



Dypsis cabadae, cultivated in Caracas Botanic Garden.

mesocarp thin and fleshy and fibrous, endocarp \pm adherent to the seed, fibrous, anastomosing. **SEED** ellipsoid, 8–9 \times 4–5 mm, pointed at the base, rounded at the apex; endosperm homogeneous, embryo lateral; raphe branches ascending from the base and loosely anastomosing. **SEEDLING** with eophyll bifid, occasionally with a few scales abaxially.

NOTE. The affinities of this species seem to be with *D. pembana* from Pemba, but it is certainly not the same.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Cuba: Soledad, Cienfuegos, Atkins Garden, Feb. 1952 (old infl., fr.). Moore 6101 (BH, paratype); idem, Feb. 1953 (fl., fr.). Moore 6517 (BH, holotype).

38. DYP SIS HUMBLOTIANA

INSUFFICIENTLY KNOWN SPECIES

The material of this species is too scanty for us to say much about it, or to include it in the key. The name refers to the collector of the type, Léon Humblot.

DISTRIBUTION. Comoro Islands: Grand Comore.

HABITAT. Forest; no further data.

LOCAL NAMES. Not recorded.

USES. Not recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Unknown.

Dypsis humblotiana (Baill.) Beentje & J. Dransf. **comb. nov.**

SYNONYMS:

Chrysalidocarpus humblotianus (Baill.) Beccari, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 38, Beibl. 87: 33 (1906); Becc., Palme del Madagascar 40 (1914); Jum. & H. Perrier, Fl. Madagascar 30: 100 (1945).

Phlogella humblotiana Baill., Bull. Soc. Linn. Paris: 1174 (1894). Type: Comoros, Grand Comore, Combani forest, *Humblot* 1338 or 338 (Holotype P. isotype K).

TRUNK to 15 m tall, to 15 cm diam. **LEAVES** with the rachis in mid-leaf 1.5–2 cm wide, keeled, glabrous; leaflets probably regular with an interval of 1.7–2.3 cm, median 64–70 \times 2.7–3 cm, occasionally with a single ramentum to 1 cm long proximally, otherwise glabrous, main vein 1, and thickened margins, apices unequally acute.

INFLORESCENCE branched to 2 or more orders, probably to 3 orders; rachillae 9–12 cm long, c. 1.5 mm diam., glabrous, with distant superficial triads, with proud rachilla bracts with rounded apices.

STAMINATE FLOWER buds (very young) with sepals 1.3–1.5 \times 1.2–1.5 mm; petals $<$ 0.8 \times 0.8 mm; stamens 6, uniseriate (at least at this stage), $<$ 0.7 mm high. **PISTILLATE FLOWERS** not seen. **FRUIT** not seen.

NOTE. Labels on the type sheets bear the number



Dypsis humblotiana

338 in profusion, but the single label with date and locality has the number 1338.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Grande Comore: Combani forest, Oct. 1884 (bud), *Humblot* 1338 or 338 (K, P; type).

SIMILAR SPECIMENS. Comoro Islands: without further locality, anno 1847–1852 (ster.), *Boivin* s.n. (P) is a palm only known from the leaves: sheath 20.5 cm long, c. 2 cm diam., waxy with reddish scales, with ragged sloping shoulders; petiole c. 1.5 cm long and 0.9×10.5 cm diam.; rachis c. 58.5 cm long, in mid-leaf 3–4 mm wide, slightly keeled and glabrous; leaflets c. 23 on each side of the rachis, irregular or in groups of 2–3, the more distal regular, ?in one plane, the proximal $25\text{--}32 \times 0.2\text{--}0.6$ cm, median $43\text{--}47 \times 1.7\text{--}1.8$ cm, distal $9\text{--}16 \times 0.5\text{--}1$ cm; main vein 1 (– 3); glabrous?; acuminate; the distal pair not connate. Because it is sterile it is impossible to decide on its status.

39. DYPISIS LANCEOLATA

This would be a wonderful ornamental. Hull describes it as 'even more beautiful than *D. cabadae*'. The name refers to the shape of the leaflets, which are unusually broad for the genus *Dypsis*.

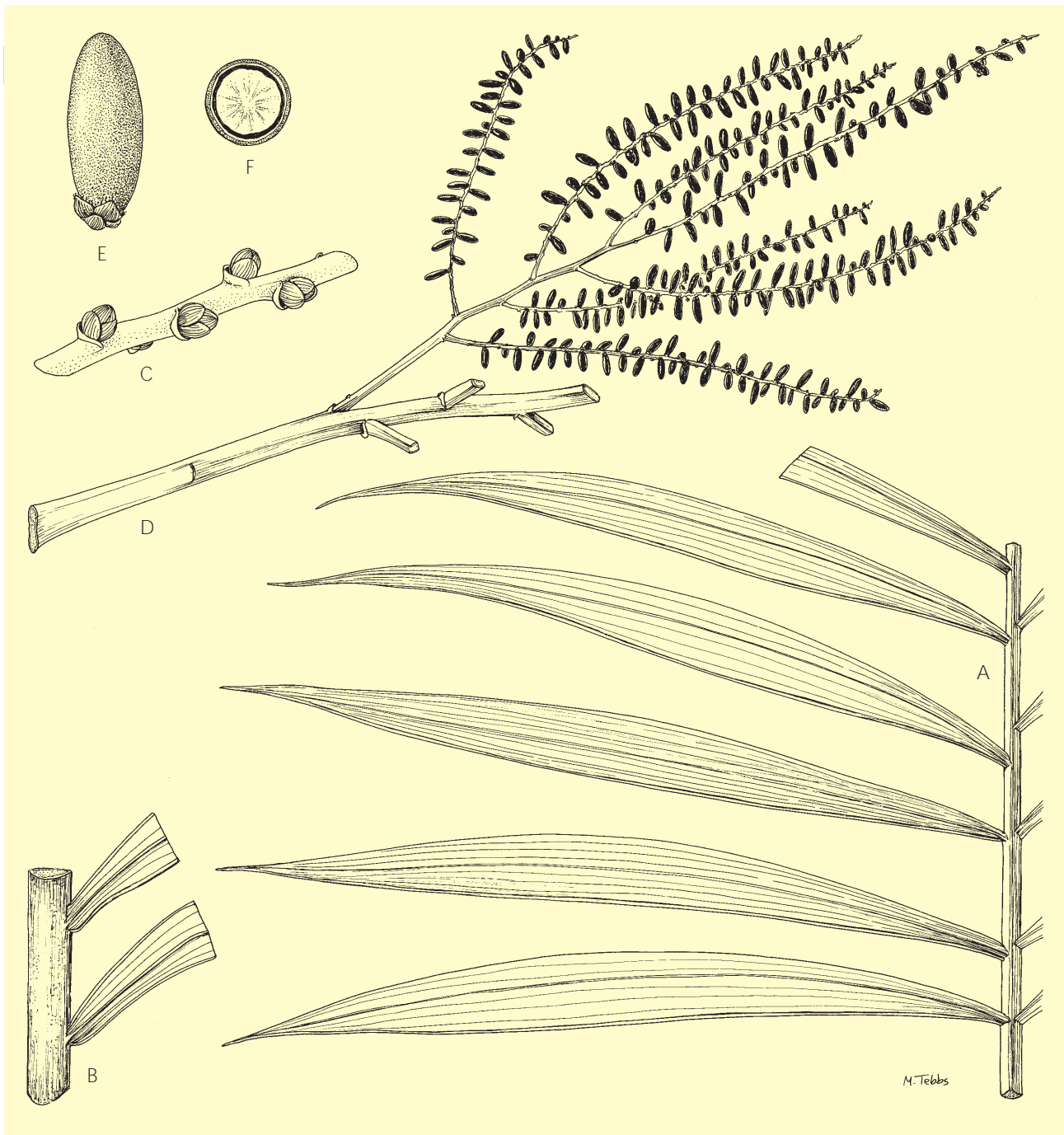
DISTRIBUTION. Comoro Islands: Grande Comore, Moheli.

HABITAT. Mid-altitude rain forest; 500–1000 m.

LOCAL NAMES. *Ivovowo* (fide Hull).

USES. Not recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Unknown, but at least Vulnerable.



Dypsis lanceolata. **A** mid portion of leaf $\times 1/3$; **B** detail of leaflet bases $\times 1$; **C** detail of rachilla $\times 3$; **D** part of inflorescence $\times 1/3$; **E** fruit $\times 2$; **F** fruit in cross section $\times 2$. **A** – **C** from *Humblot* 1347, **D** – **F** from *Bernardi* 11750. Drawn by Margaret Tebbs.