

† *B. capitata* var. *Nehrlingiana*, stat. nov.\* Fig. 17.

*Cocos* and *Butia Nehrlingiana*, Abbott; Nehrling, in *American Eagle*, Sept. 5, 1929, p. 1 (Estero, Fla.); *B. Nehrlingiana*, Bailey, in *Hortus*, 105 (1930).

*Cocos Nehrlingii*, Kay, *Plant World in Fla.* 117 (1933); *Butia Nehrlingii*, syn.

Large *Butia* with trunk to 2 m. or more, known by the pronounced violet-red color of the flowers of both sexes and the bright red oblong-



17. ORIGINAL TREE of *Butia capitata* var. *Nehrlingiana* at Gotha, Florida; now dead.

\**Status novus*: *Gent. Herb*, i, p. 8.

conical small fruits with cupule about one-fourth length of drupe: leaves 2-3 m. long, much recurved, glaucous-green.

The tree to which the name *Nehrlingiana* was applied stood by the residence of the late Henry Nehrling at Gotha, Florida; this plant was removed to the Coconut Grove Palmetum at Miami, but it subsequently died. I have photographed it and taken specimens at both places. Nehrling states (American Eagle, Sept. 5, 1929) that he received a few seeds in 1892 from the late Dr. Herman Burmeister of Buenos Aires. How many plants of this beautiful palm may exist in Florida is unknown to me. Nehrling writes of it that "the flower-trusses are much branched and very large, 3 feet long, and the fruit is not closely set, but more or less scattered. Its size does not exceed that of a small cherry, and the color is a vivid red."

Three other varieties of *Butia capitata* are described by Beccari, but are not known to have been collected in the wild in South America and are not recognized in cultivation in the United States. These are now recorded:

**B. capitata** var. *erythrospatha*, Becc. l. c. 515 (1916), reprint p. 65 (*Cocos erythrospatha*, Chabaud, in Rev. Hort. 1905, 516 and 1906, 144 and Les Palmiers Côte d'Azur, 80). RED-SPATHED BUTIA.

Trunk, as described, to 1½ or 2 m.: pinnæ green, bifid at apex, irregularly disposed those at the middle being arranged in groups of 2 to 5: spathe smooth, colored, principally at the summit, with reddish or dark brown: spadix to 1¼ m. long, colored lilac: fruit ovoidal, about 22 mm. long, apricot-yellow, perfumed like pineapple; cupule about one-fourth length of drupe, the parts broad; nutlet globose.

Cultivated in France.

**B. capitata** var. *elegantissima*, Becc. l. c. 517 (1916), reprint p. 67 (*Cocos elegantissima*, Chabaud, l. c.; Les Palmiers Côte d'Azur, 77).

Trunk to 3 m.: leaves elegantly arched-recurved, petiole spines recurved; pinnæ linear and rigid, mostly equally separated, largest to 22 or 23 mm. broad, glaucous-whitish: spathe smooth: spadix 1½ m. long, whitish: flowers more or less violet: fruit globose-depressed, variable in size, 20-30 mm. high and about equal in thickness, yellow, perfumed like a peach; cupule small, not extending up the sides of the drupe; nutlet subglobose to somewhat ovoid, to 15 or 16 mm. high.

Cultivated in France.

**B. capitata** var. *lilaceiflora*, Becc. in Agric. Coloniale, x, 518 (1916), reprint p. 68 (*Cocos lilaceiflora*, Chabaud, l. c.; Les Palmiers Côte d'Azur, 83, fig. 1915).

Stout palm, 1-2 m., known particularly by the lilac bloom, the sepals and petals of staminate flowers being violet or purplish, pistillate flowers violet-tinted on the apex and yellow at base, fruits ovoid, chamois-yellow, typically 23-24 mm. high and 20-22 mm. thick (as described by Chabaud),