

Moreover no satisfactory generic delimitation on number of stamens alone is possible from our existing knowledge of this group. Hence I feel it is ambiguous to accord a separate generic status to *Asraoa* Joseph solely on the basis of reduction in number of stamens when other characters as a whole do not permit it to remain distinct from *Wallichia* Roxb. The reduction in the number of stamens to three, which I have also examined from dissected flowers, is fairly constant. Therefore, I consider it only a separate species under the genus *Wallichia* Roxb.

Wallichia triandra (Joseph) S. K. Basu, comb. nov.

Asraoa triandra Joseph, Bull. Bot. Surv. India. 14 (1-4): 145. 1975 (1972)

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NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Word from the Southern California Chapter is that their first Annual Banquet on March 20, 1976 was a huge

success with 110 members and guests. An interesting sight on the tour of the Palms Restaurant and patio was a four-headed *Livistona chinensis*. The after-dinner speaker was the noted naturalist Arnold Newman who spoke about the Rain Forest, Palms and Other Tropical Plants. Afterwards plants were auctioned off and four door prizes given to the lucky ticket-holders. The highlight of the evening was the competitive bidding on the extremely rare *Jubaeopsis caffra* from South Africa. It was the first time it had been available at an auction and was a seedling with only one leaf 3" or 4" high. It was bid up to \$32! This must be a record of some kind. Total of the auction was \$347.50 so bidding was lively and plants interesting, among them *Trithrinax acanthocoma*. The evening having been such a success, the banquet probably will become an annual affair.

The Miami members met at the garden and home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Thomas on April 17, 1976 to see slides taken at many faraway places by our host over the past twenty years. Members enjoyed the interesting garden with well-established palms, most of which had been planted by previous owner and former member Malcolm Kneale, who had been an avid palm fancier. The well-planted property makes an ideal setting for the charming house the Thomases built, utilizing the palms to create a delightful aspect.

Palm and Fern Fair

The Palm Beach County Chapter of The Palm Society, together with the International Fern Society, will hold a Palm and Fern Fair at the Mounts Agricultural Center, 531 No. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, Florida, on Saturday, October 17, 1976, at 10 a.m. There will be hundreds of varieties of rare and