

habit (see Fig. 2), after observing the sizeable population at Khao Sok. This character in *Iguanura* is indeed distinct, as observed in other species, and is quite different from forms of stems with basal suckers or forms that are caespitose; of course adjacent seedlings growing entwined could give a false impression. The new variety has been observed growing to 2 m and sometimes fruiting at less than 1 m. The leaf sheaths may shred rather than fall off neatly; this aspect is unlike those in the regular *polymorpha* group in Malaysia and accounts for the interfoliar inflorescences. The trapezoidal pinnae are indistinguishable from the latter. It should be noted that specimens in cultivation can be quite robust, and branched inflorescences become less delicate or filiform and quite similar to those of *I. wallichiana* (as in specimens of "*I. wallichiana* var. *minor*"). Floral buds were noted to be yellow in color, and the drupes are similar to *I. polymorpha*, often ovoid and slightly curved, ripening from white to pink and black. The epithet helps to honor one of the geographic centers of this variety.

Distribution: Thailand, Surat Thani, Khao Sok, Takua Pa. Habitat: Limestone hill forest, 100m and above. Locally not rare.

Type: Thailand, Surat Thani, Khao Sok, 1997, C.K. Lim H1993 (holotype BKF, isotype KEP).

Other collections seen: Surat Thani, (Pangnga) Takua Pa, 1968, *Beusekon & Phengkklai* 706 BKF(47018); Takua Pa, 1972, *Larsen* 30884 (K); Bang Ta Khun, Ban Klong, 1986, *Smith & Sumawong* GC60 (K); Bang Klong Yee Chang, Klong Saeng, 1986, *Smith & Sumawong* GC62 (K); Khao Sok, 1994, C.K. Lim H1615 (KEP), H1724 (PSM Collection).

IGUANURA THALANGENSIS

Iguanura thalagensis C.K. Lim sp. nov.

I. tenuis affinis sed habitu solitario, inflorescentiisque spiciformibus vel bifurcatis differt. Typus: Thailand, Phuket, Khao Pra Taew, 1997, C.K. Lim H1995 (holotypus BKF, isotypus KEP).

Solitary, stilt-rooted, stem grey or brown, 1.5 cm diameter, erect to 2 m (fruiting from 50 cm height), leaves nine or more in crown, pinnate, 60 × 24 cm, with usually four pairs of leaflets, trapezoidal as in *I. polymorpha*, leaf sheaths brown shredding or abscising, internode 1–1.4 cm, inflorescences two or more usually interfoliar, spicate or bifurcating, sometimes to four,

20–30 cm long, fruit ovoid, white to pink unripe, similar in size to *I. belumensis*.

Distribution: Thailand, Phuket, Ranong, Chumpon. Habitat: Hill forests, 200 m and above. Locally not rare.

Type: Thailand, Phuket, Khao Pra Taew, 1997 C.K. Lim H1995 (holotype BKF, isotypus KEP)

Other specimens seen: Chumpon, Kao Num Sao, 1927, Kerr 12024 (BK) (24793); Ranong, Muang Len, 1966, *Hansen & Smitinand* 11960 (BKF) (37263); Khao Pra Mi, 1966, *Hansen & Smitinand* 11829 (BKF) (40006), 1972, *Larsen et al.* 30843 (K, BKF) (77436); Kaper, Khao Pawta Luangkaew, 1929, Kerr 16918 (K), 1973 Geesink and Santisuk 5147 (BKF) (56635), 1979 *Shimizu et al.* 26758 (BKF) (76638); Mueang Chon, 1987 *Niyondham et al.* 1436 (K); Phuket, Khao Pra Taew, 1994, C.K. Lim H1615 (KEP, PSM Collection), H1731 (PSM Collection).

The epithet refers to the location where I first observed the palm; Thalang was the earlier name for Phuket. The species is apparently quite widespread with several collections having been made from the Ranong area. It is probably not uncommon, but appears to be relatively rare in its type location at 200 m within a hill forest reserve, where *Pinanga patula* var. *merguensis* and another new species of *Pinanga* are also found.

The taxon is similar in habit and appearance to *I. tenuis* var. *khaosokensis*, with which it makes an interesting comparative pairing in inflorescence differences, in parallel with *I. geonomiformis* and *I. wallichiana*, with their spicate (or forking) and branching rachillae, respectively (see Figs. 3 and 4). The spicate stalks are often vertical; the inflorescences in both taxa are interfoliar and the leaf sheaths tend to shred rather than to abscise, but do not seem to be lingeringly marcescent as for *I. wallichiana*. The more profuse and infrafoliar infructescences of *I. belumensis* are quite different and recognizable from the *I. tenuis* variants. So far, this Malaysian relative has not been found in Thailand, and vice versa; the two Thai taxa are thus endemic within the national boundary.

An Interim Checklist of *Iguanura* Taxa in Peninsular Thailand

From viewing collections at BK, BKF, K, KEP, SING and with the benefit of recent field observations, I would list the following nine taxa (with those not found in Malaysia underlined):

- I. wallichiana** (Wall. ex Mart.) J.D. Hooker var. **wallichiana** *I. multifida* D. Hodel, **synon. nov.**
I. geomiformis (Griff.) Mart.
I. polymorpha Becc. var. **polymorpha**
I. polymorpha Becc. var. **integra** C.K. Lim var. **nov.**
I. speciosa D. Hodel, **synon. nov.**
I. bicornis Becc.
I. divergens D. Hodel
I. tenuis D. Hodel var. **tenuis**
I. tenuis D. Hodel var. **khaosokensis** C.K. Lim var. **nov.**
I. thalagensis C.K. Lim sp. **nov.**

The last listing by Ruth Kiew (1978) was based on the then new specimens at K. It included *I. wallichiana* var. *wallichiana*, *I. wallichiana* var. *malaccensis*, which I have since revised to *I. geomiformis*, *I. polymorpha*, and *I. bicornis*. Several specimens determined as the first three may now be identifiable as *I. tenuis* var. *khaosokensis*, *I. thalagensis*, and *I. polymorpha* var. *integra*. As mentioned, *I. divergens* may require further comparisons with large forms of *I. polymorpha*. I also believe that it is surprising that *I. geomiformis* has been found in that geographical area, as it is mainly a species from the southern part of Peninsular Malaysia.

PINANGA

PINANGA BOWIANA

This taxon has been described by its author as related to *P. auriculata* Becc. of Borneo, without quoting comparative evidence or specimens for consideration. It does require some bravery to cross the Sunda Shelf to correlate species in this genus; so far the general perception is that there are only three *Pinanga* taxa with known similarities in common to Borneo and Peninsular Malaysia. Even the ubiquitous *P. malaiana*, found also in Sumatra, has not been seen in Borneo. The case for transnational research is nevertheless urgent, but calls for considerable cooperation, especially by taxonomists working on the Flora of the Malesian region. The specimen Hodel deposited at BK has no fruit, but is clearly similar to the numerous collections of *Pinanga patula* Bl. at SING and KEP (and of course at FI, L, K and CAL) as identified by Beccari and Ridley. The taxon rediscovered by Hodel is commonly found throughout Peninsular Malaysia mainly along the eastern coast from Johore to Kelantan, distinctive (though not unique) with its sigmoidal, bicolor leaflets. In leaf form and habit, and when sterile, it resembles *P. patula* var. *merguensis* Becc. (which is a different

proposition, as will be addressed in an ongoing study within the PSM program, which will further reexamine the Bornean relatives), and indeed many herbarium collections have sometimes mixed the two taxa. The latter is widespread along the western side of Peninsular Thailand, also at Phuket and Khao Sok (where it appears to be diminishing in population), and has recently been found also in Perlis, a new record for Malaysia. The fruit of var. *merguensis* are usually more profuse, and striking when ripening, in color a shiny claret before turning black. I have some familiarity with Hodel's taxon and its collection location in Narathiwat; it is indubitably the same as the Malaysian species, and will thus be reduced:

P. patula Bl., Rumphia 2: 86, t. 115; Ridley, Materials 2: 143 (1907).

Pinanga bowiana D. Hodel, The Palm Journal 134: 35 (1997), **synon. nov.**

PINANGA FRACTIFLEXA

Pinanga fractiflexa D. Hodel, The Palm Journal 136: 17 (1997).

I most gladly welcome this new determination, surprisingly overdue; apparently there have been few collections studied. This is the prominent clustering species seen at Khao Sok, with its distinctively long petioles and coriaceous leaves. The zig-zag rachillae are also diagnostic, and reminiscent of another new *Pinanga* species from Johore, due for publication. Hodel omits mention of the unripe fruit, which are bullet-shaped, turning ovoid and mammilate, beaked and shiny dark green before turning black. This new species and record for Thailand is also an endemic. As mentioned elsewhere, the population at the Reserve is diminishing, and an in situ propagation program (also for other threatened palms) would seem recommendable, as has been successfully undertaken for *Kerriodoxa* at Phuket.

PINANGA BADIA

Pinanga badia D. Hodel, The Palm Journal 136: 16-17 (1997).

This is another of the new *Pinanga* to be added to the growing list, again hardly known in previous collections. As Hodel mentions, the re-