pistillode 0.2–0.3 mm. **Pistillate flowers** with sepals imbricate, 0.8–1.3 x 0.6–1.3 mm, concave, keeled, non-ciliolate; petals proximally imbricate and membranous, distally valvate and fleshy, 1.2–1.8 x 0.9–1.5 mm, concave, elliptic, acute, striate; once (in Schatz 1694, a single flower) with a second series of smaller petals inside the outer series, 1.2 mm long; staminodes 6, 0.2–0.4 mm high, from thin to broad and tooth-shaped; ovary 0.8–1.4 x 0.8–1.3 mm, with a low pyramidal stigmatic bump.

**Fruit** deep shiny red, ellipsoid with a slightly pointed apex, 10–15 x 5–9.5 mm; mesocarp c. 2 mm thick, fleshy; endocarp with 22–30 free longitudinal fibres.

**Seed** 8.5–10 x 4–5.5 mm, the base pointed, the apex obtuse; endosperm homogeneous.

**Eophyll** bifid.

**NOTE.** *N. indivisa* was put into synonymy by Jumelle (1929). Northern populations have generally longer peduncles and more glabrous rachillae, but not consistently so.

Jacquemin H572J has the staminate and pistillate flowers at almost the same stage of development on a single rachilla, which is most unusual in *Dypsis*.

Guillaumet 2161 has the stamens larger than in all other specimens studied; the measurements of this specimen are included in the description in brackets.

**SPECIMENS SEEN.** Bealanana: Tsaratana area, Nov. 1912 (old infl.), Perrier 12026 (P); Bealanana to Mangindrano, July 1968 (fl.), Guillaumet 2161 (K, P, TAN). Andapa: Andapa to Doana, Andranosy valley, Oct. 1967 (fl., fr.), Jacquemin H572J (P); Marojejy, E of Ambalamanasy II, Dec. 1946 (fl., y.fr.), Humbert & Caparon 22119 (K, P); Marojejy, Nov. 1972 (fl.), Guillaumet 4037 (TAN), and Dec. 1972 (fr.), Guillaumet 4204 (TAN); N slopes of Ambatosoratra, Feb. 1989 (fl.), Miller 4257 (TAN). Maroantsetra/ Antalaha: Masoala Peninsula, Oct. 1912 (bud), Perrier 11948 (P); Ambatondrazaka: Didy forest, Aug. 1889 (fr.), Catat 1752 (Holotype P); Zahamena, March 1941 (fr.), Decary 16532 (P); Moramanga: Androanana, Sept. 1913 (old infl.), Perrier 11996 (P); idem, Dec. 1913 (fr.), Perrier 11995 (P); idem, July 1913 (bud), Perrier 11998 (P) and 11999 (P); idem, Dec. 1959 (fl.), RN 10307 Rakotoson (K, P); between Saindro Col and Eminiminy, Feb. 1934 (fl., y.fr.), Humbert 13999 (K, P); N part of 'chains anosyennes', Nov. 1971 (bud), Guillaumet s.n. (P, TAN); Andohahela, Col Tanatana, Dec. 1989 (fl.), Dransfield et al. JD6773 (K, P) and (fl.) JD6774 (TAN); Andohahela, March 1992 (fr.), Beentje & Andriamianpany 4594 (BH, K, MO, P, TAN); idem, Dec. 1992 (fr.), Beentje & Andriamianpany 4766 (TAN); idem, Itrotroky R, Feb. 1993 (fr.), Malcomber 2129 (K, P), Locality not found: Andrianaony, Madovanolo, Nov. 1970 (bud), Guillaumet 3511 (P, TAN).

**88. Dypsis coriacea**

A very attractive small palm with thick shiny leaves. This species was known as ‘leather-leaf’ among collectors, and the Latin name is a straight translation of this. The entire leaf dries pale green, which is most distinctive.
**DISTRIBUTION.** Masoala, Maroantsetra and Mananara.

**HABITAT.** Lowland rain forest; on steep slope near stream, or on ridgetops; 200–400 m.

**LOCAL NAMES.** Not recorded.

**USES.** Not recorded.

**CONSERVATION STATUS.** Vulnerable. The species has a limited distribution area, most of which is unprotected and under some threat.

**Dypsis coriacea** Beentje sp. nov.

gregem palmunculorum 6-staminatorum foliis integris pertinens D. lucenti affinis sed rachillis lepidotis et folio glabrō multō coriaceo differt. Typus: Madagascar, Sahavary, Dransfield et al. JD6459 (Holotypus K; isotypi P, TAN).

Solitary or clustering palm. **STEM(s)** 1–2 m, diam. < 1 cm; distal internodes 2–4.5 cm, pale green with dense to scattered reddish pubescence; nodal scars c. 1 mm. **LEAVES** 6–9 in the crown, entire or with 4 leaflets; sheath 4–9 cm long, closed, pale brown with reddish scales and without or with auricles to 8 mm long; petiole 1–12 cm long, channelled, c. 2 mm diam., with scattered scales; lamina entire, leathery, rich shiny green and occasionally metallic-tinged, 15–41 x 6–8 cm, lobes 5–12 x 1.5–4 cm; main vein 1, with sparse red and white scales on the midrib, otherwise with few scattered scales to glabrous, the lamina often white-punctate, often with a single deep (to 6 cm) lacuna, in the distal quarter the margins toothed, the teeth to 16 mm long. **INFLORESCENCE** interfoliar, unbranched, spreading; peduncle 8–28 cm long, 2–3 mm diam., glabrous; prophyll 5–16 cm long, 4–6 mm wide, opening in the distal 1 cm only, with scattered scales to almost glabrous; peduncular bract inserted at 5–13 from the base of the peduncle, 3–12 cm
Dypsis minut a

**Distribution.** Musical and charismatic, sweetly palm, one of the smallest on the island. The name of this exquisite little palm, which is restricted in its distribution, indicates its size; it is a tiny palm.

**Staminate flowers**
- Sepals 0.8–1.5 x 0.7–1.6 mm, ciliolate, with scales.
- Petals white, 1.8–2.4 x 1–1.7 mm, striate.
- Stamens 6, uniseriate or very slightly biseriate, filaments 0.8–1.5 mm, thin, anthers 0.8–1.6 x 0.3–0.6 mm, versatile.
- Pistillode 0.7–1 x 0.3–0.5 mm.

**Pistillate flowers**
- Sepals 0.8–1.2 x 1.4–1.7 mm.
- Petals 2.1–4 x 1–2.8 mm.
- Staminodes 6, c. 0.5 mm.
- Ovary c. 2 x 1.3 mm.

**Fruit**
- When young narrowly ovoid, 11–15 x 4.5–6 mm, obtuse, with fleshy mesocarp and fibrous endocarp.

**Seed**
- C. 12.5 x 4 mm, with homogeneous endosperm.

**Note.** The species somewhat resembles *D. lucens* but the leaf veins are glabrous and there are no ramenta; the rachilla is puberulous. It also resembles *D. catantiana*, but has versatile stamens (not didymous ones). There is some variation in the degree of lobing and the length of the rachilla.

**Specimens seen.**
- Maroantsetra: Hiaraka, Ampanga R., Oct. 1986 (bud), Dransfield et al. JD6382 (K, TAN);
- Sahavary, Feb. 1988 (fl., y.fr.), Dransfield et al. JD6459 (Holotype K; isotypes P, TAN);
- Antalavia, Feb. 1988 (fl.), Dransfield et al. JD6482 (K, TAN);
- Andronabe, Feb. 1992 (fl.), Zjhra & Hutcheon 120 (K);