

This species somewhat approaches *Bactris Gastoniana* Barb., but differs in the leaf rachis, which is smooth except at the basal part, shape of the drupe, greater number of pairs of pinnae, long spiny stem, pale spines of the stem, and other differences. From *B. aristata* Mart. it differs in its many-branched spadix and rachis armed at base; from *B. rivularis* Barb. it differs in the shape and number of the pinnae, and other particulars, while from *B. maraja* Mart. it differs in the fuscous-pubescent rachis which is aculeate only at base, in the larger number of pinnae, and the shorter spadix. It is characterized by the scurfy-furfuraceous leaf rachis which is unarmed except at base, the sigmoid oblanceolate long-falcate pinnae acuminate at apex, the long pale-colored spines arranged in fan-like groups on the stems, the densely spinose spathe, and the short several-branched spadix.

***Bactris ptariana* Steyermark, sp. nov.**

Caudex 6-9 m. altus, 5-10 cm. crassus, solitarius, ad annulos aculeis nigris 4-32 mm. longis dense aggregatis armatus; fronde 1.91 m. longa; vagina fusco-tomentosa aculeis brevibus 0.6-2 cm. longis applanatis; petiolo 55-60 cm. longo basi 4 cm. lato; rhachi infra prope basem aculeis nigris dense aggregatis annulatis minoribus et majoribus; pinnis inermibus utrinque 40 plus minusve regulariter dispositis suboppositis concoloribus lineari-lanceolatis tenuiter acuminatis, 55-85 cm. longis, 1-3 cm. latis, supra glabris infra omnibus nervis hispidulis; spadice 15-22 cm. longo, usque ad 10 cm. lato, ramulis 20-25, 13-17 cm. longis, 2-3 cm. crassis dense hirtellis; pedunculo 18 cm. longo, 15 mm. lato, supra inermi dense pallido-velutino infra setis brevibus nigro-fuscis dense vestito; spatha fusiformi clavato-acuta, 40-48 cm. longa, parte inferiore usque ad 7 cm. lata, aculeis densis brevioribus fuscis vel castaneis et longioribus intermixtis nigris patentibus obtecta, dense velutina; floribus masculinis cum foemineis intermixtis ad ramorum apices aggregatis, breviter pedicellatis, pedicellis 0.8 mm. longis glabris: calyce 1 mm. longa, 3 lobis late triangularibus obtusis 0.8 mm. longis, 0.6-0.7 mm. latis, glabris fusco-maculatis lineolatis; corolla ultra medium divisa, 3 lobis ovatis superne subito angustata 2 mm. longis, 1.5 mm. latis, apice fusco-maculatis; staminibus 6, filamentis tenuibus glabris, 1.2 mm. longis; antheris oblongis, 0.8-0.9 mm. longis; floribus foemineis: calyce 0.8-1.1 mm. longa, 3.5 mm. lata, 3 lobis fere obsoletis; corolla 3 mm. longa, 3 mm. lata, 3 lobis late triangularibus subcuculatis obtuse apiculatis, parce stipitato-glandularibus obtecta; drupa obovoidea, 11 mm. longa, 11 mm. lata, glabra plerumque calva apice apiculata.

Spines on trunk densely clustered in annulate arrangement, the trunk annulate about 3 cm. between the spines; frond subcoriaceous to firmly membranaceous, deep green above, dull green below; rachis of frond concave above at very base, convex below, in lower and middle parts convex below, carinate and bifacial above, the lower

portion armed on both surfaces with flattened black spines 2-6 cm. long, 1 mm. wide, these more or less furfuraceous at or near the base, middle part of rachis with the lower convex side spinose with aggregations of black spines 1.5-3.5 cm. long, mixed at the base with small, slender, black or gray scales and (or) hairs, the upper carinate side without spines, the upper part of rachis with shorter black spines 0.4-1.1 cm. long on the lower surface mixed with short, black-brown hairs and scales, spineless on the upper side, the uppermost part of rachis spineless on the lower side with only small clusters of blackish scales; spines at base of rachis on lower surface arranged in fan-like aggregations; pinnae 2-ranked, the uppermost ones with 6 primary nerves on each side, the lower and middle ones with 8-10 on each side, all the nerves on lower surface hispidulous with tiny brown appressed scales at base of hairs, lower pinnae 78-85 cm. long, 1.5-2 cm. wide, middle ones 75-85 cm. long, 2-3 cm. wide, uppermost ones 55-60 cm. long, 1-2 cm. wide, some pinnae sparsely and remotely setulose-ciliate, otherwise entirely unarmed; inflorescence erect, arising at base of leaf sheath; rachis creamy white; flowers yellow (Fig. 10).

Type in herb. Chi. Nat. Hist. Mus., collected in forest near "Misia Kathy" camp, on southeast-facing slopes of Ptari-tepuí, state of Bolívar, alt. 1585-1600 m., November 10-11, 1944, *Julian A. Steyermark 60046*. Also collected on lower southeastern slopes of Carrao-tepuí, state of Bolívar, alt. 1675-1980 m., December 5-6, 1944, *Steyermark 60869*.

Local name: "Moi-ye-kai-yek".

This species shows a relationship to *B. longisecta* Burret, *B. balanophora* Spruce, *B. littoralis* Barb., *B. glaucescens* Drude, *B. bidentula* Spruce, *B. megistocarpa* Burret, *B. setosa* Mart., and *B. vulgaris* Barb., but differs from them by its combination of solitary trunk, dense fan-like clusters of long, black spines on lower surface of rachis and petiole, the long, black spines densely covering the spathe, the unarmed rachis of the inflorescence which is much branched and densely hirsutulous, the regularly many-pinnate frond with narrowly linear-lanceolate, concolorous pinnae which are densely hispidulous on the nerves of the lower surface, the glabrous fruit, and the minutely stipitate-glandular, otherwise glabrous, pistillate corolla.

Bactris sororopanae Steyermark, sp. nov.

Caudex 1.7-1.9 m. altus, 9-10 mm. crassus, solitarius, aculeis brevibus tenuibus nigris, 3-4 mm. longis; frondis vagina fusco-tomentosa aculeis brevibus tenuibus 3-5 mm. longis apice fusco-setosa; lamina 25-27 cm. longa, 18 cm. lata; petiolo 10-15 cm. longo, 3 mm. crasso, inermi ancipitali costato pallido-brunneo tomentosoleproso; rhachi fusco-leprosa 10-12 cm. longa; pinnis utrinque 5-6 irregulariter proxime dispositis alternatis vel suboppositis sigmoideis lanceolatis apice longi-acuminatis superne curvatis, 12-16 cm.