

# Name Changes in *Attalea*

SCOTT ZONA

*Fairchild Tropical Garden*

11935 Old Cutler Road

Coral Gables (Miami),

Florida 33156 USA

In recent years, consensus has grown for the recognition of just one genus, *Attalea*, in place of the many genera that once comprised subtribe Attaleinae.

In 1999, Dr. Sidney Glassman, professor emeritus of the University of Illinois at Chicago and research associate of the Field Museum of Natural History, published a taxonomic revision of the palm subtribe Attaleinae, in which he recognized the genera *Attalea*, *Scheelea*, *Orbignya*, *Markleya*, *Maxmilliana* and *Ynesia*, as well as intergeneric hybrids. These palms, because of their large size, have been neglected by most botanists, so Glassman's work is welcomed by all persons interested in these economically and ecologically important palms. His revision, the culmination of many years' study, is a detailed account of the species of the subtribe, including 13 species new to science. Many users of Glassman's revision prefer his treatment of species to the more broadly defined species of Henderson et al. (1995), which, although not a monograph, is the only other modern treatment of the species comprising the subtribe. Glassman's taxonomic revision recognized fine-scale variation that the Henderson et al. field guide cannot. Although future monographic studies of the Attaleinae may not maintain all of the species recognized by Glassman, his revision is the most complete to date and of great value to those interested in biodiversity, conservation, ecology and ethnobotany.

The characters once used to separate the genera – variation in stamen and petal shape – did not unambiguously separate natural groups of species, so generic boundaries were ill-defined. Following arguments presented by Wessels Boer (1965) and further advanced by Henderson and Balick (1991), most authors now recognized only *Attalea* (Henderson 1995, Henderson et al. 1995, Dransfield & Uhl 1998, Uhl & Dransfield 1999).

Unfortunately, many of the names in *Scheelea* and *Orbignya* have not been transferred to *Attalea*, and those persons and botanical gardens wishing to follow the latest generic concepts in their publications, labels and interpretative materials do not have validly published names in *Attalea* at

their disposal. Lacking these names, botanic gardens, conservation databases and floristic checklists cannot provide accurate information to their end users. To remedy that situation, Glassman's species of *Scheelea* and *Orbignya*, and one name in  $\times$ *Attabignya*, which do not already have combinations in *Attalea*, are herein transferred to *Attalea*.

***Attalea amylacea*** (Barb. Rodr.) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea amylacea* Barb. Rodr., Pl. Nov. Jard. Bot. Rio Jan. 1: 17, t. 5A, 6. 1891.

***Attalea anisitsiana*** (Barb. Rodr.) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea anisitsiana* Barb. Rodr., Palm. Mattogross. 63, t. 20. 1898.

***Attalea bassleriana*** (Burret) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea bassleriana* Burret, Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin-Dahlem 10: 655. 1929.

***Attalea brejinhoensis*** (Glassman) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Orbignya brejinhoensis* Glassman, Illinois Biol. Monogr. 59: 84. 1999.

***Attalea camopiensis*** (Glassman) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea camopiensis* Glassman, Illinois Biol. Monogr. 59: 138. 1999.

***Attalea degranvillei*** (Glassman) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea degranvillei* Glassman, Illinois Biol. Monogr. 59: 139. 1999.

***Attalea fairchildensis*** (Glassman) Zona, **comb. nov.**  
basionym: *Scheelea fairchildensis* Glassman, Illinois Biol. Monogr. 59: 163. 1999.

***Attalea glassmanii*** Zona, **nom. nov.**  
avowed substitute for *Orbignya phalerata* Mart., Palm. Orbign. 126, t. 13, fig. 2, 32A. 1844 non