Iguanura chaiana Kiew sp. nov. ab I. palmuncula Becc. var. magna Kiew foliolis numerosis angustis et antheris non lobatis differt. Typus: Borneo, Sarawak, Chai S33784 (holotypus SAR).

Palma humilis, foliis foliola numerosa 1–2-costata angusta ferentibus; inflorescentia ramosissima.

Small palm with stem c. 3 m tall and 2 cm diam.; internodes to 1·25 cm long. Leaf sheath 16 cm long, tough and fibrous (? persistent), covered with a dense, reddish-brown tomentum; petiole 5 cm long; lamina 65–70 cm long with c. 27 pairs of narrow pinnae, 30 cm long and 1–2 cm broad with 1 or 2 main lateral veins. Inflorescences among the leaves to 60–75 cm long; with peduncle 35 cm long, densely tomentose; rachillae 9–11, the lowermost 25–40 cm long with 2–3 second-order branches; upper rachillae 16–20 cm long. Floral triads 2–4 mm apart. Staminate flowers yellow, calyx 1 mm long; corolla 2 mm long and ribbed; stamens with unlobed anthers, 1 mm long; pistillode columnar, 1 mm long. Pistillate flowers (immature) with calyx 1 mm long; corolla 1 mm long and ribbed; staminodes minute; ovary ovoid 0·75 mm long. Mature fruit unknown; immature fruit globose without ribs or ridges; epicarp minutely verrucose.

Borneo: Sarawak. 2nd Division, Bukit Ubah-Ribu, Ulu Sg. Kaup, Lubok Antu, Chai S33784 (holotype SAR).

This species is distinguished by the combination of the numerous narrow leaflets and the much-branched inflorescence. Iguanura palmuncula Becc. var. magna Kiew has an inflorescence with 7–10 rachillae, the lowermost with second-order branching but the rachillae are much shorter (8–13 cm long) and the lamina is smaller (30–50 cm long) and has fewer (up to 5) pairs of pinnae; in addition the anthers are lobed and the fruit is strongly ridged. I. chaiana is known from a single specimen and takes its name from the collector, Paul Chai.

Iguanura borneensis Scheff.

This species was previously known from three localities in Kalimantan and although widespread in its distribution it is nevertheless a rare palm.

Sarawak. Bidi Caves, Clemens 20708 (K).

Thailand

Since my revision of the genus (Kiew, 1976), a large number of palm specimens, particularly from Thailand, have become available in the palm collection at Kew, which has resulted in an extension to the known range of several species.

Iguanura polymorpha Becc.

Previously only one species, I. bicornis Becc., was recorded from southern Thailand but the additional collections show that two other Malayan species, I. polymorpha Becc. and I. wallichiana (Wall. ex Mart.) Hook. f., are widespread in southern Thailand. I. polymorpha is more common and widespread in southern Thailand than I. bicornis (as is also the case in Malaya); its range extends as far north as Songkhla.