have a 3-foot tall stem. The leaves are dark green and each leaflet is much like a very large leaf of a rotunda holly. For this reason, they should not be planted close to foot traffic areas. The cones are bright red, to orange, and some plants can even have yellow cones. The cones can be 18 inches tall and 10 inches in diameter. Many feel they have the most impressive cones of the genus. They react very well to fertilizer applications, and with the right growing conditions, can produce up to four sets of leaves each year. I have been able to grow a plant from seed to produce a male cone in 6 ½ years, and a female plant in 8 years.

Encephalartos ferox *growing in Indian Harbour Beach. The picture, taken last fall, does not show the subsequent growth flush.* *(Photo by Neil Yorio)*

Most *Encephalartos* species are more cold hardy than frost hardy, and this species is no exception. I have heard of plants that were being grown under a tree that did not get leaf burn at 19F, however I have seen plants burned at 23F when they were out in the open. The stems would be more cold hardy than that for short duration freezes. *E. ferox* looks the best when grown in some shade. Full, all day sun will make the leaves look off colored, where plants grown in some shade will be a very nice dark green. Since they look better being grown under some tree cover, this will help them look good, and also it will help the plant survive certain hard freezes.

Encephalartos ferox is well suited to growing in Florida. It prefers our conditions and produces seeds fairly readily in our climate, whereas in California, people have troubles producing viable seeds on their plants, even with hand pollination. Even though nobody I have talked to can explain why this happens, certain

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Brilliantly colored female cone of Encephalartos ferox. *Other pictures on page 17.*

A new *Trachycarpus* species from Manipur, NE India

Trachycarpus ukhrulense, the Survivor Palm

[It should be noted that a new species must show three major differences from closely-related species. A Latin description of a new species appears in a scientific, peer-reviewed journal, and usually cites previous work in the genus. —Editor]

Trachycarpus ukhrulense Lorek & Pradhan sp. nov.

By Michael Lorek

The story of the discovery started in November, 2003 when I received some very exciting seeds allegedly *Trachycarpus martianus* Wendl. According to Singh, D.K. 1995, "*T. martianus* grows in Meghalaya, Manipur, Nepal and Myanmar." My first thoughts were that it was not *T. martianus* because the seeds showed a reniform shape. Although the (fresh) seeds had the typical yellow colour as it could be seen in *T. martianus* from Nepal, they were collected in the Indian state of Manipur, which is located in northeastern India. Obviously the seeds did not fit any *Trachycarpus* species like *T. takil*, *T. martianus* or *T. fortunei*. But which species could it be?

So Keshow Chandra Pradhan and I decided to travel to the habitat where the seed-collector had harvested the seeds. But to our disappointment it was not a trip like to a European vacation resort such as the Spanish Costa Blanca. We had to overcome a lot of difficulties to get access to an area which is said to be one of the few remaining areas in the world which have not been botanically well investigated yet. The reasons are that it is a politically unstable state with acts of violence and the historically still occurring practice of head-hunting. Just one day before we arrived the head-hunters had massacred the whole male population of a village. And in one village we passed, a 'terrorist' was killed during a shooting with Indian military. This was in Kamjong (Chassad), a nearby place of the *Trachycarpus ukhrulense* habitat, where the last military checkpoint is located on the Indian side of the Indian-Burmese border.

All in all, the journey to Manipur can still be called an adventure, not in sense of bungee-jumping or rafting through Himalayan rivers but in sense of being really dangerous and rather complicated due to bureaucratic impediments. A lot of paper-work has to be done and I guess we had to collect about 5 different permissions from as double as much offices. But at least I got all papers successfully and could start the trip. At Siliguri, an Indian airport, I met Keshow Chandra Pradhan and we started the last part of the 5-day journey from Germany to Manipur.

Above, the crown of a Trachycarpus ukhrulense*, shown in its hilly northeastern Indian habitat.*

The Indian state of Manipur, and especially the district Ukhrul, is still a forgotten region. The people are very poor, the electricity supply and television are also by Indian standards very low. Most people live in tin huts or wooden sheds under extremely plain circumstances. Infrastructure is only rudimentary and the nearer we got to the habitat, the more absent it became. But nature compensated for all these inconveniences.

Behind the last military check-point, which was approximately 13 km before the Burmese border, civilisation ended. No more villages, just the beaten track and here and there signs of burned-down forests. Agriculture in Manipur is done by the cycles of burning down the original forest, cultivation for 1 year and then leaving the place to move to another location. The locals call this procedure "Gune", a kind of "land-cultivation" which leads to a progressive destruction of original dry temperate forests.

The habitat is approximately 3 to 5 km from the Bur-

(Continued on page 22)

And. . . .here's the solution! How well did you do with it?

	S 1	A	**R** 2	I	**B** 3	U	**S** 4		**S** 5	P
M 6			E		Y		Y			
A		**T** 7,8	D		**E** 9	L	A	**T** 10	**A** 11	
D 12	I	O	O	**N** 13			**G** 14	U	A	**M** 15
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G				N			U	**P** 17		T
A 18	I	P	H	A	N	**E** 19	S		**G** 20	A
S						L		**G** 21		**L**
C 22	O	O	N	T	I	E		**L** 23	O	L
A						G		A		I
R 24	**A** 25	**I** 26	**N** 27			A		U		C
	C 28	O	P	**E** 29	R	N	I	C	I	A
		N 30	K	A		S		A		

Farewell, *Livistona benthamii!*

By John Kennedy

Obit, aetatis 21, *Livistona benthamii* at Florida Entomological Lab (FMEL) in Vero Beach, mourned by the members of the Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society, and survived by numerous progeny. This palm which contributed so valiantly to our seed bank (about $1,000) died somewhere between late November, 2003, and early February, 2004. CFPACS member Janice Broda, who alerted us to its existence in February, 2000, discovered that it was dead. The palm had been in fine shape at Thanksgiving when Janice last noticed it.

The cause of death is not entirely clear, though the palmetto weevil is suspected of the murder. The other alternative, lightning, is not all that frequent in fall and winter in Florida. And no herbicide spraying had been done in the vicinity, a finger into the Indian River lagoon.

This palm was planted by Bill Bidlingmayer, who was a scientist at FMEL for many years prior to his retirement in 1987. It was grown from Fairchild seed germinating in 1982. Its identity was confirmed by its exact correspondence to the species as described in Tony Rodd's monograph on *Livistona*. This Australian species in habitat belongs to the mangrove community. At its Indian River County site, it had flourished, without any care whatsoever, in full sun, its feet in brackish water. It had gone through several hurricanes and numerous freezes, including the notorious Christmas freeze of 1989, surviving temperatures then in the teens. Alas, the 15-foot Liv could not survive the palmetto weevil.

Mike Dahme and I collected seed for several years. There was considerable interest since the seeds were not available from any of the usual sources. So, while the FMEL *Livistona benthamii* is no more, thousands of its descendants are now alive all around the world.

An account of this palm and its discovery was published in the June, 2000, issue of The Palmateer, *under the title "Saltwater* Livistona *in Vero." The original story is reprinted on the next page.*

Above, the corpse of the Livistona benthamii *at FMEL in Vero Beach. A victim of the palmetto weevil?*

Afterthoughts on the Demise of the Saltwater *Livistona benthamii. . .*

The main campus of Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce has numerous *Washingtonia robusta*.. When I noticed a tall palm of this species dead, I thought that lightning had struck. When I asked the boss of grounds maintenance, David Eskew, he said, No. And he told me that he had found bugs in it about two inches long. Then I saw another *Washingtonia* at a Fort Pierce shopping center also dead—and there had been no electrical storms for months.

I put a question on our website message board, asking about weevils and received responses from Southwest Florida and from the Panhandle.

See page 18 for further, disquieting information..

—John Kennedy

This explanation of the recently defunct Livistona benthamii *appeared in the June, 2000, issue of* The Palmateer. *See also the story on page 15.*

Saltwater *Livistona* in Vero [2000]

By John Kennedy

Janice Broda e-mailed me in early February about an unusual palm she had spotted at FMEL (Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory) on the south side of Vero Beach. She thought that it might be *Livistona decipiens*, and urged me to go look at it. A few days later, I stood in front of the palm, wondering about its identity. It was clearly a *Livistona*, but which one? Janice had noticed it because it was in fruit, fruit clearly not that of a *Sabal palmetto.* Individuals of that species were everywhere around and anyone looking casually, rather than closely, at the unidentified palm would have assumed that it was just another *Sabal.*

The palm is about 15 feet high overall, with costapalmate leaves, and is approximately 12 inches in diameter at the base. Petioles are armed with small black spines. Five stalks carried black fruit larger than the native *Sabal.* The trunk still holds all its leaf bases and is tightly fibered. Hurricane Irene, last October, was probably responsible for the battered look of the leaves, for the palm is growing in full sun in the open, just above a finger of the brackish Indian River lagoon. Growing all around it are native saltwater plants: sea oxeye daisy (*Borrichia frutescens*), giant leather fern (*Acrostichium daenifolium*), and white mangroves (*Laguncularia racemosa*). The location is about 50 feet from the Boathouse, now FMEL's air-conditioned meeting room.

The proprietor of Borassic Park was, of course, intrigued when he learned of Janice's discovery. So, Mike Dahme and I went to inspect the palm and to collect its seed for our seedbank. Mike cut off dead leaves and a few more to gain access to the fruitstalks. He also came equipped, usefully, with a ladder and a copy of Rodd's monograph on *Livistona.* As Mike cut, I read aloud the description in the monograph of *L. benthamii.* The palm before us, its size, fruit, and location fit perfectly with Rodd. In its native Australia, *L. benthamii* grows in full sun, amid mangroves, along saltwater creeks. We could see no apparent sign that this palm had flowered or fruited previously; there were no old flowerstalks on the palm or on the ground around it. We bagged more than 5,000 fruit; the seed was offered by our seedbank over the Internet.

Bill Bidlingmayer is the source of all unusual palms that turn up at FMEL Bill worked there as a scientist for many years before his retirement in 1987, and was an early member of The Palm Society, precursor to the IPS, and my own mentor in palms. Contacted by e-mail at his present home in Monticello, near Tallahassee, Bill was unsure of the species and asked that he be sent a list of *Livistona*s. Provided with this, he was amazed at all the unfamiliar—recently described--species. However, Bill did pick out *Livistona benthamii* as the correct name. The seed was obtained at Fairchild, Bill believes in the mid-70s. All the better planting spots around the Bidlingmayer house, then located in what is now the clubhouse parking lot of the Garden Grove subdivision, had been taken, so Bill looked farther afield. There were originally two palms planted, the one at FMEL and another in the extreme southwest corner of the Bidlingmayer property. The second individual is not apparent in a tour of the subdivision and may no longer exist.

Thinking over Bill's account, I realized that I had accompanied him on that expedition to Miami which, I believe, took place possibly seven years later than he dates it. Thus, if I am correct, the FMEL *Liv* would be about 18 years old. I also realized that I, too, have a palm of the same species, originating from the same source. Mine, however, is not so large. In fact, it has a trunk only about 24 inches high with, of course, trunk only about 24 inches high with, of course, much smaller leaves on long, arching petioles. But the distinctive protruding hastula is the same, as is the densely fibered trunk; its emerging leaf has the same crowded look of its large sibling five miles away at FMEL. My *L. benthamii* was planted in partial shade (which has grown denser) in a relatively damp area of the kind that many other *Livistona*s like—but not this species.

The *L. benthamii* at FMEL has survived not only complete neglect for many years, but also (unprotected) the infamous Christmas freeze of 1989 when it would have been quite a small plant. The low temperature would have been a few degrees below 20°. I can't recall exactly when I planted my own little palm but I do think it was in the ground, covered by a pillowcase at that time; I have a faint memory of being surprised at its lack of damage. But my *L. saribus,* then about 15 feet tall, was completely undamaged at the same time, as was a same-size *L. drudei.* (My *L. drudei* does not match the description of the species of that name in the Rodd monograph; it flowers but does not set fruit.) Visitors to Stacey Peacock's property near Avon Park have seen two similar individuals, all originating from the same Fairchild sale in the early '80s. Stacey's *L. benthamii* has been badly damaged in freezes

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Above, male cones of Encephalartos ferox, *one shedding pollen. Left above, the hand is Tom Broome's , pollinating a female cone using the "wet" method. Story begins on page 12.*

Saltwater *Livistona* [2000]

(Continued from page 16)

and he believes the species only hardy into the mid twenties.)

Our chapter had a two-day meeting in Vero Beach in March, 1994. On the Saturday night we went to FMEL to watch Paul Craft's slides of improbably beautiful palms in Australian botanical gardens. Florida Medical Entomology Lab is a 38-acre unit of IFAS (Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences), a division of the University of Florida. FMEL studies mosquito life cycles and mosquito control: Indian River County is home to 24—or is it 27?—species of mosquito.

Our sharp-eyed member, Janice Broda, is a computer consultant who also works at FMEL and directs the adjacent 298-acre Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area (ORCA), a joint venture of Indian River County and the St. Johns Water Management District. Another 66 acres were added in April. FMEL has coordinated public access to the property. Among numberless other activities, Janice is the former state president of the Florida Native Plant Society and is a commissioner of the Indian River Mosquito Control District. She has agreed to keep a lookout for other Bidlingmayer palms in out-of-the-way spots at FMEL, having alerted us last year to fruit on a *Coccothrinax argentata* there.

[As an update, my own Livistona benthamii *now has a trunk about 5 feet high, with leaves all the way to the ground. It has not flowered, possibly because of its small size or of its position mostly in shade.—Editor]*

Growing Cycads in Central Florida

(Continued from page 12)

species of cycads produce seeds readily in our growing conditions, and some species do not. In California, they produce viable seeds on the blue species such as *E. horridus,* and *E. princeps,* where we do better with *E. ferox*, and *E. gratus*. Female cones are usually receptive to pollination in September to October here in Florida. The seeds will be held in the cones for 6 months, and then after that, another 6-month period is needed for the maturation of the embryo. After this 6-month period, the seeds are ready to be planted.

Encephalartos ferox is rare, but typically available at our sales and at nurseries that grow rare cycads. As it is with all *Encephalartos* species, this species is on appendix 1 (most endangered) in the CITES listings of endangered plants and animals. I think everyone with the room and the space should have one of these in their landscape.

The Palmetto Weevil: An Old/New Pest

[This article is reprinted, with permission, from the Featured Creatures website: http://ifas.ufl.edu/orn/palmetto_weevil.htm]

By Thomas J. Weissling, USDA, and
Robin M. Giblin-Davis, University of Florida

Introduction

Weevils are a type of beetle that have their mandibles at the end of a sometimes very long rostrum (a snout-like projection of the head). In fact, the rostrum of some weevils (i.e., nut weevils) is as long as their bodies. These modified mouthparts are used for feeding and to prepare holes in plant material in which eggs are laid. Weevils are a large, diverse and important group of insects. Most feed on plant material, and many are considered to be economic pests. While adults feed outside the plant, the larvae (or grubs), which are legless, feed within the host plant.

The largest weevil in North America is the palmetto weevil, *Rhynchophorus cruentatus* Fabricius. The palmetto weevil is native to Florida and is the only species of palm weevil in the continental United States. Worldwide, there are ten described species of palm weevils. Until recently, the palmetto weevil was considered a minor pest, attacking only severely wounded and dying trees. However, it is starting to gain status as a pest of stressed nursery and transplanted palms.

Distribution

Worldwide, there are ten described species of weevils in the genus *Rhynchophorus* that feed on palms. The palmetto weevil has been reported from coastal South Carolina south through the Florida Keys, and west into coastal Texas. Fossil records suggest that the palmetto weevil was present in Florida during the Pleistocene (about 1 million years ago).

Description

Adults of the palmetto weevil vary in color from solid black to almost completely red with a variable black pattern. Their total length from the tip of the rostrum to end of the pygidium (the tergum of the last visible segment of the abdomen) ranges from 1.9 to 3.0 cm. Males and females can be distinguished by the surface of the rostrum. The rostrum of males are covered with tiny bumps while females have a smooth, shiny rostrum.

The larvae, or grubs, are legless and creamy to yellowish in color. Their prominent head is dark brown and very hard. Mature larvae can be quite large, some with a mass close to six grams. Although we are aware of no human consumption of palmetto weevil in the United States, larvae of palm weevils are considered a delicacy in other locations.

Relative size of adult palmetto weevils, Rhynchophorus cuentatus.

Life Cycle

The palmetto weevil has a complete life cycle: with an egg, several larval instars, prepupal, pupal, and adult stages. Eggs are laid in the bases of leaves or in wounds in a dying host palm. In the laboratory, a palmetto weevil female will lay an average of 207 eggs in her lifetime. Eggs hatch in about three days and begin to feed on palm tissue. As they molt (grow) the larvae have an increasingly large appetite and tend to feed primarily in the soft tissue surrounding the apical meristem. Mature grubs migrate to the periphery of the stem or petioles and prepare a cocoon from palm fibers. After surrounding themselves with the cocoon, the larvae enter a prepupal stage, then a pupal stage. After a few weeks, an adult emerges from the pupal case and may immediately break free of the cocoon or wait within the cocoon for several days before emerging. The entire life cycle, from egg to adult, takes about 84 days. Adults may live for several weeks (up to 26 weeks in captivity).

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The Palmetto Weevil: In An Up Cycle?

Above, lateral view of adult palmetto weevil. Below, grub in palm petiole.

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Palmetto weevil adults are active fliers and can be found throughout the year in Florida. However, adult activity is usually more noticeable in the late spring and early summer months. When not flying in search of a host palm, adults hide between the leaf bases and stems of healthy palms presumably to conserve water within their bodies.

Host Range

The palmetto weevil is closely associated with the cabbage palmetto (*Sabal palmetto* (Walker) Loddiges ex J.A. et Schultes), a palm native to the southeastern U.S. In addition, the native saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens* (Bart.) Small) appears to be an acceptable alternate host. Several other palms, most of them introduced species, have been observed with larval infestations. These include the Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis* Hortorum ex Chabaud), *P. dactylifera*, *Pritchardia* sp., *Washingtonia* sp., royal palms (*Roystonea* sp.), *Latania* sp., coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera* Linnaeus), and *Caryota* sp.

In undisturbed locations, palms are rarely observed with palmetto weevil infestations. Trees stuck by lightening have been observed with subsequent weevil infestations. The palmetto weevil has, in recent years, caused considerable damage to some newly transplanted or otherwise stressed palms.

Damage

The symptoms of a palmetto infestation vary, but commonly involve a general, often irreversible decline of younger leaves. In palm species with upright leaves, such as the Canary Island date palm, the older leaves begin to droop during the early stages of infestation but quickly collapse thereafter. As the infestation progresses, the larval feeding damage and associated rot is so severe that the integrity of the crown is compromised and the top of the palm falls over. This condition is termed "popped neck". If the palm is pulled apart at this stage, larvae, cocoons, and even adults may be found within the crown region. Early detection of weevil infestation is difficult, and treatment even in the early stages of infestation may be too late to save the tree. This area needs more study, however.

Associations with *Metamasius*

In the early 1980's, the silky cane weevil (*Metamasius hemipterus sericeus* (Oliver)) was accidentally introduced into Dade County, Florida. This insect is an important pest of sugarcane and other plants, including palms, in the Neotropics. Adults are attracted to and lay eggs in palm sheaths, petioles, or stems. Within the host, larvae develop into adults in less than two months.

Silky cane weevil adults appear to be attracted to palms by odors emanating from small wounds, such as those created by pruning leaves. While initial infestations of palms by the silky cane weevil is not usually lethal, we believe that the stress created by the infestation makes these palms susceptible to successful attack by the palmetto weevil. This association also needs further study.

Chemical Ecology

Volatile odors emanating from dying palms are attractive to palmetto weevil adults. The exact number and ratios of volatile compounds released from wounded trees are unknown but several compounds, known collectively as "palm esters" have been found to be attractive. In addition, an aggregation pheromone (5-methyl-4-octanol, or "cruentol") produced and re-

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Palmetto Weevil

(Continued from page 19)

leased by male weevils attracts other male and female palmetto weevils. Neither the "palm esters" or cruentol are very attractive by themselves. But when put together, they are synergistic, attracting many adult palmetto weevils.

As the story may go, a palmetto weevil adult male flying amongst many palms locates an attractive odor… that given off by a dying palm. He flies upwind towards the odor source and eventually lands on the potential host palm. As he begins to feed he releases the aggregation pheromone which is attractive to other weevils at long distances. Other weevils fly towards the pheromone source, and as they get closer, the pheromone/"palm esters" mixture takes over to guide them to the host. As more males land on the host, they also release pheromone attracting even more males and females. Once a population has gathered on the tree, mating and egg laying take place.

Management

Insecticidal treatment of trees infested with the palmetto weevil is futile. The best recourse is to cut down infested palms and destroy them before adults emerge from the tree. Prophylactic treatment of recently transplanted palms with insecticides is an option but the costs can quickly become prohibitive unless only a few trees are to be protected.

Growers managing nursery plantings of palms may have the greatest potential to control the palmetto weevil by an integrated program. First, trees should be grown using cultural practices that promote vigor. This means following proper fertilization and irrigation guidelines. Trees such as the Canary Island date palm are not adapted for the south Florida climate. Great care should be taken to ensure the health of these trees. Secondly, wounding of trees, such as by pruning, should be avoided. Following these two steps will help to prevent an infestation. If trees are infested with palmetto weevils, there is little if any chance of saving them. Therefore, sanitation, as in removing and destroying infested plant material is crucial in preventing or reducing subsequent infestations.

Finally, mass trapping of palmetto weevils in buckets baited with cruentol and "palm esters" may have great potential in reducing infestations. Mass trapping, combined with sanitation has been shown to reduce American palm weevil populations in Central America. We are currently evaluating mass trapping as a tool for management of the palmetto weevil.

'Popped neck' on a Sabal palmetto *is a visible sign of attack by the palmetto weevil.*

Perfectly healthy! Coccothrinax crinita, *the Old Man Palm, at the Carlsons' during theMarch 13th meeting in Vero Beach. (Photo by Karen Barrese)*

The Palmetto Weevil Is Not the Palm Weevil

[An e-mail from Forrest W. Howard, IFAS, about the difference between the two weevils. Tom Fasulo is the project manager from whom I requested permission to reprint the palmetto weevil article. —Editor]

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

Tom Fasulo forwarded to me your message about palm weevils. *Rhynchophorus cruentatus* is what we call the palmetto weevil, because its natural host is evidently cabbage palmetto. It is native to Florida and the Atlantic and Gulf coastal regions where *Sabal palmetto* is native.

Rhynchophorus palmarum is what we call the palm weevil. It is native to Tropical America. The range is basically Brazil to Mexico. It is not present in most Caribbean Islands except for Trinidad, and we don't have it in Florida. I don't think anybody has ever figured out what constitutes its natural host. It is usually thought of in reference to coconut palms, because it is a vector of red ring, a serious disease of coconut palms throughout much of the American tropics. But as you know, coconut could not be its natural host, because it is not native to the Americas.

There are some other species of *Rhynchophorus* in other parts of the world. All attack palms.

Best wishes,

F. W. Howard, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Entomology
University of Florida, IFAS
Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center
3205 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314

e-mail: FWHOWARD@UFL.EDU

New Pest Weevil in South Florida

For future reference, yet another pest weevil has been identified (just when you thought it was safe to go outside). The weevil is *Myllocerus undatus* Marshall, native to Sri Lanka. Almost nothing is known about this weevil but, so far, 35 host species have been noted. These include *Dypsis lutescens*—the only palm listed—citrus, hibiscus, Surinam cherry, orchid trees, sea grapes, and many other common ornamentals.

The weevil is presently established from Homestead to Boca Raton. Sketchy details may be found at www.doacs.state.fl.us

—John Kennedy

From the Editor's Desk

The pleasant news, this month, is the CFPACS roster enclosed with this issue of *The Palmateer*—"only" four years after the last published roster. We have been talking about publishing another for the last three years. Such a simple thing to accomplish, so why did it take so long? The major stumbling block was the questionable accuracy of the membership roster. When Karen Barrese took over as Membership Chair on January 1, 2003, she inherited a list full of suspect details and significant omissions. With the help of our treasurer, Mike Merritt, Karen was able to reconstruct the membership roster. I'd say Karen is a Sweetheart, but that would be sexist. How about: Karen is a Real Pal? Anyway, we are most grateful to her.

The first section of the roster is a convenient list of members by Central Florida counties. The second section is an alphabetical list of all members, including those elsewhere in Florida, in the U. S., and abroad. I was surprised to see how few members there are in Orange County; I would have thought Orlando would be a hotbed of palmophiles, what with Leu and Dave Witt right there. Brevard County appears to have the largest number of members. Seems to me that an evangelism drive is in order for Orange, Hillsborough, and Pinellas Counties. Maybe something on the order of the Mormon missionary boys: palm lovers on bicycles, going door-to-door?

* * * * *

Any errors in the roster should be reported to Karen (see e-mail, snail mail addresses on the officers list on the next-to-last page). What's on the roster is what she has. When members move, change phone numbers, or –more likely—change e-mail addresses, they don't always notify Membership Central. When Karen sent me the roster, I corrected the telephone area codes for members in the Treasure Coast counties: a year ago 772 replaced 561 (now confined to Palm Beach County). Then I copied the roster to CD and mailed off to Diana Grabowski (blessings on her head!) who printed it.

* * * * *

Selling palms or, My Puzzling Experience. Heathcote Botanical Gardens in Fort Pierce held May Fest on May 8th. Basically a fundraiser, the garden buys plants to sell to visitors who line up, the early birds, for the 9 a.m. opening. Some bring their own wheelbar-

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New *Trachycarpus*

(Continued from page 13)

mese border, around a half hour drive beyond the last check-point in Kamjong. The surrounding hills are steep, with dry temperate evergreen forests and open grassland on exposed slopes and the peaks. The soil cover in the hills is thin and contains a lot of small rock fragments which are of ferruginous nature. The outer 2 to 3 cm of the rocks are corroded. Most of the grasslands are strewed with these rocks and stones. The soil is sandy clay with low pH at around 6 to 6.5. Signs of progressive erosion are found on most slopes.

The climate in the hills is warm temperate and ranges depending on altitude from -1°C for short periods to 36°C during summer in lower elevations. Due to monsoon influence the rainy season begins around May and lasts until October. During winter the temperature could fall just below zero [Celsius], the weather could be rather chilly and cold, but without freezing days. Snowfall is rare.

The turtle-back pattern of the Trachycarpus ukhrulense *trunk.*

The first impression when reaching the habitat at Maku at approximately 1600m was: could there really be a palm here? On these steep hills, under these chilly und windy conditions? On places where only grass can survive? But there it was: some 25 specimens spread on eastern slopes, most of them growing solely near the forest border, with a handful of specimens just in the middle of the open grasslands. Only a few were were growing together in small clumps of 2 to 4 plants. You could see many plants, especially on exposed locations that were rumpled by winds, carrying only 6 to 12 intact leaves. Specimens in protected locations looked much better: full crowns with fantastic large leaves. We counted up to 23 leaves on the "better" specimens. To our surprise, the count of segments was rather interesting: 64 to 70 segments per leaf on one female specimen we examined. A very uncommon feature, since leaves of *T. takil* are irregularly divided down to about the middle into 45 to 50 segments (Beccari, O., 1905, 1931; Ethelbert Blatter, S.J., 1926). Such a number of segments has not been reported yet in any *Trachycarpus* with reniform seeds („Takil-Strain", Lorek, 2004). Might this be a new species?

As we looked closer, we could see among the specimens not one young plant, nor seedlings. The youngest plant we had seen was a 1.5 m large specimen which obviously will reach the stage of maturity soon. Was this a result of the harsh conditions? Has there been the practice of "Gune"? We could not get an answer to this question because the time on the slope was limited. We had a limit of 2 hours which was given to us by the military at the Kamjong check-point to return. We had to hurry, a half hour drive back to the check-point means 1 hour time for examination. So we started to take photos, examine five specimens, took herbarial material and a probe of the rock-fragments and soil.

A third surprising feature which could be seen was the structure of the fibrous trunk. About 2/3 of all examined specimens showed a trunk pattern which had not been described in any other *Trachycarpus* yet: The remaining leaf sheaths covered the trunk densely so we could only see few fibres. Somehow it reminded us of a turtle back. Quite amazing. Some really new aspects which lead to the conclusion that, in fact, we had found a new species.

Many specimens were heavily damaged by the environmental conditions: crashed-down leaves, deformations of the trunk (sand-glass structures), non artificial wounds of the trunks, torn off fibres. Could this palm ever be able to propagate itself? As we had seen no indication that *T. ukhrulense* in this habitat would ever be able to survive in the long run, we of course have to ask whether this is a threatened habitat or not. No seedlings, the practice of "Gune" and the harsh conditions may be the reason why these palms eventually will be able to multiply every few years, but not on a regular basis. But

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New *Trachycarpus*

(Continued from page 22)

there are some indications that there exist a few more locations where *T. ukhrulense* is growing. Reports from locals referred to the Shirui Kashung Peak and some more wild stands in the hills around, additionally it is said that on the other side of the border in Burma (Myanmar) it could also be found. So we have no reason to believe that it is an actually threatened species but further observations should be done to preserve this very interesting palm, a survivor palm, of course.

As the *T. ukhrulense* is quite a beautiful palm which is growing under more cool conditions it could be possible to grow it under same conditions as *T. fortunei*. According to the climate in Maku I would guess that it will be not so hardy as *T. fortunei* but hardier than *T. martianus*. An ornamental palm for climates where *T. martianus* fails to grow and where it is too hot for *T. fortunei*. Cultural requirements would be similar to *T. fortunei:* shady to half-shady locations, neutral to slightly acidic loamy soil with regular watering during summer.

The seeds of the new species have "yellow flesh," according to the author.

Below, *the slope in Manipur state, India, on which* Trachycarpus ukhrulense *grows. Difficult for visitors, not so for native palms?*

The scientific description is scheduled for the September issue of *The Palmateer.*

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Author: Dr. Michael Lorek
Grillparzer Weg 35a
42289 Wuppertal
Germany
Info@tropengarten.de

Central Florida Palm Society: How It Got Started

(Continued from page 11)

the Gizella Kopsick Arboretum. Tom Pavluvcik organized that meeting. At the February 12, 1983 meeting, the first open election of officers occurred with Tom Pavluvcik as President, Joe Alf as 1st VP, Hershell Womble as 2nd VP, Nancy Hall as Secretary, Ed Hall as Treasurer and Frank Radosta as Editor. Enthusiasm was high; membership was growing about 50% each meeting and the treasury was growing due to the sale of contributed palms. How much better could it become?

Well, the Society has grown to several hundred members; the Society is now making donations to research facilities and producing the best newsletter of any IPS chapter. It should be noted that the by-laws dictated the VP's succession after one year until becoming president but there was no limit on the duration of the other officers. Turn over in the Editor position occurred every several years. Burnout was the big problem. Remember, at this point in time, there wasn't a computer to produce mailing labels, etc. The Secretary provided a list of members and labels were typed one at a time. Being an Editor was a very time consuming position.

In late 1988 Stacey Peacock took on the editor's position. We need to thank all editors prior to and after Stacey, but he had a unique impact on the future of the society. One had to read every issue cover to cover because of Stacey's unique way of organizing each newsletter.

More important was the exciting phone call Stacey received from a reader. He challenged the CFPS to raise $1000.00 and if they did, he would match it. This was considered a major challenge but in the allotted time, we succeeded. The reason for the challenge was to improve the CFPS publication. This didn't occur instantly but the newsletter has continually improved.

Recognized as a major chapter of the IPS, Ed Hall was elected director of IPS. During his tenure he hoped to have the CFPS co-host a biennial meeting. *[Here's Ed speaking in his own voice, first-person]* Months before the 1992 biennial in Miami, I made an inquiry about co-hosting with them but no agreement could be reached. I then decided the CFPS could easily host a Board-of-Directors meeting. At the next biennial meeting Ed volunteered the CFPS to host the following year's Board of Directors meeting. All he had to do now was to convince the CFPS to support the effort. Shortly after returning home, I called Libby Besse to tell her of his actions. Her response was "I think it is a great idea."

After months planning the location and agenda, the events were well received by the directors and the CFPS attendees. This was the only Board of Directors meeting (that we are aware of) that gave all members of the local society a chance to meet the IPS directors. This was one of many activities that high light the history of the CFPS.

Some of the other significant high lights include 1) The first two-day meeting with seminars, 2) meetings involving other societies, 3) meetings at locations far removed from our home region, 4) at least 3 meetings a year, 5) the establishment of the CFPS as the leading source of palm seeds and 6) the development of a 200+ membership willing to serve as officers in the society. All of these firsts are a result of the members willing to positively support the CFPS.

As mentioned previously, the by-laws limited the term of VP's. Upon being elected as a 2nd VP it allowed the person to rise to 1st VP and than president, serving one year in each position. There was no time limit for Secretary and Treasurer. Being the most strenuous position, the Editor lasted 2 to 4 years and finding a good replacement wasn't always easy. As the 2nd VP advanced, finding a new candidate was almost as difficult. Realizing the challenge to find new candidates and the need to maintain continuity, we felt it was important to retain our offices. Probably as important was the fact we really enjoyed serving. I am sure there were other members that could have done an equal or possibly better job but no one came forth.

We are thankful that when we needed to be replaced replacements were there. Our tenure was one of our greatest memories. We developed many friends who otherwise we would have never met.

We appreciate being elected as life members and see a great future for the society.

These modest recollections do not take notice of the years during which CFPS—no cycads yet—was barely alive. Ed and Nancy Hall kept the chapter going against the odds until its renewal with the presidency of Tom Broome and a full slate of active officers in the fall of 1996. —Editor

PALMS OF ST. KITTS and NEVIS

Cruise ship approaching volcanic St. Kitts. The summits of its mountains are usually wrapped in clouds. (Fig. 1)

Prestoea acuminata*, a beautiful native palm, on the slopes of Mt. Liamuiga, St. Kitts. (Fig. 2)*

By William Tang

The islands of Saint Kitts and Nevis together form the smallest country in the Western hemisphere, with a total area of 104 square miles. They are situated at the northern end of the Lesser Antilles island chain, approximately 200 miles east-southeast of Puerto Rico. In March of this year I had the opportunity to visit these islands as part of a survey for the giant African snail (*Acatina fulica*), an agricultural pest that is now spreading in the Lesser Antilles and threatens to enter the U.S. It is a relatively short flight to these islands from Miami, via Puerto Rico. From the air the islands for the most part are a verdant green color. There is, however, a rain shadow effect with the northeast sides receiving considerably more precipitation from winds sweeping in from the Atlantic Ocean. Like all the Lesser Antilles, St. Kitts and Nevis are of volcanic origin, and both islands are crowned by steep-sided volcanoes which reach to 3792 and 3232 feet elevation respectively (Fig 1). Volcanic activity is not dead on these islands as volcanic gases seep out in some spots.

Saint Kitts and Nevis were colonized by the British and French since the early 1600's, and until recently the relatively flat coastal areas had been under continuous cultivation for sugarcane for nearly four centuries. On Saint Kitts, when I hiked up the steep mountainsides, beyond the sugar fields, the forests appeared intact. The local peoples, mainly descendants of slaves that worked the sugar plantations, appear to venture little into the mountains. There is no logging or other extractive use of the forest and for the most part the ground is too steep for growing vegetables.

The forests here have many species reminiscent of forests in Central America; tectaria and tree ferns, selaginella, philodendrons, and cyclanths are common in the understory. There is one species of palm found throughout these mountain forests. A relatively tall species with arching pinnate leaves (see fig. 2). According to Scott Zona, Palm Specialist at Fairchild Tropical Garden, this species is *Prestoea acuminata* (formerly *P. montana* or *Euterpe montana*). This is a widespread species in the Lesser and Greater Antilles. This palm occurs mainly as an understory plant, becoming more common from the lower slopes as one reaches into the cloud forest zones of the volcanoes. On the wind swept ridges, where the forest canopy is lower and more broken, this palm is often exposed to the open air and is more stunted. Inflorescences were common but the time of my visit did not coincide with ripening seed.

In addition to *Prestoea acuminata*, several cultivated palms are to be seen on these islands. *Pritchardia* sp., from the Pacific, can be seen growing in front of houses and public places (Fig. 3), as well as *Hyophorbe verschaffeltii* from the Indian Ocean. On Saint Kitts, I also saw *Phoenix* prob. d*actylifera* a large trunked *Sabal* (perhaps *domingensis*), and a spiny stemmed species.

Presently both islands are undergoing economic changes. Several years ago Nevis abandoned sugar

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Palms of St. Kitts and Nevis

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growing and embraced tourism. Many outsiders, including celebrities, have established homes here, and golf courses and other attractions have been built. Many cruise boats stop in the capital, Basseterre, on Saint Kitts, however the lowlands of this islands are still clothed in sugarcane. On my last day, I spoke to Dr. Jerome Thomas, head of the Dept. of Agriculture on Saint Kitts. He said that in all probability sugar production, which is subsidized by the British, will be abandoned within two years and that historic way of life on these islands will vanish for good. Of the mountain forests, which cover most of the land, he said that most likely these will be preserved for ecotourism and that ideas are being considered to produce guides for their flora and fauna for the tourists.

William Tang works as an entomologist/malacologist for the USDA.

A Pritchardia sp. *growing exuberantly next to a house on St. Kitts (fig. 3).*

From the Editor's Desk

(Continued from page 21)

rows for convenience. Most of the plants that attract the horde are bedding plants, spectacular flowering vines, and *Acalypha*. As the local CFPACS contact (and Heathcote board member), I volunteered to buy palms and to be on hand for most of the day to provide information to those who came by. Nothing too fancy or tricky, but maybe not exactly what's found at Home Depot and Wal-Mart. Nothing bigger than 3 gallons, nothing really expensive. But fewer than half the palms sold. I had posted color pictures in front of each species and had a sheet on each for anyone who asked. I did distribute at least 30 of my palm handouts so I did give witness, boys and girls.

* * * * *

The Board discussed at the March 13th meeting at Heathcote the possibility of our posting current issues of *The Palmateer* to the website to be accessed, via password, to overseas members. Postage costs abroad are killing us. Membership is very inexpensive and the Board has wished to keep it low. However, we do have to cover our costs; the $15 annual fee for foreign members just about equals the expense of mailing four issues of the bulletin to some of them. It should be

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Seed Bank Report, Feb.-April

For the quarter February thru April the chapter had only one seed offer, which featured the cycad *Zamia floridana* v "Palatka Giant" donated by Hersh Womble. This sold out and resulted in $250 for the chapter's treasury. Additionally, *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* given for distribution by Neil Yorio came to almost $100. Other seeds distributed included *Zamia furfuracea* and *Z. floridana* from Charlene Palm, and total receipts came to $380.

As was indicated in the last issue of *The Palmateer*, the chapter is in need of a volunteer [or volunteers] to send out the seeds which are donated to it. To date all of the volunteers have been from Brevard, on the E coast: perhaps it's time for someone in another part of the state to assume this function, which has been appreciated by members as an affordable way to build their palm/cycad collections as well as a significant source of income for the chapter. [Without which members may soon be paying significantly more for annual membership, now a nominal $10, as bulletin costs have been subsidized by seed revenue.] As notification of seed availability is by email, computer possession is essential for this post, but computer know-how is not as records can be maintained by parchment [*Borassus flabellifer* fronds preferred] and quill, a pencil would work fine too. Access to a semi-rural post office would be a plus [city post offices tend to have longer queues], but there is nothing 'hi tech' about this. Hopefully, someone [or two or three] will step up to continue this function, now 10 years old.

--Mike Dahme

In March Mark Grabowski had the opportunity to tour the U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Johns, St Thomas, and St. Croix) as the drummer and palmateer for The Danny Morris Band. When not playing at the various venues Mark and Diana sought out surf and seeds.
Plenty of the native *Coccothrinax* sp.(??), in every terrain of the islands. Also impressive were mature stands of *Sabal causiarum* seen at the favorite surf spot Hull Bay in St. Thomas, and—of course— plenty of tropical delights such as *Pritchardia sp., Latania sp.,* and coconuts, etc... were seen on all three of the islands. Beautiful sights were had both above and below sea level.... and great music too!

—Diana G.

Above, the Danny Morris Band gets in tune underneath the coconut palm. Below, a "fat, happy Pritchardia*" on St. Croix with seed gatherer Mark G. seizing his opportunity.*
(Photos by Diana Grabowski)

From the Editor's Desk

(Continued from page 26)
emphasized that no decision has yet been agreed on and the technicalities of posting the issue have not been examined.

* * * * *

Gizella Kopsick Palm Arboretum in St. Petersburg marked an expansion in size and plantings with a ceremony at beginning of May. A full account of the new goodies is clearly in order and will appear in the September issue of *The Palmateer*. This will likely whet palm-appetites for a return meeting-visit to that bayfront locale.

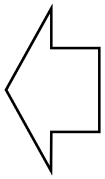
* * * * *

An e-mail from member Dorothy Kellogg in Odessa: "John, I made a discovery that I'd like to share with anyone who hasn't made the same discovery...it may be public knowledge and I am the only uninformed one. I picked a "pod" of coontie seeds and picked them apart to soak to try to get the fruit off. I broke my arm and wanted to put another "pod" in to soak, but didn't take the time to separate them from the brown fuzzy part that separates them. I couldn't believe it when I later checked the first pan and found the fruit as tight to the seed as in the beginning. I happened to check the second pan, and the fruit fell away as if by magic. So from now on, I'll just put the whole pod in...it must have enzymes to make the fruit deteriorate."
Tips on culture/growing/things **not** to do are welcome for publication in *The Palmateer*. We have all had our share of insights (as well as of stupidities).

— **John Kennedy**

Palm Points #31
Pruning Palms, Part One

Palms require little pruning, usually only to remove dead leaves. With a clumping palm, suckers can be cut to the number of trunks the owner wishes.
Palms should never be cut where the emerging leaf comes out of the trunk. This will most likely kill a single trunk palm. With a clumping palm, that individual trunk will probably die.
Possibly the most destructive pruning of palms is the removal of green leaves. When green leaves are taken off, usually for neatness, the palm's ability to make food for itself is reduced. If many leaves are removed, the palm's health is put into serious jeopardy.
Cutting green leaves does not force new growth.



Back by popular demand(?), four more of the numberless Palm Points taped for broadcast over public radio station WQCS in Fort Pierce by your Editor, and which have brought him such local fame. Here, printed as basics for palm-beginners.

Palm Points #32
Pruning Palms, Part Two

The most unusual palm that many Vero Beach residents had ever seen was once visible on a busy residential street. Its owner had shaped the so-called "Areca" Palm, which is naturally a shrubby, clumping palm, into an exclamation point, rounded on top and narrowing toward the base. It was virtually a piece of topiary.
Most people have more feeling for the palm's natural growth pattern and would not prune it as a shrub Up North.
Pruning woody plants activates growth points elsewhere. But palms aren't woody plants.
Be careful not to injure palm trunks with lawn mower or grass trimmer. Such injuries do not heal but provide access for attack by insects and disease.

First Quarter 2004 Meeting Minutes

The first quarter meeting was called to order at Heathcote March 13, 2004. The board was presented with the expansion plans of Heathcote and possible involvement in plantings of the future.
Printing a roster was also discussed. Printing one or website printing of one was discussed.
The Seed Bank position is still open, and possible people to fill it were brought up.
Complimentary membership categories were discussed.
Sales tax issues were also brought up. Private sales are exempt but at public sales , taxes are to be collected.
The June 12th meeting at Tom Barrese's was finalized.

--Chuck Grieneisen, Secretary

Palm Points #33
Saw Palmetto

Saw palmetto is the low, clumping palm with fan leaves growing in pine woods and across stretches of open fields. Its only enemy is the bulldozer.
Saw palmetto takes care of itself. Perfectly adapted to where it grows, saw palmetto doesn't require watering or fertilizing.
It provides a visual barrier and a security barrier. Where thickly grown, not many people are going squeeze through because of the small, sharp saw teeth on the leaf stems. Saw palmetto is best left growing on a house lot. It is available from native plant nurseries at premium prices, usually in small sizes. Under favorable conditions, saw palmetto will grow reasonably fast from the pot. Its Latin name is *Serenoa repens*.

Palm Chats #34
Transplanting Larger Palms

Landscape size palms must be propped up after planting. Some material, maybe burlap, is placed around the trunk. Three or four wooden blocks are spaced along the trunk on top of the material, held in place by baling wire.
Two by 4s are nailed into the blocks. This avoids inflicting wounds in the palm's trunk that will not heal.
Palms can be planted or moved at any time of the year in Florida, though winter may not be the best time. The emerging leaf, or spear, should be tied up between the two top leaves so that it is not damaged in the move. Most other leaves are cut off to reduce moisture loss.

TREASURER'S REPORT

December 13, 2003 to March 13, 2003

INCOME:

Seed sales……	1,232.60
Membership Dues……	720.00
Donations to CFPACS……..…….....……..	0.00
Public Sales …… ……	0.00
Private Sales (Dec. 13 meeting in Cocoa Beach)……	927.00
Back Issue Sales……	0.00
Total _____	2,879.60

EXPENSES:

Publications (v. 24, nos. 1)……...…	1,549.59
Grants ……..….	0.00
Miscellaneous (DOR sales tax penalties minus Tshirt sales)	309.45
Total _____	1,859.04

INCOME - EXPENSES …….. 1,020.56

Bank balance 09/13/03……	23,096.39
Bank balance 12/13/03……	24,020.03

Net increase……. 923.64

(Note: Club-budget and bank reporting periods do not exactly coincide.)

ASSETS:

Endowment (mutual funds)…….	10,000.00 (purchase price)
…….	9,456.26 (value at time of purchase)
…….	8,876.09 (current value, close of market 3/11/2004)
	(5,917.28 Washington, 2,958.81 banked from sale of Putnam shares)
Office equipment and tent……	1,595.00
Computers and software……..…	2,544.41 minus depreciation
Printer……..…	2,200.00 minus depreciation

—Michael Merritt, Treasurer

"An average level of seed sale income, together with the year's peak income from membership dues and and good income from the auction at the December meeting, put our budget up by about $1K. We are in debt chiefly to Montgomery Botanical Center donations for the auction income. Our main expense was the March *Palmateer*. The sales tax penalties were partly my fault and partly DOR's fault. (But we pay for both.)"

—Treasurer's comment

'Tis true, The Palmateer has not been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Plant Reporting in any recent years. (Disappointing, but there's always Next Year!) Join the Central Florida Palm & Cycad Society and receive four issues of our admir'd periodical as a benefit of membership. Still only $10.00 a year or three years for $25.00. (How much longer will the Society be able to hold this incredibly minimal price line?) Just fill out the form below and mail , check made out to CFPACS, to our Membership Chair.

What is it? ID time, folks. Did you guess correctly? None other than Nannorhops ritchieana *growing, not in scenic, native Afghanistan nor in bucolic Alachua County, but in the West Indies at the Ministerial Complex, St. George's, Grenada. (Photo by Robert Wilson)*

Please print

Name_____
Street_____
City_____
State,
Zip_____
Email_____
Phone (area)_____

Wish to be added to Seed Bank E-mail list? (Circle one) YES NO

Willing to be listed publicly in roster? (Circle one) YES NO

Mail check made out to CFPACS (domestic: $10 one year; $25 three years; foreign: US$15 one year) to:
Karen Barrese
Membership Chair
5942 Ehren Cutoff
Land O Lakes, FL 34639
Membership also available at website:
www.cfpacs.org

The Cycad Society (TCS): membership is $25 per year, includes quarterly newsletter. 11803 Hyacinth Drive, Austin, TX 78758 www.membership@cycad.org

Don't forget! Buy your CFPACS t-shirt at the June 12th meeting

The International Palm Society (IPS)
Anyone interested in joining the IPS and receiving the quarterly, illustrated journal, *Palms*, should send a check for $35 (regular membership) or $45 (family membership) to:
International Palm Society
P. O. Box 368
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dues may also be paid online at the IPS website, www.palms.org

CENTRAL FLORIDA PALM & CYCAD SOCIETY

President
Ray Hernández
4315 W. San Juan Street
Tampa, FL33629-7703
(813) 832-3561
SubTropicOfCancer@hotmail.com

Past President
David E. Witt
7026 Burnway Drive
Orlando, FL 32819
(407) 352-4115
dwitt3@cfl.rr.com

Secretary
Chuck Grieneisen
2450 Simmons Road
Oviedo, FL 32765
(407) 359-6276
chuckfg@mpinet.net

Treasurer
Michael Merritt
1250 Bee Lane
Geneva, FL 32732-9172
(407) 349-1293
(407) 349-2924 FAX
mmerritt85@cfl.rr.com

East Vice President
Diana Grabowski
541 S. Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
(321) 783-2342
ScinceLady@aol.com

Central Vice President
Tom Broome
P. O. Box 325
Polk City, FL 33868-0325
(863) 984-2739
cycadjungl@aol.com

West Vice President
Tom Barrese
5942 Ehren Cutoff
Land O Lakes, FL 34639
(813) 996-7148
palmnation@msn.com

Membership Chair
Karen Barrese
5942 Ehren Cutoff
Land O Lakes, FL 34639
(813) 996-7148
cfpacsmembership@msn.com

Editor, *The Palmateer*
John D. Kennedy
3225 13th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3825
(772) 567-9587
Palmateer@cfpacs.org

CFPACS Seed Bank
(Vacancy)
Anyone interested in taking this position, please contact Ray Hernández (above)

CFPACS Webmaster
Steve Wasula
222 Selkirk Way
Longwood, FL 32779
(407) 682-0147
webmaster@cfpacs.o

This striking picture of Ha Long Bay, Vietnam, appears in the June issue of the journal of The Palm & Cycad Society of New Zealand. The limestone islands near Hanoi are home to an indigenous Livistona *species,* L. halongensis. *Story on palms in this area will appear in the September issue.*

(Photo by Frans van de Wydeven)

A true "survivor palm" below. Left, an overall view, right, a close-up. The Sabal palmetto *was about 10 feet high, one of a pair in a narrow planted strip in a business parking lot on SR 60 (20th Street) in Vero Beach. The amputation, so to speak, had been done no more than two weeks before the pictures were taken. The reason for such butchery is unclear. How long the palm will persist or how long the business will permit it to do so are also unclear.*

(Photos by John Kennedy)