

Mrs. Hilder writes: "I excavated three holes and planted three palms in April, 1967, but this center one is doing best and despite our erratic rains it is impressive with a minimum of care. Occasionally I go by and put iron chelate, magnesium sulphate or palm-ixora food on the weeded area around them. . . . Last spring I gave a talk about *Veitchia Merrillii* for the isle and sold one hundred seedlings from a station wagon and the reports are good on all who bought and planted them. . . . 1969 was an historic year of 75 inches of rain here [the average yearly rainfall on St. Croix is 30 inches—Ed.] so all palms we had ventured to try are thriving. Some day we may even have a tropical-looking isle!"

L. H. WAIT

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## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

*Barbosa* (bar bó sa) was named by Beccari in honor of João Barbosa Rodrigues (1842–1909), a Brazilian botanist who wrote extensively on palms and who published the handsomely illustrated *Sertum Palmarum Brasiliensium* in 1903.

*Barcella* (bar séll a) was not elaborated by Trail when he gave the name to a subgenus of *Elaeis*. A possible explanation may be that it is derived from the Latin *barca* (little boat) plus the diminutive suffix *ella*, perhaps in refer-

ence to the canoes which surely must have been his means of transport to reach the location on the banks of the Padauri River in Brazil where *Barcella* occurs.

*Basselinia* (bass ell ín ee a) was named in honor of the French fuller and poet Olivier Basselin (ca. 1400–ca. 1450) who was reputedly the author of the drinking songs of Normandy that came to be called *Vaux-de-Vire*. The English word vaudeville is derived from the French name for these songs.

*Butia* (bú tee a) comes, according to Barbosa Rodrigues in *Sertum Palmarum Brasiliensium* 1:81, 1903, from a Portuguese corruption of *mbotiá* (from *mbo*, to make, and *tiá*, tooth incurred) or those who have teeth incurred in allusion to the teeth that are borne laterally on the petioles of *Butia*.

*Erythea* (eh rith ée a) was one of the Hesperides, the daughters of the evening or the west, who lived on an island in the ocean at the western end of the world and watched over the golden apples in a garden. The name presumably was used because *Erythea edulis* occurs on Guadalupe Island off the coast of Baja California, Mexico.

*Gulubia* (goo lóo bee a) was modified by Beccari from the vernacular name *gulubi* used for *Gulubia moluccana* on the island of Ternate.

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## CLASSIFIED SECTION

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