



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

Affiliate of the International Palm Society

Monthly Update



December 2018

UPCOMING MEETING

Annual Holiday Party and Spectacular Plant Giveaway

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

at the Mount's Botanical Garden building

Door opens at 5:00 PM

Pot Luck Dinner begins at 6:00 PM

Plant Giveaway begins at 7:00 PM

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

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

2019 Officers & Executive Committee

Richard Murray, President (561) 506-6315

Don Bittel, Vice President (772) 521-4601

Elise Moloney, Secretary (561) 312-4100

Ingrid Dewey, Treasurer (561) 791-3300

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Ernesto Rodriguez, Editor (386) 864-4392

Appointees

Brenda Beck, Historian

Brenda LaPlatte, Webmaster

Ruth Lynch, Refreshment Chair

Mike DiPaola, Librarian

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NOVEMBER "THANK YOU"

Speaker: Dr. Larry Noblick

Subject: "Exploring for Palms in Bahia, Brazil"

The discovery of a new *Syagrus* species

Syagrus guaratingensis

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society has entrusted Dr. Larry Noblick with a \$2,000 donation to Montgomery Botanical Center for continued plant research and conservation.

Door: Dave Colona

Food and Refreshments: Janet James, Janice and Mike DiPaola, Ernesto Rodriguez, Lourdes de la Fuente, Steve Garland, Linda Kern, Ingrid Dewey, Richard Murray, and Sue P.

Plants: Dale Holton, Richard Murray, Don Bittel, and Ernesto Rodriguez

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:

Zamia roezlii

by Ernesto Rodriguez

Zamia roezlii is found in coastal lowlands of Colombia and the Pacific coast of Ecuador. Named in honor of Czech botanist Benedikt Roezl, some plants have been found inundated by high tides and soil has been described as brackish mud. The plant is very salt tolerable and does well in cold temperatures up to 35 degrees Fahrenheit. Some *Z.roezlii* have been growing well in Loxahatchee, FL and I am currently growing seedling specimens in Miami, FL.

This is a remarkable species and considered to be the most primitive of all Cycads. Trunk height can reach up to 23 feet and require a large area for planting. New flushes of leaves can be pink to red in color. Cones are produced throughout the year and female cones are the largest of the *Zamia* species. The spermatozoids are the largest of any Cycad known.

So far they have proven to be fast growing and do best under full shade. In less than one year three new flushes have occurred. *Z.roezlii* requires regular watering and unlike many cycads, it doesn't like to dry out. Replicating the natural soil composition is not necessary for growth, but from my experience, they prove to do best using ideal soil medium.

When I acquired my *Z.roezlii*, the soil was a base to alkaline mixture with heavy perlite and top layer of small peat rock. They grew well in that medium and showed decent growth results. When they out grew the 4 in. pots and needed to be repotted into one gallon pots, I changed the soil mixture in an attempt to recreate natural soil medium. Currently mixture consist of sphagnum peat moss, coarse silica, and perlite. The slightly acidic soil mixture retains moisture better and has proven excellent growing results as they have flushed twice in a shorter span.



Top:

Zamia roezlii adult specimen in Valle del Cauca, Colombia

Photo by: Michael Calonje



Zamia roezlii female cone in Valle del Cauca, Colombia

Photo by: Michael Calonje



Zamia roezlii seedlings in Miami, FL

Photo by: Scott Cohen

Right:

Zamia roezlii newly flushing leaves in Valle del Cauca, Colombia

Photo by: Michael Calonje



GROWING *Calypstrocalyx* IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

Submitted by Charlie Beck

Calypstrocalyx is a genus of solitary or clustering, pinnate, undergrowth palms of the rainforest. Approximately 27 named species exist – all from New Guinea except *C. spicatus* which is native to the Moluccas. Many *Calypstrocalyx* specimens are identified only with a common name and are not yet officially described species. There is a scientific effort to describe all of the palms of New Guinea so many of the unnamed palms will soon be described in a forthcoming book.



Calypstrocalyx leptostachys

We have been growing *Calypstrocalyx* for many years. Most species and varieties grow well in our garden with two exceptions. *C. pachystachys* appears to be cold sensitive. *C. polyphyllus* grows well during the warm months but suffers in the winter exhibiting extreme minor nutritional deficiency. All appear to thrive in moist soil in a shady location.

Many *Calypstrocalyx* have pink, salmon, or red emergent leaves and many have bifid leaves which are much desired. Two of our standout species are *C. doxanthus* and *C. leptostachys*. *C. doxanthus* has brightly colored pink new growth. The pinnate fronds are divided into leaflets with 3 inch long drip tips. *C. leptostachys* grows either solitary or clustering and bifid or divided leaves. The new leaves are spectacular as shown on the front cover.

The winter of 2009 was the coldest in Palm Beach County since 1989. I decided to take a photo inventory of our *Calypstrocalyx* to document any effects from the 35 degree low temperatures which occurred on several nights. As you can see, *Calypstrocalyx* are not as cold sensitive as described in other publications.

Note: Photos on inside front and back covers included a 12 inch ruler or a yard stick for scale.





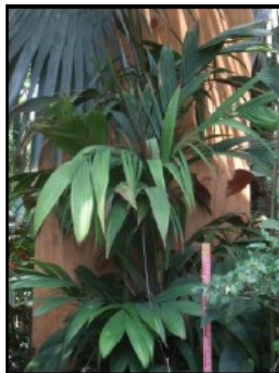
Calypstrocalyx leptostachys
planted one year ago (split leaf form)



Calypstrocalyx sp. Kal Tekyik



Calypstrocalyx albertsiana
planted 7 years ago



Calypstrocalyx hollrungii
planted 12 years ago



Calypstrocalyx leptostachys
Solitary form with bifid leaf



Calypstrocalyx ovobontsira
planted one year ago



Calypstrocalyx elegans planted one year ago



Calypstrocalyx forbesii
planted 6 years ago

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FEATURED GIVEAWAY PALMS

(Members Only)

Join us at our annual holiday party for a chance to take one of these beautiful palms home!



Bentinckia condopanna

Photo courtesy of: Dave's Garden



Calypstrocalyx elegans var. 'boalak'

Photo by: Bill Austin



Left:

Chambeyronia
macrocarpa var.
'hookeri'

Photo by: Eric Vaile



Right:

Chuniophoenix
nana

Photo by: Daryl
O'Connor

FEATURED GIVEAWAY PALMS

Cont'd



Left:
Dypsis psammophila in
Miami, FL.
Photo by: Kyle Wicomb



Right:
Dypsis albofarinosa
Photo by: Jeff Marcus



Dypsis ovobontsira
Photo by: Jeff Marcus



Licuala distans
Photo by: Piti Maneerod

FEATURED GIVEAWAY PALMS

Cont'd



Left:
Licuala kunstleri
Photo by: Geoff Stein



Above:
Pritchardia martii
Photo by: Preston Sims



Loxococcus rupicola
Photo by: George Peavy



Calypstrocalyx sp. 'sanumb'
Photo by: Dean Ouer

FEATURED GIVEAWAY PALMS

Cont'd



Itaya amicornum
Photo by: Geoff Stein



Marojejya darianii
Photo courtesy of: Palmpedia



Latania loddigesii
Photo by: Paul Craft



Mauritia flexuosa
Photo by: Nando Cunha

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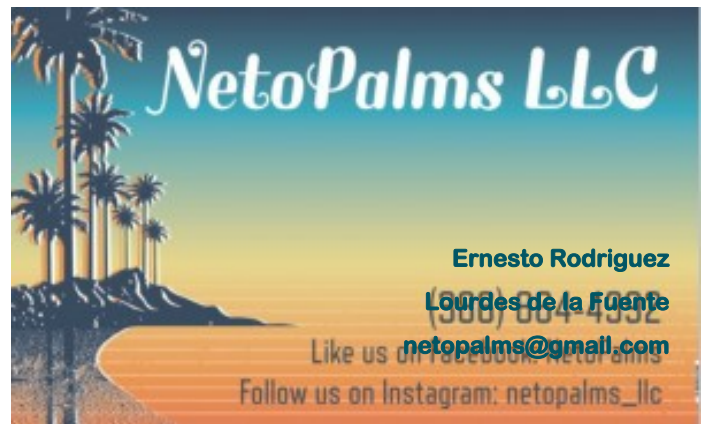
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LAKE OSBORNE ANIMAL CLINIC

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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!



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Palm Beach Palm and Cycad Society

January 2019 Ramble

More information about the Ramble will be
Provided in the January newsletter.