

1. **D. nobilis**, *Wendl. MSS.* Palm 80–120 feet high, with a stem 10–14 in. in diameter. Leaf 9–14 feet long; petiole a foot long, pale green, smooth; leaf-sheath 3–6 feet long, usually spiny; pinnae hairy beneath, bristly when young on both surfaces; midrib yellow. Spadix 2–6 feet long, slightly amplexicaul; branches very slender, pendulous; peduncle vertically compressed, much thickened at the base. Spathes seldom over a foot long. Perianth yellow,  $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{3}{4}$  in. long. Fruit  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. long,  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. thick, black (Horne), straw-coloured when dried.

SEYCHELLES, now becoming scarce, *Horne!* Endemic. I have to thank M. Wendland for the description of the fruit and seed. *Chou palmiste.*

## 7. NEPHROSPERMA, Balf. fil.

Monoicous. Flowers in 3-flowered clusters, one female between and below two males, spirally disposed and slightly immersed on the branches of a simply-branching long-peduncled spadix in the axil of a leaf. Peduncle compressed, not amplexicaul. "Spathes 2, complete; outer spiny; three hairy bracts surrounding the spadix within." (Horne) **MALE.** Outer segments of perianth imbricate; inner valvate, thickened, thrice as long as the outer. Stamens 40–50, included, connate at the base; outer shorter, with adnate erect anthers; inner with horizontal anthers. Rudimentary pistil undivided. **FEMALE.** Perianth-segments imbricate. Staminodes forming a cup with many short toothed lobes. Fruit globular, slightly flattened on one side; stigma subapical on the flattened side; mesocarp fibrous; endocarp thin, crustaceous. Seed ascending, reniform; raphe spreading from the base and anastomosing at the apex; albumen densely ruminant; embryo basal. **DISTRIB.** The only species.

1. **N. Van Houtteana**, *Balf. fil.* Palm 20–35 feet high, with a stem 4–6 in. diameter. Leaf 5–7 feet long; petiole under a foot long, green, smooth; leaf-sheath  $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, woolly and sparsely spiny, with thin coriaceous edges; blade unequally pinnate; pinnae  $3$ – $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, glabrous; broad segments alternating irregularly with narrow ones, the latter with a single primary vein; veins bearing a few scales towards the base beneath; terminal segments confluent. Spadix 4–8 feet long; peduncle  $3$ – $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet long; branches  $2\frac{1}{2}$ – $3\frac{1}{4}$  feet long, compressed at the base. "Basal spathe attached to the stem." (Horne) Fruit orange-red, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. long. *Oncosperma Van Houtteana*, *Wendl. MSS.*

SEYCHELLES; not uncommon in open places and by the side of streams, up to 1000 feet, *Kirk!* *Horne!* Endemic.

## 8. ROSCHERIA, Wendl.

Monoicous. Flowers in 2-flowered clusters, one female below and slightly on one side of one male, spirally arranged on the very slender