

NOTE. This species is near *D. heteromorphus* but is solitary, much shorter, has a shorter sheath, smaller leaves, and the inflorescence branches to only one order; it is also near *D. acuminum* but is distinct by its ruminant endosperm and shorter sheath.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Marojejy E peak, Dec. 1948 (dead infl.), *Humbert* 22756 (K, P); idem, March 1949 (fl., fr.), *Humbert* 23679 (K, P); idem, March/April 1949 (fr.), *Humbert & Cours* 23799 (K, P); Marojejy summit, April 1949 (fl.), *Cours* 3576 (K, P, TAN); Marojejy, without further loc., 1900 m, Nov. 1972 (?), *Guillaumet* 4059 (TAN).

41. DYPsis TSARATANANENSIS

A rare clustering palm from a montane habitat. The name refers to the type locality, Tsaratanana.

DISTRIBUTION. Only known from Mt Tsaratanana.

HABITAT. 1000–1700 m.

LOCAL NAMES. *Kindro* (Antankarana).

USES. Palm-heart edible and highly esteemed.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Uncertain. Not seen for more than seventy years, but this mountain has not been



Dypsis tsaratananensis. A leaf sheath, petiole and basal leaflets $\times 1/5$; B mid section of leaf $\times 1/5$; C leaf tip $\times 1/5$; D part of inflorescence $\times 1/4$; E detail of rachilla $\times 5$; F fruit $\times 2.5$; G fruit in cross section $\times 2.5$. All from *Perrier* 15265. Drawn by Margaret Tebbs.



Dypsis
tsaratananensis

visited by botanists for a long time. Numbers are unknown. The fact that the palm-heart was so popular bodes ill for this species, but at least it is a clustering one which makes harvesting less final.

Dypsis tsaratananensis (Jum.) Beentje & J. Dransf. **comb. nov.**

SYNONYM:

Neodypsis tsaratananensis Jum., Ann. Inst. Bot.-Géol. Colon. Marseille sér. 4, 2 (2): 15 (1924); Jum., Cat. Pl. Madagascar, Palmae: 19 (1938); Jum. & H. Perrier, Fl. Madagascar 30: 140, fig. 38 (1945). Lectotype (selected here): Madagascar, Tsaratanana, *Perrier* 15265bis (Holotype P).

Clustering palm, intermediate in size between *D. lutescens* and *D. baronii* (Perrier). **LEAVES:** sheath 18 cm or more long, pale brown, distally with small scales, 5.5 cm wide when flat; petiole 12–46 cm long, proximally 1.5 × 0.4 cm, distally 1.1 × 0.3 cm, with sparse scales; rachis in mid-leaf 1.3–1.5 cm wide, keeled, sub-glabrous or with some white waxy scales; leaflets 55–60 on each side of the rachis, in groups of 1–4, group interval 3.5–8 cm, the proximal 40–70 × 0.7–0.9 cm, median 55–60 × 1.5–1.7 cm (interval < 0.5 cm), distal 13–30 × 0.5–1.7 cm, main vein 1, margins thickened, glabrous, apices unequally bifid, attenuate. **INFLORESCENCE** interfoliar, branched to 2 orders (more?), recurved; peduncular bract (fide Perrier) beaked, deciduous; rachis c. 24 cm long, with 9 branched and 16 unbranched first order branches; first order branches seen (distal?) with a rachis to 4 cm long, 8 × 3 mm diam., with 5 rachillae, glabrous; rachillae 9–19 cm long, c. 2 mm diam., glabrous, with distant superficial triads; rachilla bract rounded. **STAMINATE FLOWERS** with sepals 2.3–2.5 × 1.8–2 mm; petals connate to the receptacle for 1.8–2.2 mm, free parts 4.3–4.8 × 2–3 mm; stamens 6, uniseriate, filaments 3.6–4.5 mm, flattened, anthers 1.5–1.6 × 0.6–0.8 mm, versatile, obtuse; pistillode 2–2.3 × 0.8–1 mm. **PISTILLATE FLOWERS** with sepals 2.5–2.7 × 2.2–3.5 mm; petals 3–3.8 × 3 mm; staminodes c. 0.4 mm; ovary 2 × 1.2 mm. **FRUIT** ellipsoid, 12–15 × 9–11 mm, rounded at the apex; endocarp fibrous, the fibres much anastomosing. **SEED** 13–14 × 9–10.5 mm, with few ruminations to 1 mm deep, corresponding to slight grooves on the outside.

NOTE. Data in protologue, not apparent in type or its label: inflorescence branched to 2 or 3 orders.

The flowers (present in one of the syntypes) are not described in the protologue, which is most unusual; Jumelle only mentions buds.

The leaves, and local name, are reminiscent of *D. madagascariensis*, but the inflorescence and fruit look more like *D. baronii*. This species is close to *D. oreophila*.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Ambanja/Bealanana: Tsaratanana massif, Dec. 1922 (fl., fr.), *Perrier* 15265 (P, syntype); idem, May 1924 (fr.), *Perrier* 15265bis (P, lectotype).

42. DYPISIS OREOPHILA

Another clustering, montane species, with distinctive small inflorescences. The epithet *oreophila* means mountain-loving, a reference to the habitat. This is a very attractive species.

DISTRIBUTION. Tsaratanana, Marojejy, high ground near Maroantsetra and Mandritsara.

HABITAT. Moist montane forest, on steep slopes; 500–1700 m. Said to be frequent in the forests of the Tsaratanana peaks, between 1000–1600 m (protologue).



Dypsis oreophila, in mountain forest, Marojejy.