



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

Affiliate of the International Palm Society

Monthly Update

November 2018

UPCOMING MEETING

Wednesday, November 7, 2018, 7:30 p.m.
at the Mount's Botanical Garden building

Speaker: Dr. Larry Noblick

Subject: "Exploring for Palms in Bahia, Brazil"
The discovery of a new *Syagrus* species

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society 2018 Officers & Executive Committee

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OCTOBER "THANK YOU"

Speaker: Scott Zona Ph.D.

Subject: "Litter-trapping plants & palms: filter-feeders of the plant kingdom"

Door: Angie Peacock

Food and Refreshments: Janet James, Angie Peacock, Elise Moloney, Janice and Mike DiPaola, Gerry Valentini, Ernesto Rodriguez, Lourdes de la Fuente, Steve Garland

Plants: Steve Garland, Ernesto Rodriguez, Elise Moloney, Susan Palm City Palms, Richard Murray, Don Bittel

Opinions expressed and products or recommendations published in this newsletter may not be the opinions or recommendations of the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society or its board of directors.

All photographs in this issue were provided by Ernesto Rodriguez unless otherwise specified.

FEATURED THIS MONTH:
Johannesteijsmannia altifrons

by *Ernesto Rodriguez*

Johannesteijsmannia altifrons is found in Sumatra, peninsular Malaysia, southern Thailand, and western Borneo. It grows in mountainous rain forest on ridge tops and slopes from near sea-level to about 3000 feet altitude. The epithet is Latin for “tall frond” and the centermost leaf can reach as high as 20 feet. The species is commonly referred to as the diamond joey.

The palm has a creeping, subterranean trunk and a cluster of up to thirty leaves which form an impressive erect tussock. The petioles are 6-10 feet long and are armed with sawlike teeth. The diamond-shaped blades are prominently ribbed and with coarsely toothed margins and can be 10 feet long in older plants and 6 feet wide at their broadest points.

The white flowers have a sour smell and a corky fruit that is brown when ripe. Fresh seed takes about three months to germinate but may be erratic. Seedlings are slow growing and must be given ample room to develop since the radicle buries about 4-5 inches deep in the soil before the first leaf is formed. Each fruit can contain up to three seeds.

Plants are generally best suited to the tropics but are proving to be adaptable and success has been achieved in the subtropics. They require a sheltered position protected from excess sun and wind. Well-drained, loamy soils rich in organic matter, mulches and regular watering are useful for these lovely palms. Plants are very sensitive to root disturbance; be extremely careful when potting up, or planting out. They are easily killed by careless handling. Can be kept as a striking indoor plant but does require a lot of light and humidity.



Johannesteijsmannia altifrons in Singapore

Photo by: *Palmpedia*



Right:
Johannesteijsmannia altifrons
flower detail

Photo by: *Dr. Anni Sloth*

Left:
Johannesteijsmannia altifrons
October featured auction plant

Photo by: *Ernesto Rodriguez*



Johannesteijsmannia altifrons ripe fruit and seed

Photo by: *Dan Andersen*



FEATURED AUCTION PALMS

Join us at our November meeting for a chance to bid on one of these beautiful palms!



From left to right: *Acanthophoenix rubra*,
Marojejya insignis, *Dypsis psammophila*

Photo by: Richard Murray



Acanthophoenix rubra in Fairchild Tropical Botanic
Garden

Photo by: Ernesto Rodriguez (2012)

Acanthophoenix rubra

Acanthophoenix rubra is found on the islands of Mauritius and Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Considered critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. It is a very spiny palm with a light red crownshaft. Younger specimens can easily be distinguished by the striking, red midvein on the leaflets and spines. As the plant matures the spines begin to fall away and the midvein becomes yellow.

This palm does best with at least half day of sun and young specimens need protection from midday sun exposure. Recommended cold hardiness zone is 11, but will withstand zone 10. Warmer climate will result in faster growth with regular moisture and a neutral or slightly acidic, well-drained soil.



Acanthophoenix rubra detail of spiny crownshaft
in Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Photo by: Ernesto Rodriguez (2012)

FEATURED AUCTION PALMS

Cont'd



Marojejya insignis in Tanna Botanical Gardens
Madagascar

Photo by: Phil Arrowsmith

Marojejya insignis

Marojejya insignis is found in the mountainous rain forest of eastern Madagascar. This is a very attractive, solitary, pinnate, litter trapping palm. Mature specimens reach a maximum height of 20 feet, with up to 20 (12-15 ft) long leaves held in a “shuttlecock” type arrangement. *Insignis* is Latin for outstanding or remarkable.

This palm prefers a lightly shaded, moist but well drained position, with an acidic soil mixture. Does well in sub-tropical climate zone withstanding slightly below freezing temperatures once pass the seedling stage.



Dypsis psammophila in Miami, FL.

Photo by: Kyle Wicomb

Dypsis psammophila

Dypsis psammophila is found eastern Madagascar where it grows in white-sand coastal habitat at near sea level. With less than 100 plants left in the wild, this palm is considered critically endangered. The epithet is Greek for “sand loving” and is closely related to *D. lutescens*. This clustering palm is smaller overall, produces thinner stems, and smaller fruit and seeds.

The palm is tender to cold and is best suited for zones 10b and 11. This is a water loving specimen and needs full sunlight. No particular soil type is needed as long as it is well drained. Cultural requirements are virtually identical to *D. lutescens*.

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MARK YOUR CALENDERS UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 Annual Spring Palm and Cycad Sale

Saturday, April 13, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 14, 2019 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m.

(PALM SUNDAY)

at Mount's Botanical Garden

531 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33415

DON'T MISS IT!

Share and grow your business with our
wonderful community!



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Palm Beach Palm and Cycad Society

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society Annual Holiday Party and Spectacular Plant Giveaway

(Members Only)

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Door opens at 5:00 p.m.

Pot Luck Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

Plant Giveaway begins at 7:00 p.m.

Where: Mounts Botanical Garden

531 N. Military Trail

West Palm Beach, Florida 33415

What to Bring: Please bring a covered dish, vegetable or fruit dish, or dessert and a plant (of any kind) for the plant giveaway

Friendly Reminder:

As we look forward to the Annual Holiday Party, 2018 membership **MUST** be paid in November in order to participate in the Spectacular Plant Giveaway!

We will not accept membership dues in December for those who wish to participate in the Plant Giveaway.

However, please come and join the party, we will enjoy sharing a meal!

Please check with Janice DiPaola for your membership status at our next meeting.

2018 Giveaway Plants:

Bentinckia condopanna *Calyptrocalyx 'boalak'*

Chambeyronia 'hookeri' *Chuniphoenix nana*

Dypsis psammophila *Dypsis ovobontsira*

Dypsis albofarinosa *Luciala distans*

Licuala kunstleri *Pritchardia martii*

Calyptrocalyx 'sanumb' *Loxococcus rupicola*

Mauritia flexuosa *Marojejya darianii*

Latania loddigesii *Itatya amicornum*

Make sure to read the December newsletter with more information about the above listed plants.



A few pictures from the 2017 Holiday Party and Spectacular Plant Giveaway. *Photos by: Elise Moloney*



2018 Fall Palm and Cycad Sale

First ever one day sale was a great success!

Photos by: Lourdes de la Fuente



2018 Palm Beach Palm and Cycad Society Picnic

Photos by: Elise Moloney



October Ramble at Block Botanical Gardens

Photos by: Ernesto Rodriguez

