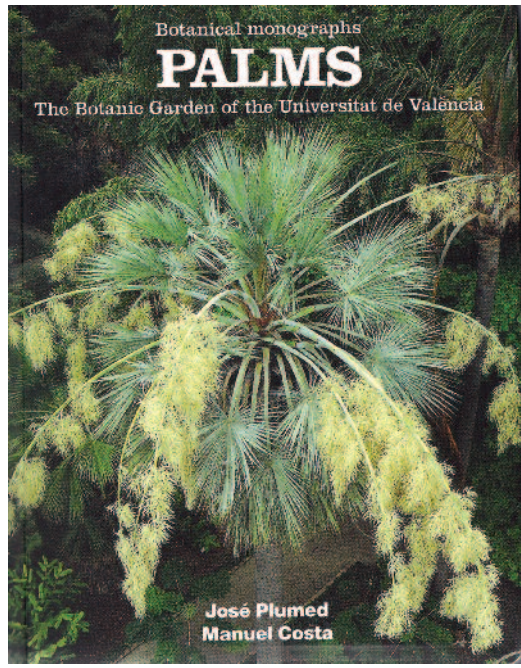


LAS PALMERAS – José Plumed and Manuel Costa. *Monografías botánicas*, Jardín Botánico de la Universitat de València. *Metode*, Universitat de València, Jardí Botànic. 2013. ISBN 978-84-370-9130-3.

and

PALMS – José Plumed and Manuel Costa. *Botanical monographs*, The Botanic Garden of the Universitat de València. *Metode*, Universitat de València, Jardí Botànic. 2013. ISBN 978-84-370-9132-7. Price €7.00. Softcover. 133 pages, numerous color photographs.

This excellent book, published in two editions (Spanish and English), has been written as a guide to the palms of the València University Botanic Garden. However, it is much more than that – it represents one of the nicest and most accessible introductions to the palm family. Although based on the living collections in Valencia in Spain, the account covers all palm morphology, a basic systematic framework for the whole family and aspects of natural history, uses and palms and climate. In the latter part of the book, 39 different palm genera cultivated in the garden are described and illustrated with truly excellent photographs. The format, 21 × 16 cm, means that the book can easily be slipped into a



pocket, made easier still by the rounded corners of the pages. What a great little book! IPS members will surely wish to purchase copies. The cost is a mere €7.00 plus postage (not specified) and can be obtained via the garden's website <http://www.jardibotanic.org>.

JOHN DRANSFIELD
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK