

the years, several cold spells have "burned" some of the top more tender leaves but never enough to disfigure the palm appreciably. It grows in a black sandy loam soil that is damp most of the time and occasionally flooded a few days.

It would be most interesting to know if anyone else in Florida is growing this palm. One lonely species could use some companionship and possibly promote progeny.

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The above was written September 18, 1972, and received during the absence of the editor who had earlier suggested that the Fairchild Tropical Garden might be interested in having this specimen tree which Mr. Harris was anxious to provide with a new home when his own home site was put up for sale. A letter dated January 30, 1973, noted that the palm had been moved to the Fairchild Tropical Garden on December 4, 1972, and had arrived in excellent shape. Still a further follow-up comes in a paragraph from Dr. John Popenoe, Director of the Garden, in a letter to Mr. Harris, dated January 31, 1973:

"Strange as it may seem we now find that there is another specimen of this species on the Montgomery estate. Ray Vernon recognized it when he saw the article in the bulletin. [*Livistona crustacea*, Fairchild Tropical Garden Bulletin 28(1): 14-16, Jan. 1973.] It, too, has flowered but never set fruit. Perhaps we can now try cross pollination and get seeds for growing more of this species."

### ***Livistona brassii*, *L. crustacea*, and *L. muelleri***

The name *Livistona crustacea* stirred the editor's memory of unpublished

manuscript on *Livistona* in New Guinea, dated December 1969. In preliminary studies of the genus it had become clear, after examining isotype material of *Livistona crustacea* Burret and *L. brassii* Burret, that the two were not truly separable. Appropriately enough, the older name is *Livistona brassii* which should be used if the two species are considered the same. Unfortunately, it seems likely that further detailed study will show that both of these names must fall into the synonymy of the still older *Livistona muelleri* F. M. Bailey, a species of Queensland, Australia. Perhaps before seeds are obtained from the two trees known as *L. crustacea* in Florida, the results of further study will become available. In the interim, it seems fruitless to rename the two individuals now known in cultivation.

H. E. MOORE, JR.

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## LETTERS

From Teddie Buhler: "I pollinated my *Strongylocaryum* and suddenly the seeds are all turning red. I hope they are viable as the plant is really very pretty with its almost bluish green leaves that have quite wide leaflets. It is getting ready to open the succession of male flowers on a third inflorescence soon; the female flowers open about three weeks after the last male ones have flowered. I seem to have waited too long before pollinating the second spike; very few if any seeds have set."

From Arnold C. Newman: "An interesting footnote to my article [*Euterpe* at Iguassu Falls, Brazil, *Principes* 16: 53-55, 1972] is that the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California, arranged with the Brazilian government the collection of five pounds of *Euterpe* seed from the tree described. A courier was sent down to pick up the seed and only one germinated."