



FEATURED THIS MONTH: *Satakentia liukuensis*



***Satakentia liukuensis* crownshaft in the Beck garden.**
(Photo by Charlie Beck)

FRONT COVER: *Satakentia liukuensis* growing in the Holton garden.

(Photo by Dale Holton)

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FEATURED THIS MONTH: *Satakentia liukuensis*

by Charlie Beck

Satakentia liukuensis is a medium-sized palm. It displays a long purplish brown crownshaft which is especially beautiful after shedding an old frond (See photo on page 2). The pinnate fronds are deep green and have a very formal appearance. This is a self-cleaning palm which readily loses old fronds before they become unsightly. Unlike the Royal Palm with its heavy fronds, *Satakentia* fronds are much less likely

to damage understory plantings when released.

S. liukuensis is endemic to moist forests in the Ryukyu Archipelago. It is closely allied to *Clinostigma*. *S. liukuensis* is monoecious and grows 60 feet tall in habitat. In 14 years, our oldest specimen has grown 15 feet to the bottom of the five foot long crownshaft. The leaves measure 11 feet long and the stem measures 12

inches in diameter at waist height. Twelve specimens planted in 2005 have already formed wood below their crownshaft.

S. liukuensis grows equally well in sandy soil or on limestone rock. Most experts recommend planting in a shady location so as the palm ages it grows

(Continued on page 10)



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Exotic Palms
 &
 Tropicals

**GROWING CONDITIONS IN OUR GARDEN
 FOR *Satakentia liukuensis***

Location	4 miles from ocean in suburban Lantana
Soil	Sand over a layer of hardpan (pineland flatwood habitat)
Irrigation	¼ inch applied twice a week
Flooding	Periodic inundation in sandy soil acceptable
Fertilization	3 times a year with Palm special analysis
Light	Sun or partial shade
Micronutrient Deficiencies	None observed
Insect Damage	None observed
Hurricane Resistance	Excellent

Dr. John D. Kennedy Addresses Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

by Brenda Beck

At the June 6, 2010, Palm Society meeting, Dr. John D. Kennedy was the guest speaker. Dr. Kennedy's presentation was Palms 101: An Introduction, which focused on planting palms that will perform well in Florida. Based on Dr. Kennedy's research and growing experience, he recommended the following palms for the Florida landscape:

- *Acoelorrhaphes wrightii* (native)
- *Acrocomia aculeata*
- *Allagoptera arenaria*
- *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*
- *Arenga engleri*
- *Bismarckia nobilis*
- *Borassus flabellifer*
- *Burretioakentia vieillardii*
- *Butia capitata*
- *Carpentaria acuminata*
- *Caryota mitis*
- *Chamaedorea cataractarum*
- *Chamaedorea metallica*
- *Chamaerops humilis*
- *Chambeyronia macrocarpa*
- *Coccothrinax argentata* (native)
- *Copernicia alba*
- *Copernicia baileyana*
- *Copernicia macroglossa*
- *Corypha utan*
- *Corypha taliera*
- *Cyrtostachys renda* (not cold hardy)
- *Dyopsis leptocheilos*
- *Latania lontaroides*
- *Livistona chinensis*
- *Livistona decora* [*decipiens*]
- *Phoenix reclinata*
- *Rhapis excelsa*
- *Roystonea regia* (native)
- *Sabal minor*
- *Sabal palmetto* (native)
- *Serenoa repens* (native)
- *Syagrus romanzoffiana*
- *Leucothrinax (Thrinax) morrisii* (native)
- *Thrinax radiata* (native)
- *Veitchia arecina*
- *Wallichia disticha*
- *Washingtonia robusta*



Dr. John D. Kennedy

*Please share your garden experiences.
Submit your stories and photos to beck4212@aol.com*

Dr. John Dowe Addresses South Florida Palm Society

by Charlie & Brenda Beck

On June 7, 2010, Dr. Dowe was the guest speaker at the South Florida Palm Society meeting. Dr. Dowe is from the Australian Center for Tropical Freshwater Research at James Cook University in Townsville, Queensland.

The topic of his presentation was *Livistona*. John has recently issued a taxonomic account of *Livistona* which reduced 38 species to 36 species. The most relevant change to Floridians is lumping *L. robinsoniana* with *L. rotundifolia*. John has also recently released a new book, *Australian Palms*.

Livistona is located in the Livistoninae subtribe. *Livistona* is most closely related to *Licuala*, but the subtribe also includes *Johannes-tijsmnia*, *Pritchardiopsis*, and *Pholidocarpus*. In addition to its current range, *Livistona* fossils have also been found in North America, Japan, Central Europe, and England.

As of 2009, all identified *Livistona* have been categorized into 36 different species. These species have been broken down into three groups based on physical char-

acteristics and DNA: *Rotundifolia*, *Chinensis*, and *Australis*.

The first group, *Rotundifolia*, are distributed in Malesia and contains the oldest palms (30 million years). It includes *brevifolia*, *chocolatina*, *merrillii*, *papuana*, *rotundifolia*, *surrui*, *tothuri*, and *woodfordii*. The fruit of this group usually goes through an orange phase.

The second group, *Chinensis*, are distributed in East and Southeast Asia plus the Horn of Africa and Southern Arabia and includes *boninensis*, *carinensis*, *chinensis*, *endauensis*, *exigua*, *halongensis*, *jenkinsiana*, *saribus*, *speciosa*, and *tahanensis*. The fruit of this group is either green or purple.

The third group, *Australis*, are located in Australia and New Guinea and includes the youngest palms which are *alfredii*, *australis*, *benthamii*, *concinna*, *decora*, *drudei*, *eastonii*, *fulva*, *humilis*, *inermis*, *lanuginosa*, *lorophylla*, *mariae*, *muelleri*, *nasmophila*, *nitida*, *rigida*, and *victoriae*. The fruit of this group are dark brown or black.

John showed slides and described all 36 species of *Livistona*. He also explained that many of the species are difficult to cultivate because it is difficult to duplicate their natural growing conditions. Many species have filled niches by growing in very inhospitable areas.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, July 7, 2010
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Mounts Botanical Garden
Subject: Invasive Non-Native Species - Can We Predict the Future
Speaker: Kristina Serbesoff-King, Invasive Species Program Manager for The Nature Conservancy

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, July 28, 2010
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Ruth Sallenbach's Home
 6285 S. Military Trail, Lake Worth
 (561) 965-5430

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Comparison of Winter 2010 Cold Temperatures

By Charlie Beck

We all know that our past winter was hard on our topical plantings even though we did not set any one day low records. We experienced many cold fronts which lasted for many days at a time. According to the National Weather Service, the average temperature recorded at Palm Beach International Airport for January through March was 6.1°F below normal. This was an all time record cold. In March alone, the average temperature was 6.5°F below normal which was a .4°F higher than the all time record set in 1915.

West Palm Beach recorded minimum temperatures below 40°F on 10 days. I compiled tables comparing maximum, mean, and mini-

mum temperatures recorded at locations from Stuart to Homestead. These tables are shown on page 9. One interesting observation was made by comparing mean vs. minimum temperature. Although Loxahatchee minimum temperatures never fell more than 2°F below West Palm Beach's, the mean temperature difference was as high as 8°F. So comparing minimum temperatures does not tell the whole story. How quickly temperatures rise during the day must also be considered when comparing growing areas.

This Month's "Thank You"

General Membership Meeting Refreshments

Debbie Anderson

Tom Ramiccio

Ruth Lynch

Patrick & Lauren Urrutia

Kitty Philips

Plant Donations

Marshall Dewey

John Irvine

Dale Holton

Special Thanks


to

Lew & Cathy Burger

for arriving at 5:00 p.m. to keep the Mounts building open for us.

Days Below 40 Degrees in West Palm Beach: A Comparison										
Historical data from Weather Underground										
<i>by Charlie Beck</i>										
2010 Minimum Temperatures										
Date	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/9	1/10	1/11	1/13	2/26	3/5
Stuart*	38	37	35	37	34	32	34	41	42	41
Loxahatchee	38	35	32	33	33	31	32	36	38	39
West Palm Beach	39	37	34	37	34	32	33	39	39	39
Boca Raton	41	41	38	41	37	34	34	41	44	40
Homestead	40	37	36	37	39	34	31	37	38	38
Miami	43	40	40	39	39	35	34	42	41	44
2010 Mean Temperatures										
Date	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/9	1/10	1/11	1/13	2/26	3/5
Stuart*	47	45	42	46	41	40	45	52	50	51
Loxahatchee	47	41	40	50	39	37	46	49	47	50
West Palm Beach	49	47	45	50	47	41	48	52	52	53
Boca Raton	48	48	44	49	46	39	44	51	53	51
Homestead	49	48	45	47	46	39	44	51	52	51
Miami	51	50	47	49	47	41	47	54	54	55
2010 Maximum Temperatures										
Date	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/9	1/10	1/11	1/13	2/26	3/5
Stuart*	56	52	53	57	54	46	56	59	58	58
Loxahatchee	57	55	55	65	58	48	62	65	68	65
West Palm Beach	58	56	55	63	59	50	62	65	65	66
Boca Raton	56	55	53	63	60	46	56	59	65	61
Homestead	58	59	57	60	57	47	59	64	66	64
Miami	61	61	59	63	59	48	61	68	65	66
*Willoughby Creek										

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LAKE OSBORNE ANIMAL CLINIC

JOHN T. LYNCH, D.V.M.

1502 Lake Osborne Dr.
Lake Worth, FL 33461


(Continued from page 4)
into the sun. I have had good luck planting three gallon size plants in the full sun.

Years ago *S. liukuensis* had limited availability so it was an expensive palm. Today it is readily available and is more reasonably priced.

This is the perfect palm for Palm Beach County. It was unfazed by our past winter cold temperatures. It also looked great after our 2004 and 2005 hurricanes. We were so impressed with how well these palms held up in the hurricanes, we planted an additional 12 specimens in our garden in 2005. Our *Sattakentia* have never displayed any nutritional deficiencies.

Plant this palm for its formal appearance, interesting crownshaft, and resistance to high winds and cold temperatures. Smaller than a Royal Palm, *S. liukuensis* will fit into most home garden landscapes.

I have had 100 percent success with this palm. *S. liukuensis* is definitely on my list of top five pinnate canopy palms.



Village Marina

464-4391 Wes Taylor

Winner of the June 2nd Name Drawing Prize
was Roland Grondin
who left the meeting before the drawing. He missed out on receiving
a M. Espinosa numbered print of a *Pseudophoenix ekmanii*.

HOLTON NURSERY
PALMS and CYCADS

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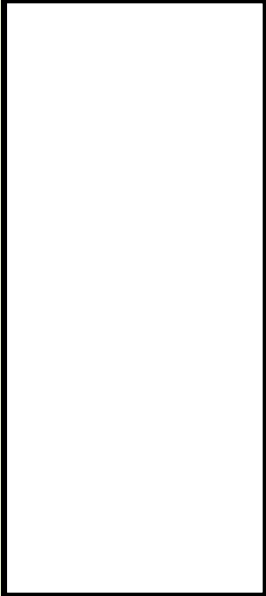






Satakentia liukuensis growing in Homestead



Five year old *S. liukuensis* growing in the Beck garden

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society
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HAVE A SAFE
AND HAPPY
4TH OF JULY

July 2010 Monthly Update