

1. **D. nobilis**, *Wendl. MSS.* Palm 80–120 feet high, with a stem 10–14 in. in diameter. Leaf 9–14 feet long; petiole a foot long, pale green, smooth; leaf-sheath 3–6 feet long, usually spiny; pinnae hairy beneath, bristly when young on both surfaces; midrib yellow. Spadix 2–6 feet long, slightly amplexicaul; branches very slender, pendulous; peduncle vertically compressed, much thickened at the base. Spathes seldom over a foot long. Perianth yellow, $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. Fruit $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, black (Horne), straw-coloured when dried.

SEYCHELLES, now becoming scarce, *Horne!* Endemic. I have to thank M. Wendland for the description of the fruit and seed. *Chou palmiste*.

7. NEPHROSPERMA, Balf. fil.

Monoicous. Flowers in 3-flowered clusters, one female between and below two males, spirally disposed and slightly immersed on the branches of a simply-branching long-peduncled spadix in the axil of a leaf. Peduncle compressed, not amplexicaul. "Spathes 2, complete; outer spiny; three hairy bracts surrounding the spadix within." (Horne) **MALE**. Outer segments of perianth imbricate; inner valvate, thickened, thrice as long as the outer. Stamens 40–50, included, connate at the base; outer shorter, with adnate erect anthers; inner with horizontal anthers. Rudimentary pistil undivided. **FEMALE**. Perianth-segments imbricate. Stamens forming a cup with many short toothed lobes. Fruit globular, slightly flattened on one side; stigma subapical on the flattened side; mesocarp fibrous; endocarp thin, crustaceous. Seed ascending, reniform; raphe spreading from the base and anastomosing at the apex; albumen densely ruminant; embryo basal. **DISTRIB.** The only species.

1. **N. Van Houtteana**, *Balf. fil.* Palm 20–35 feet high, with a stem 4–6 in. diameter. Leaf 5–7 feet long; petiole under a foot long, green, smooth; leaf-sheath $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, woolly and sparsely spiny, with thin coriaceous edges; blade unequally pinnate; pinnae 3 – $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, glabrous; broad segments alternating irregularly with narrow ones, the latter with a single primary vein; veins bearing a few scales towards the base beneath; terminal segments confluent. Spadix 4–8 feet long; peduncle 3 – $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long; branches $2\frac{1}{2}$ – $3\frac{1}{4}$ feet long, compressed at the base. "Basal spathe attached to the stem." (Horne) Fruit orange-red, about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. *Oncosperma Van Houtteana*, *Wendl. MSS.*

SEYCHELLES; not uncommon in open places and by the side of streams, up to 1000 feet, *Kirk! Horne!* Endemic.

8. ROSCHERIA, Wendl.

Monoicous. Flowers in 2-flowered clusters, one female below and slightly on one side of one male, spirally arranged on the very slender

branches of a compoundly-branching spadix in the axil of a leaf with a long compressed glabrous peduncle. Spathes several, smooth, complete. **MALE.** Perianth very minute. Stamens 6, included, united into a ring. Budimentary pistil a column as long as the stamens, capped by a triquetrous disk. **FEMALE.** Staminodes forming a minutely-toothed cup. Fruit small, black, elliptical; stigma subbasilar; mesocarp thin, fibrous; endocarp crustaceous. Seed ascending, elliptical, slightly oblique; raphe spreading from the base, its branches anastomosing on the side opposite the hilum; albumen loosely ruminant; embryo basal. **DISTRIB.** The only species.

1. **R. melanochoetes**, *Wendl. MSS.* Palm 15–25 feet high, with many aerial roots and a stem 2–3 in. in diameter, with a ring of spines when young below each leaf-scar. Leaf $4\frac{1}{2}$ –7 feet long; petiole $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, smooth, subtriquetrous, grooved down the face with a pale band running from the top of the sheath down the back of the petiole; leaf-sheath $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, with a few fine black spines rising from a compressed cushion; blade pale green, 3–5 feet long, 2–3 feet broad, entire when young, unequally pinnate; pinnæ 1– $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, bifid at the apex, with many primary veins $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 in. apart, clothed on the under side with medially-attached scales. Spadix $2\frac{1}{2}$ –6 feet long; peduncle 1–3 feet long, compressed, an inch thick; branches very slender, flattened at their insertion. Spathes marginate. Fruit $\frac{1}{4}$ in. long; scar of stigma very prominent. Seeds sometimes 2 (*Horne*). *Verschaffeltia melanochoetes*, *Wendl. in Ill. Hort.* 1871, t. 54.

SEYCHELLES, in shaded forests above 1000 feet in elevation, common, *Kirk*! *Horne*! Endemic. *Latanier Haubum*.

3. **VERSCHAFFELTIA**, *Wendl.*

Monoicous. Flowers in 3-flowered clusters, one female between and below two males, spirally arranged on the short branches of a doubly-branched slightly amplexicaul slender drooping spadix with a glabrous compressed peduncle. Spathes 3. Perianth very minute, not seen in the flowering stage. Staminodes forming a ring with 6 short 2-lobed teeth. Fruit globular; scar of the stigma subbasal; mesocarp spongy; endocarp thick, woody, brittle, with vertical ridges reaching from base to apex. Seed ascending, globular, umbilicate at the base, marked with ridges corresponding to the grooves of the endocarp; raphe branching from the hilum and anastomosing freely over the surface; albumen deeply ruminant; embryo subbasal. **DISTRIB.** The only species.

1. **V. splendida**, *Wendl. in Ill. Hort.* xii. *Misc.* 5. Palm 80 feet high, with many aerial roots and a stem 6–12 in. in diameter, which, like the leaf-sheaths and petiole, is very spiny when young. Leaf 5–8 feet long; petiole $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 foot long, pale green, semiterete, grooved down