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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Clinosperma (klý no spér ma) apparently was derived from the Latinization of the Greek word klinein (to slant, slope) and sperma (seed), perhaps because the seed was inserted obliquely in the endocarp of the immature material seen by Beccari. The latter, however, failed to explain the generic name.

Diplothemium (díp low théme ee um) combines the prefix diplo- from the Greek diploos (twofold) and themium, probably derived from the Greek themon (heap) in reference to the two-tiered effect produced by the pedicellate staminate flowers that appear to be superimposed on the sessile pistillate flowers between them.

Itaya (i tíe a) is the name of a river in Peru, tributary to the Amazon, near which the genus was discovered. It was taken directly as a generic name.

Socratea (so krat ee a) was not explained by Hermann Karsten, who proposed it, but seems surely derived from the name of the great Athenian philosopher Socrates (ca. 470 B.C.-399 B.C.).

Wendlandiella (wén dlan dee éll a, or vén dlan dee éll a) commemorates Hermann Wendland (1825–1903), a German botanist and horticulturist who was the third generation in a family of gardeners to the court of Hannover. Wendland collected in Costa Rica and described many palms from his own collections and from material cultivated in Europe. The suffix *-ella*, originally a diminutive, distinguishes this genus from one named for his grandfather, J. C. Wendland (1755–1828).

Wissmannia (wiss mán ee a, or viss mán ee a) pays tribute to Hermann von Wissman (1895—), a German geographer and traveler, upon whose photographs in the Hadramaut of southern Arabia Burret based the genus. Among his several books, von Wissman wrote (with D. van der Meulen) Hadramaut: Some of its Mysteries Unveiled (1932).

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