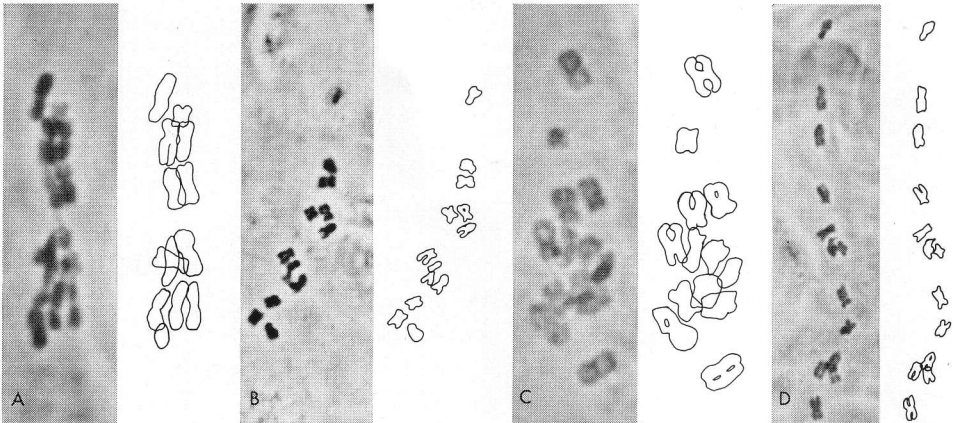


# New Chromosome Counts in *Chamaedorea* (Palmae)

FREDERICK B. ESSIG

*L. H. Bailey Hortorium, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*

Previous counts for *Chamaedorea* were reported by Read (1963, 1966). Counts have now been made for four more species from specimens cultivated in the conservatory at L. H. Bailey Hortorium under the several BH numbers listed. The method used was that described by Read (1964) involving the culture of pollen tubes on nutrient medium and observation of generative cell mitosis suspended at metaphase with colchicine. Chromosome number for all four species was found to be  $n=13$ , suggesting affinity with *Chamaedorea elegans* and others sharing this number, rather than with



1. Photographs and drawings of *Chamaedorea* chromosomes. A, *C. brachypoda*  $\times 4200$ ; B, *C. pochutlensis*  $\times 2300$ ; C, *C. pulchra*  $\times 4200$ ; D, *C. tenella*  $\times 3300$ .

*C. alternans*, *C. cataractarum* and others for which  $n=16$  (Read, 1966). The four species counted are as follows:

Name	Number	Voucher
<i>Chamaedorea brachypoda</i> Standley & Steyermark	$n=13$	BH 60-800 Moore 8221 (BH)
<i>Chamaedorea pochutlensis</i> Liebmann	$n=13$	BH 60-819 Moore 8173 (BH)
<i>Chamaedorea pulchra</i> Burret	$n=13$	BH 60-821 Moore 8224 (BH)
<i>Chamaedorea tenella</i> H. Wendland	$n=13$	BH 67-635 Moore 9599 (BH)

## REFERENCES

- READ, R. W. 1963. Palm chromosomes. *Principes* 7: 85-88.  
 ——— 1964. Palm chromosome studies facilitated by pollen culture on a colchicine-lactose medium. *Stain Technology* 39: 99-106.  
 ——— 1966. New chromosome counts in the Palmae. *Principes* 10: 55-61.

## NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

## Biennial Meeting

A very congenial group began to gather at Melbourne, Florida, on Thursday, July 30th, 1970, for the eighth Biennial Meeting, or Convention, if you prefer, of The Palm Society.

Florida Institute of Technology and its president, Dr. Jerome P. Keuper, were our hosts. Ably assisting were Mr. Perry F. Clendenin, treasurer of the Institute, and Dr. William Rose, dean of housing, as well as Mrs. Anna Galvin, Dr. Keuper's secretary.

Although the weather was at its usual summer hottest, we were very fortunate in having no rain, so the out-of-doors activities could proceed as planned. The first item for most members was a walk through the Dent Smith Trail, a bit of Florida woodland which has been carefully preserved and developed as a home for many species of palms. A brook curves its way through the area; it is spanned by small bridges where the trails cross it, and here and there amid the trees are found rustic shelters where one can rest protected from sun or rain. Mr. Jack Thompson, landscape foreman, and Mr. Jim Joyner, botanist, under the direction of Dr. Jerome Keuper, have produced a charming combination of Florida native growth and exotic palms.

On Friday the group went by bus to Cape Kennedy, and were given an intensive tour of the NASA Space Center—a truly awesome complex. In the afternoon there was swimming on the beach, followed by a "cook-out" on the grounds of one of the Institute's buildings.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Saturday morning at 9:00

A. M. The following Directors were present: Mr. Kenneth Foster, Dr. Jerome P. Keuper, Mr. Otto Martens, Dr. H. E. Moore, Jr., Dr. John Popenoe, Mr. Dent Smith, Dr. Robert N. Smith, Jr., Mrs. L. H. Wait, Mr. Harrison G. Yocum and Dr. U. A. Young. Mr. Billings McArthur, chairman of the Central Florida Chapter, was present, also.

The business meeting began at 10:00 A. M. in the auditorium of the Institute. While registration was going on, members had an opportunity to examine and purchase some rare books donated by the estate of the late Dr. Lawrence Simonson, a large collection of petrified palm specimens donated by one of our board members, Dr. Robert N. Smith, Jr., and some *Trachycarpus Fortunei* seedlings donated by Mr. W. J. Brudy.

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The President, Secretary and Treasurer read their reports of the activities of the Society during the previous two years. The Treasurer reported that the Society ended the biennium with a balance of \$16.95.

Mr. Dent Smith, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, read the proposed slate of officers and directors for the coming two- and four-year periods as follows:

## Officers, 1970-1972

President: Dr. Jerome P. Keuper  
 Vice-President: Mr. Kenneth C. Foster

Treasurer: Mr. Wallace E. Manis  
 Secretary: Mrs. Lucita H. Wait