

teole had previously been seen only in *Euterpe*. On all other counts, however, the species clearly is referable to *Prestoea*.

***Prestoea pubens* H. E. Moore, sp. nov.** (Fig. 3C, D).

Caudex ad 3 m altus. Folia pinnata pinnis (3-) 8-9 in quoque latere dispositis saepe subsigmoideis ad 33 cm longis 6 cm latis. Inflorescentiae pilis pallidis simplicibus vel ramosis vel stellatis pubescentes, pedunculis quam rhachidibus multo longioribus rhachillis 5-10 triades fere ad apicem gerentibus. Flores masculi 2.5-2.6 mm longi petalis acutis ad apicem pilosis. Fructus globosus ca. 1 cm in diam. endospermio seminis ruminato (?).

Holotype: *Cuatrecasas 15983* (COL).

Trunk to 3 m high or more, 2 cm in diam.

Leaves pinnate; sheath apparently brown-lepidote, becoming merely punctulate in age, 27 cm long or more; petiole channeled above, rounded beneath, glabrous, 28-35 cm long; rachis rounded beneath, angled above, ca. 0.9 m long; pinnae 8-9 on each side, regularly arranged, subsigmoid, broadest at the middle, narrowed to an acute or caudate-acuminate apex, with midrib prominently elevated above, prominent beneath and there with numerous more or less prominent punctulate veins on each side, basal pinnae ca. 18 cm long, 4 cm wide, with tip 6 cm long, central pinnae ca. 33 cm long, 6 cm wide, apical pinnae 1-2-ribbed, or (in leaf from juvenile plant?) the blade sometimes divided into 3 broad, several-ribbed (6-10) segments.

Inflorescences interfoliar or becoming infrafoliar; peduncle longer than rachis, 21-29 cm long, pubescent with soft pale hairs; prophyll ca. 11 cm long, glabrous; peduncular bract inserted 2.5-4 cm above the prophyll, cylindrical in bud, ca. 50 cm long, 2.5 cm wide, covered with appressed light brown scales that sometimes disintegrate into a fringed margin; rachis 3-7 cm long, pubescent with soft, simple to furcate, substellate or stellate white hairs; rachillae 5-10, 28-48 cm long, hairy like the rachis, bearing flowers in triads nearly throughout, these seated in shallow elongate depressions and subtended by a thin membranous bract, bracteoles membranous, low, rounded, those surrounding the pistillate flowers ca. 0.1-0.2 mm high.

Staminate flowers ca. 2.5-2.6 mm high; sepals very briefly connate in a low, 3-lobed calyx ca. 1 mm high, minutely ciliate, slightly keeled dorsally; petals ca. 2.4 mm high, with a tuft of white hairs at the tip; pistillode deeply trifid, about as long as stamen filaments, dark-colored: pistillate flowers depressed-globose; sepals ciliate along the margin, at least basally, and with a tuft of short hairs dorsally near the apex, ca. 2 mm high, 3 mm wide; petals scarcely exceeding the sepals, ciliate on the margin near the base, ca. 2.4 mm high, 2.2 mm wide; staminodes dentiform; gynoeceum ovoid.

Fruit (immature) ca. 1 cm in diam.; endosperm ruminant (?).

Specimens examined: COLOMBIA. DEL VALLE: Costa del Pacifico, río Yurumanguí, bosque, El Papayo, 10-20 m alt., 5 Feb 1944, *Cuatrecasas 15983* (COL, holotype); dense forest, Sabaletas, km 29 of highway from Buenaventura to Cali, 25 m alt., 4 Jun 1944, *Killip & Cuatrecasas 38746* (COL).

*Prestoea pubens* stands out by reason of its long-pedunculate inflorescence covered with soft white hairs that are simple to stellate, its pilose staminate flowers,

and subsigmoid pinnae. The leaf accompanying *Killip & Cuatrecasas 38746* differs from that of the type in having only three several-ribbed pinnae that are longer and broader and may have come from a juvenile individual. The inflorescence, however, is similar though larger. Examination of immature seeds suggests that they may develop ruminant endosperm but this can only be suggested.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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3. *Prestoea cuatrecasii* (Cuatrecasas 13043). **A**, inflorescences; **B**, leaf. *Prestoea pubens* (Cuatrecasas 15983). **C**, leaf; **D**, inflorescence.