

pressed, about 8 or 9 mm. across and 6 or 7 mm. high, smooth, dark glossy brown at maturity, micropyle lateral.

Swamps and inlets in the eastern half of southern Louisiana, as far as yet definitely recorded, in many places and often in extensive stands even though long botanically overlooked; a striking palm when full grown and in flower or fruit. There are indications that it occurs eastward of Louisiana. Type habitat, along Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. The rediscovery or recognition of this palm in 1925 by John K. Small was a striking contribution.

This interesting palm has been the subject of extensive field study by Dr. Miriam L. Bomhard, one of whose papers on it is soon to appear in the Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences.

Louisiana palmetto is not well understood. Whether true *S. minor* develops a decided bole in the southern limits of its range is apparently an open question. How *S. Deeringiana* is to be positively distinguished in its juvenile state from *S. minor* is not clear, but the number and width of leaf-segments, length of the palman and the hastula, should provide useful indications. Many palms of clearly separate species, or even of different genera, are scarcely distinguishable in the young state.

There are many indications that *S. Deeringiana*, or a similar species, has been long in cultivation, as suggested in the discussion of *S. minor*. It would not be strange if seeds were early distributed from the New Orleans area; or some of these cultivated plants may be *S. mexicana*; and it is not impossible that unrecognized species are involved.

Plants of the *Deeringiana* relationship have been taken in gardens in California, Trinidad, Demerara (British Guiana), Brazil, and specimens from Singapore are similar. *Sabal speciosa*, an unrecorded name, taken in the Montecito gardens of J. W. Gillespie, southern California, is much like *Deeringiana*; the hastula is 5 cm. long, 2 cm. broad at base, long-narrowed and bluntish: fruit 13 mm. or less broad and 10 mm. or less high, depressed-globose, frequently 1 or 2 other carpels developing to some size; plants came from an eastern nursery which is said to have obtained the seeds from Brazil.

As *Sabal havanensis* a similar palm is in the botanic gardens at Gavea, Rio de Janeiro. This name *havanensis* is of long usage but without botanical standing. It apparently started with Loddiges, English nursery firm, and has been passed down through the literature without description. Martius picked it up in the third volume of his *Historia* (1850; p. 320) in a note under *Thrinax* as one of the things listed by Loddiges in 1849. Kerchove merely lists it in *Les Palmiers*, 1878. Beccari (1907) does nothing more than to cite it. The name is still current, and seeds may be had of European seedsmen. Leaf specimens sent to the writer as *S. havanensis* from southern Florida are an *Inodes*.