

Kona Jum. Ponderous palm from 50 to 90 feet tall, leaves to 15 feet.

Ravenea amara Jum. Tall but slender.

Very likely not one of these palms is known in palm culture. Of course much the greater part of the palm flora in Madagascar is to be found at lower elevations, that is, on the mountain slopes and on the low coastal plains flanking a large plateau lying from 4000 to 6000 feet above sea level. The highlands have mean monthly temperatures below 65° F. during several winter months, and light frosts are not unknown.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Gronophyllum (gron oh fill um), a genus with the tips of the pinnae irregularly toothed, takes its name from the Greek words *gronos* (eaten out) and *phyllon* (leaf).

Heterospathe (het err oh spáy thee), from the Greek *heteros* (different) and *spathe* (sheath enclosing a spadix), is an appropriate name for this genus in which the inner bract or spathe is much longer than the outer and differently shaped.

Mischophloeus (miss ko flée us) is also from the Greek. *Mischos* means stalk and was equated with the term pedicel by Scheffer; *phloios* means bark. The name was chosen because of the pedicel-like base of the male flowers. The genus is now usually united with *Areca*.

Ptychandra (tie kán dra) has male flowers with anthers bent over in bud. This characteristic caused Scheffer to unite the Greek words *ptyx* (a fold) and *aner* (man) in a generic name.

Ptychococcus (tie ko cóck us) also comes from the Greek *ptyx* with the addition of *kokkos* (seed) because of the grooved seed.

Ptychoraphis (tie ko ráy fiss) is another name derived from *ptyx*, to which has been added a derivative of *rhaphe* (a

seam) because of the deep groove on the seed along the raphe.

Rhopaloblaste (ro pal oh bláss tee) is so named because of the club-shaped embryo: *rhopalon* (club) and *blaste* (bud) are both Greek words.

Synechanthus (sin eh cánth us) is composed from the Greek words *synechos* (holding together, continuous) and *anthos* (flower) because the flowers are in groups of several in linear arrangement along the rachillae. Strictly speaking, *Synechanthus* should be neuter in gender but through long usage it and other names ending in the same fashion are treated as masculine.



59. *Washingtonia robusta* begins life among pioneer trees of Oregon.

EXPERIMENTAL PALM PLANTING ON OREGON'S CAPITOL GROUNDS

ROBERT L. BISHOP

Through the efforts of Mr. J. D. Rowell of Sacramento, California, formerly an Oregon resident, a number of small palms were planted this past year of 1958 on the state capitol

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