

## PALM BRIEFS

### A Nomenclatural Note on *Hyophorbe*

A monographic study of the genus *Hyophorbe* is in preparation, but one of the conclusions requires advance publication in order to provide a name that can be used in *Hortus Third* and in another publication. It has become clear that the genus *Mascarena* is not adequately separated from *Hyophorbe* and that the palm commonly cultivated as *Mascarena lagenicaulis* must be transferred to the older genus. Study has shown that *Mascarena revaughanii* L. H. Bailey is not different from *M. lagenicaulis*, and in combining the two I am taking up the epithet that is descriptive and not likely to be confused with *Hyophorbe vaughanii*.

The five species are:

***Hyophorbe amaricaulis*** Martius

***Hyophorbe indica*** J. Gaertner

***Hyophorbe lagenicaulis*** (L. H. Bailey) H. E. Moore, *comb. nov.*

*Mascarena lagenicaulis* L. H. Bailey,  
Gentes Herbarum 6: 74. 1942

*Mascarena revaughanii* L. H. Bailey,  
Gentes Herbarum 6: 72. 1942

***Hyophorbe vaughanii*** L. H. Bailey

***Hyophorbe verschaffeltii*** H. Wendl  
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### A Note on *Asraoa triandra* (Palmae)

Joseph (1975) has described a new genus and species of palm, *Asraoa triandra*, from Lohit District of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The collections were made in September and November, 1969

and again in January, 1970, at the same or different localities within the same district. The collector also observed female and male inflorescences on the same group of plants at different times. From the detailed description, the palm appears to be monocarpic, a characteristic of most of the caryotoid group of palms (Moore, 1973). In monocarpic habit, inflorescences develop basipetally from a terminal inflorescence which is generally a female, followed by axillary male inflorescences. This monocarpic habit is seen in all three genera (*Arenga*, *Caryota*, *Wallichia*) of the caryotoid group. *Arenga* Labill. has imparipinnate or undivided leaves, often aggregate inflorescences, distinct sepals and petals in staminate flowers, numerous stamens, trilocular ovary with 2-3 fertile locules, and homogeneous endosperm. *Caryota* L. has bipinnate leaves, solitary inflorescences, reduction of fertile locules to 1-2, and development of ruminant endosperm; the pistillate flowers have less united petals. *Wallichia* Roxb. has separate staminate and pistillate inflorescences, the female usually terminal, axillary inflorescences male, staminate flowers with sepals united in a low, cylindrical, 3-lobed or undulate calyx, petals united in a short to long, more or less solid cylindrical base with valvate lobes, stamens reduced in numbers, generally six, fruit 1-3-seeded, and endosperm homogeneous.

The detailed description of the genus *Asraoa* Joseph and examination of the holotype and isotypes shows its striking similarity with *Wallichia* Roxb. in vegetative and reproductive structures and also in its monocarpic habit. The description as dioecious may be due to the result of observations for a short duration. Moore (1960) reported variation in the number of stamens even in a single plant of the caryotoid group.