



Figure 6: *Plectocomia barthana*, habit, Hodel et al. 1805(holotype). Note inflorescences with pendulous branches. Photo by Don Hodel.



Figure 7: *Calamus loeiensis* leaf sheaths, Hodel et al. 1770 (holotype). Note small ascending spines between larger spines. Photo by Don Hodel.

bracts reaching to base of upper next partial or rachilla and armed as leaf rachis, main axis bracts to 10 cm long, branch bracts 5-30 cm long, obliquely truncate with acute point; rachillae numerous, 1.5-3.5 cm long, distichously arranged. Staminate flowers each on a pedicel 1 mm high and subtended by 2 bracteoles, lowermost 3 x 1.25 mm, boat-like, acute, margins with minute hairs, other bracteole cupular, 1.5 x 1.5 mm, striate; flowers in bud 5 x 1.5-2 mm, oblong-ellipsoid, distichously arranged and flat in 1 plane; calyx 3 x 2 mm, cupular, sepals connate in basal 2/3, lobes obtusely triangular, acute; petals 4.5 x 1.25 mm, lanceolate, valvate, free to base, acute, calyx and petals striate; stamens 3 mm high, filaments 2.5 mm long, anthers 2 mm long, dorsifixed near apex; pistillode 1 mm high, columnar, deeply 3-parted. Pistillate inflorescence and fruits not seen.

Distribution and Ecology: *Calamus loeiensis* is known only from seasonally moist, mountain forest on steep, rocky slopes on Phu Kra Dung in north Thailand at 1100 m elevation. Associated palm species include *Arenga westerhoutii* and *Livistona jenkinsiana*.

Notes: *Calamus loeiensis* is certainly associated with the *C. palustris* complex of species characterized by leaves bearing a cirrus, irregularly arranged pinnae clustered in groups of 2-4, and the dissimilar staminate and pistillate inflorescences. Other species in this complex from Thailand include *C. kerriamus*, *C. khasianus*, *C. latifolius*, and *C. palustris*. Perhaps a case could be made for including all within one, highly variable species. *C. loeiensis* can be distinguished from the other species in this complex by its leaf sheaths with strongly ascending smaller spines interspersed among the much larger, spreading to reflexed ones. Leaf sheath armature of *C. loeiensis* is very similar to that of *C. nambariensis* from northeast India but the latter differs in its more numerous, more or less regularly arranged and evenly spaced pinnae.

Nomenclatural Note: *Pinanga sylvestris* (Lour.) Hodel **comb. nov.** *Areca sylvestris* Lour., Fl. Cochin. 568. 1790.

Lourier named and described *Areca sylvestris* in 1790. Various later workers referred to it as *Seaforthia sylvestris*, *S. cochinchinensis*, *Ptychosperma cochinchinensis*, and *Pinanga cochinchinensis* (see Beccari in *Malesia* 3: 143. 1886). I offer the new combination since the taxon in question is a *Pinanga* and the epithet *sylvestris* predates all others and thus has priority.

Pinanga sylvestris is a clustered, graceful and handsome, slender-stemmed, pinnate-leaved species from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and north and east Thailand. Its stems are attractively covered with dense, reddish brown indument and the new, emerging leaves are bronze colored before turning green. In north Thailand *P. sylvestris* is confined to mountain forests above 1000 m (3300 feet) elevation where winter night temperatures sometimes approach freezing. It might prove to be a valuable addition to the palm palette in subtropical areas like Southern California, south Australia, and the Mediterranean region.