

perate zones, feeding should be discontinued during the cool weather and then resumed when the warm weather arrives.

### Other Maintenance

Insect pests unfortunately can create a troublesome problem for indoor palms as well as outside palms. Red spider mites, mealy bugs, and scale are those most likely to be found. It is advisable to consult with local agricultural extension agents for recommended pesticides.

Little or no pruning is necessary for the maintenance of palms. The cutting of a cane or stem of clustered palms in order to thin the clumps or to reduce the height is sometimes practiced. In the natural process of growth an old leaf may turn yellow and brown and begin to droop. This can be removed. It should be cut rather than torn off. Tearing the leaf sheath from the stem causes a wound, leaving an unsightly scar and may permit fungal infection.

## PALM BRIEFS

### New Chromosome Counts

Pollen sent back by Dr. Moore on his recent trip yielded chromosome counts for two genera that were previously unknown cytologically. (See Essig, New Chromosome Counts in *Chamaedorea* (Palmae), *Principes* 14: 136-137, 1970, for references to methodology and earlier counts.) Voucher specimens as well as photographs and drawings of the chromosomes are on deposit at the herbarium of the L. H. Bailey Hortorium, Cornell University.

*Acanthophoenix* sp. (Moore et al.  
9924)  $n = 16$

*Solfia samoensis* (Moore et al.  
9980)  $n = 16$

FRED B. ESSIG

## THE EDITOR'S CORNER

The Editor has returned (temporarily) and wishes to thank Fred Essig for his efforts in getting *PRINCIPES* through the press in his absence. Some experiences in Africa are described in this issue. Readers who are interested in adding their plea for measures to conserve *Wissmannia carinensis* at Bankoualé may write the following:

Monsieur Ali Aref Bourhan, President du Conseil de Gouvernement du T.F.A.I., Djibouti, T.F.A.I. and/or Monsieur Godefroy, Directeur de Cabinet, Présidence de Conseil de Gouvernement, Djibouti, T.F.A.I.

It is hoped that seed may ultimately be obtained for distribution through The Palm Society Seed Bank. Individual requests are best directed to the Seed Bank.

H.E.M.