

52. DYP SIS MCDONALDIANA

Named after the company that funded HB for four years of the project on Madagascar palms: McDonald's Restaurants (UK). This is in the tradition of Linnaeus, the father of Botany, who named taxa after his benefactors (and nasty weeds after his enemies, so we have to add that this is a beautiful palm!).

DISTRIBUTION. Only known from the mountains of SE Madagascar.

HABITAT. Lowland or submontane rain forest edge; slight midslope or wet valley bottom among boulders; 300–1100 m.

LOCAL NAMES. Not recorded.

USES. Not recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Vulnerable. Restricted to a small area, which is only partially protected.

Dypsis mcdonaldiana Beentje *sp. nov.*

D. scottiana versosimiliter affinis sed inflorescentia robustiore rachillis longioribus distincta. Type: Madagascar, Andohahela, Beentje & Andriampaniry 4591 (Holotype K; isotypi MO, P, TAN).

Clustering or subcolonial palm in groups of 8–20. **STEMS** 3–5 m, 1–3 cm diam.; internodes 1–5 cm, brown, more distally green. **LEAVES** 7–10, spiral, flushed reddish when young; sheath 12–20 cm, pale green with distal red-brown pubescence, with tiny rounded ligules, the outer sheaths half open; petiole 5–10 cm long, 4–9 × 2–4 mm diam., abaxially with scattered scales, adaxially flat with sharp edges; rachis 37–90 cm, abaxially with scattered scales, in mid-leaf keeled, 3–5 mm diam.; leaflets 12–21 on each side of the rachis, regular or slightly irregular (in mid-leaf 2–4 cm apart),



Dypsis mcdonaldiana

with top flabellum, the proximal 14–28 × 0.3–1.5 cm, median 21–43 × 1.6–2.4 cm, distal 0.8–29 × 0.8–2.9 (–7) cm, the distal pair joined for up to 7.5 cm and at the apex dentate over a width of 3–15 mm, main veins 1–3 (to 6 in the distal ones), apices attenuate, unequally bifid, no ramenta or scales. **INFLORESCENCE** (inter- and) infra-foliar, 45–90 cm, branched to 2 orders; peduncle 18–33 cm, proximally 5–8 × 2–3 mm, distally 4–7 × 2–6 mm diam., with sparse red-brown scales; prophyll 16–27 × 0.9–1 cm, borne at 4–8 cm above the base of the peduncle, with scattered scales, split in the distal 1–4 cm only; peduncular bract deciduous, not seen; rachis 16–27 cm, glabrous or nearly so, with 4–6 (–16) branched and 11–13 unbranched first order branches, the proximal of these to 8 cm long with up to 8 rachillae; rachillae 4–20 cm, 1–1.5 mm diam., puberulous to glabrous. **STAMINATE FLOWERS** unknown. **PISTILLATE FLOWERS** with sepals 0.8–1 × 1–1.2 cm; petals 1.6–2.5 × 1.5–1.8 cm; staminodes not seen; ovary subglobose, c. 1.5 mm high, c. 1.3 mm diam., with a trifid stigma. **FRUIT** red, 6–9 × 3–4 mm; remnant sepals 1 × 1 mm, petals 2.2–2.4 × 1.8 mm, with lower part imbricate and minutely ciliate, upper part valvate and triangular; endocarp fibrous, fibres not anastomosing. **SEED** with homogenous endosperm. **EOPHYLL** bifid.

NOTE. Probably closest to *D. scottiana*, but with more robust inflorescences with longer rachillae.

The (Guillaumet) specimen from the highest ele-



Dypsis mcdonaldiana. Crown and infructescence (Beentje & Andriampaniry 4591).

vation has much shorter and scaly rachillae while the lowland ones have longer glabrous ones.

Close to this species is *Bosser* 18599 from Vondrozo: W of Vondrozo, alt. 700 m, Dec. 1963 (bud); the sheath is longer (29 cm), the petiole shorter (5 mm), the rachis is 28 cm with only 6 leaflets on each side; the peduncle is 68 cm, but the rest of the inflorescence is similar.

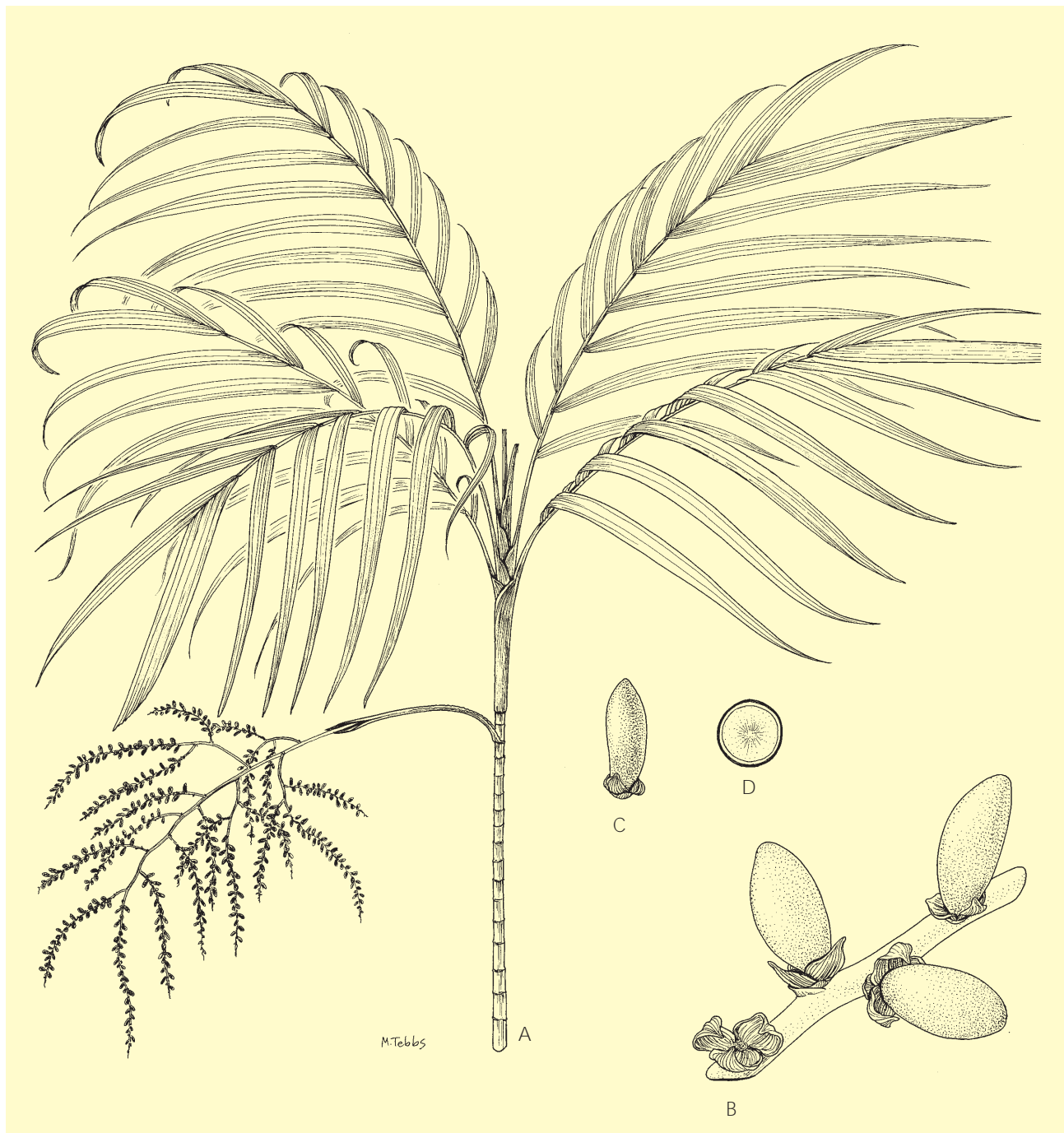
SPECIMENS SEEN. Tolanaro: E slopes of N part of Anosy chain, Nov. 1971 (old infl.), *Guillaumet* 3980 (P); Andohahela, col Tanatana, Dec. 1989 (y.fr.), *Dransfield et al.* JD6782 (K, TAN); 13km N of Ezoambo, March 1992 (fr.), *Beentje & Andriampaniry* 4591 (K, MO, P, TAN, type).

53. *DYPsis JUMELLEANA*

One of the commonest palms of the well-known forest at Analamazaotra, but very rare elsewhere. The name refers to Henri Lucien Jumelle (1866–1935), who collaborated with Perrier de la Bâthie on the publication of the palm flora of Madagascar and who described many species.

DISTRIBUTION. Known from Analamazaotra, and from old collections in Zahamena and Anjozorobe.

HABITAT. Submontane rain forest on gentle to steep slopes; 800–1300 m.



***Dypsis mcdonaldiana*.** **A** crown $\times 1/8$; **B** detail of fruiting rachilla $\times 3$; **C** fruit $\times 2.5$; **D** fruit in cross section $\times 3$. All from *Beentje & Andriampaniry* 4591. Drawn by Margaret Tebbs.