

commonly referred to as "agroforestry," has stimulated new evaluation of palms as promising candidate species. The objective of this book is to survey the state-of-the-art of cultivating coconuts and raising cattle on the same plot of land, and to identify research needs for improvement of the system.

After an introductory chapter, the coconut and its cultural requirements are discussed as a prelude to chapters on cover crop management, and intercropping with annual and perennial crops. The latter is particularly important for small farmers in the early years of a plantation when income is needed, but grazing is not recommended. The remaining chapters of the book focus on pasture and cattle management. Natural pastures are discussed in detail; important species are described and line drawings included. Planted pasture species with soil-improving qualities to benefit the coconut palms are given similar detailed treatment. Cattle management practice is the subject of a separate chapter, providing examples of successful systems and recommended carrying capacities under various grazing systems. The two final chapters deal with the special problems of small farmers, who are the major producers of coconuts around the world, and research and future prospects for the system.

Plucknett has provided an excellent example of the blending of the state-of-the-art on one hand, with a practical "how-to" manual on the other. The book is richly illustrated with some forty pages of photographs and contains a very comprehensive bibliography. Complementary to this book is P. K. Ramchandran Nair's *Intensive Multiple Cropping With Coconuts in India*, published by Paul Parey, Berlin, 1979.

DENNIS JOHNSON
University of Houston
Houston, Texas

UHL, N. W. AND H. E. MOORE, JR.
1980. Androecial development in six polyandrous genera representing five major groups of palms. *Ann. Bot. (London)*, ser. 2, 45: 57-75.

Differing patterns of stamen initiation indicate that polyandry has arisen separately in each major group of palms.

VANDERMEER, J. H. 1979. Hoarding behavior of captive *Heteromys estianus* (Rodentia) on the fruits of *Welfia georgii*, a rainforest dominant palm in Costa Rica. *Brenesia* 16: 107-116.

The way in which *Heteromys* store fruits of *Welfia* is described and its implications explored.

YEATON, R. I. 1979. Intraspecific competition in a population of the stilt palm, *Socratea durissima* (Oerst.) Wendl., on Barro Colorado Island, Panama. *Biotropica* 11: 155-158.

Intraspecific competition occurs between adults and juveniles of this species and large individuals tend to be regularly distributed and infrequent.

PALM PORTRAIT

Moratia cerifera

White-waxy leaf sheaths and inflorescence bracts, stiff, arching leaves, and a much-branched inflorescence with small red flowers characterize *Moratia cerifera* H. E. Moore, a New



1. *Morattia cerifera* photographed between 500 and 600 meters elevation on Mont Panié in the company of an *Araucaria*.

Caledonian palm only recently described in *Gentes Herbarum* 12: 122, 1980. It occurs on soils derived from schists on Mont Panié at elevations of

500 to 900 meters, either in the forest or exposed as the individual pictured here. It also has been found at two other localities in the northeastern sector

of the island; at one of them, a solitary individual grows beside a stream at only about 10 meters above sea level.

The trunks of *Moratia* may exceptionally reach a height of 20 m and a diameter of 18 cm, though they are usually much lower and more slender. The new growth is often orange but becomes brown in age. Frequently the leaf sheaths are orange beneath the cover of white wax outside as well as orange inside. Leaf blades may reach a length of 1.7 m and bear as many as 36 pinnae on each side. The fruit is nearly globose, 12–14 mm in diameter, and the surface is very minutely roughened when seen under high magnification. As yet, completely mature fruit has been sought but not found.

Moratia cerifera has been known for nearly a decade but for much of that time had been confused with the palm now known as *Alloschmidia glabrata* (Becc.) H. E. Moore. It is most closely related to *Cyphokentia macrostachya* Brongn., which also has white-waxy leaf sheaths, but differs in several characteristics of flower and fruit. The generic name (pronounced *more ah tee a*) is taken from that of Philippe Morat, a French botanist and student of monocotyledons, who was one of the collectors of the type specimen and organizer of the expedition on which it was obtained. The specific epithet, meaning "wax-bearer," was suggested by the waxy coats which, incidentally, melt when specimens are exposed to high heat.

HAROLD E. MOORE, JR.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

The Biennial Meeting, June 14–22, 1980

About 150 members of The Palm Society converged on Hilo, Hawaii on Saturday, June 14, 1980, those 115 or

so from the "outside" to be met by local members with leis in traditional Hawaiian style. Registration at the Hilo Lagoon Hotel was followed by an informal cocktail reception. A brief account follows for those who must follow our footsteps vicariously.

Sunday, June 15

Travelling in two chartered buses with personable guide-chauffeurs, we spent Sunday in Hilo, visiting Kuaola Farms, operated by members Mr. and Mrs. Jules J. Gervais, Jr., to see anthuriums grown commercially and the Gervais' budding palm collection, and Hirose Nursery, where Mrs. Hirose provided not only a handsome garden for inspection but seeds and refreshments. Luncheon at the K K Tei was a Japanese-style meal in a garden setting, followed by a chance to work off some of the abundant food at Akaka Falls State Park, where waterfalls are set off by handsome plantings along the trails. The buses then took the group to the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Imoto, where a splendid *Amerstia nobilis* was an added attraction to 67 labelled palms, a cooling punch, and a chance to see how large and handsome *Areca catechu* can become in a dozen years or so in Hawaii.

The grand finale of the day was a visit to Onomea Garden and the palm collection of Mr. and Mrs. Donn Carlsmith with its ca. 275 species. The route from the Imoto home to the Carlsmith home led along the coast where *Archontophoenix alexandrae* planted years ago has become naturalized (as we also saw it elsewhere in the Hilo area). Onomea is expanding from a nucleus of mature palms, including striking *Clinostigma samoense*, into newly planted former cane field. A heavy rain held off long enough for everyone to assemble under an awning for cocktails and alfresco dinner livened by a group of singers