

7. *Clinostigma Gronophyllum*. **a**, staminate flower $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$; **b**, fruit in lateral view $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$. (From preserved material of *Corner R.S.S. 108*, BH.)

10: 67, Fig. 5, 1967, and because the leaves are unusual among those species of *Clinostigma* which I have seen personally or in illustrations, I am using the generic name *Gronophyllum* in apposition as an epithet.

The species is noted as common by the collector and clearly seasonal—"all palms now flowering, the flowering more or less over, and setting fruit but no ripe fruit seen." Stilt roots (Fig. 6) are very similar to those of *C. exorrhiza*. Young leaves are noted as being pinnate rather than undivided as in *Gulubia Hombroonii*.

Staminate flowers (Fig. 7) appear to be large for the genus. In life, the stamens are fleshy and stout, all inserted at the same level. The elongate staminate sepals are also noteworthy—in young bud their tips curve over the petals and at maturity, one or more retains the truncate apex. Apparently the inflorescences are not much ramified. Corner notes the branches as undivided but a single base with branches clipped away shows that at least some of the lowermost branches are forked.

Clinostigma haerestigma H. E. Moore, *sp. nov.*

Caulis solitarius ca. 9 m. altus; foliorum pinnae plus minusve pendulae utrinque ca. 45 subtus dense brunneolepidotae; flos masculus (2-) 3.5-4 mm. altus; fructus ca. 9 mm. altus resi-

duo stigmatum basali vix ex perianthio exserto.

Solitary, the trunk ca. 9 m. high, 2-2.25 dm. in diam., with a green crownshaft 1.5-1.8 m. high. Leaves 12-14; petiole 7.5-9 dm. long, ca. 3 cm. wide at apex, glabrous and rounded below; rachis 2.7-3.6 m. long, glabrous at maturity below but with occasional shining, red-brown, membranous scales with fimbriate margins on or near the margin; pinnae ca. 45 on each side of the rachis, more or less pendulous, 7.5-9 dm. long, 6.2-7.5 cm. wide at center of leaf, smaller near base and toward apex of the rachis, the upper surface glabrous, lower surface densely beset with minute, shining, pale-margined, brown-centered, membranous, peltate scales along the prominent midnerve and on the single secondary and numerous tertiary nerves on each side, the midnerve with large, red-brown, irregular, medifixed scales to ca. 9 mm. long near the base. Inflorescence 0.9-1.2 m. long with spreading branches; lower bract 0.9-1.05 m. long, cordate-auriculate at the base, glabrous but with a slight glaucescence when dry, upper bract not collected; peduncle short, ca. 10 cm. long, glabrous, somewhat glaucous; rachis glabrous and somewhat glaucous, elongate, with probably more than 20 branches, the lower branches ca. 8 dm. long, again branched near the base into elongate rachillae bearing flowers in triads in the lower two-thirds, with paired staminate flowers above or the staminate flowers solitary near the very slender, minutely spine-tipped apex. Staminate flowers (2-) 3.5-4 mm. long, glabrous; sepals acute, 2-2.5 mm. long, at least the outermost acutely keeled, the margins membranous to hyaline; petals asymmetric, sometimes strongly so, to ca. 3.5 mm. long, prominently nerved when dry; stamens 6, more or less in 2 series, the 3 outer opposite the sepals and shorter than the

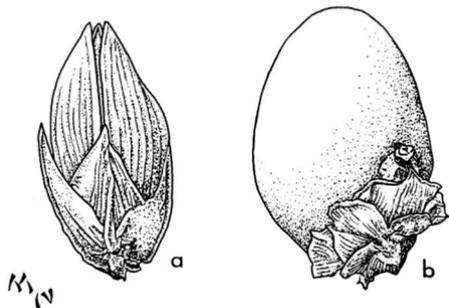
3 inner, the filaments subulate, elongate, inflexed at the apex in bud, the anthers narrowly oblong in outline, deeply bifid at base and apex; pistillode small, ovoid, briefly trifid; pistillate flowers seen only in bud, the perianth in fruit with strongly nerved sepals 2 mm. long and petals 3 mm. long, the bracteoles subtending the pistillate flower and fruit subequal, scarcely or not exceeding the bract and ridges subtending the triads. Fruit (immature) ca. 9 mm. high with stigmatic residue at the base and scarcely exerted from the perianth; exocarp drying granulose.

Specimens examined. BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE. SAN JORGE: Astrolabe Harbour, frequent in the *Casuarina* forest on ultrabasic soil, 23 Sept. 1965, *E. J. H. Corner* R. S. S. 2700 (K, holotype; BH, isotype).

The type collection of this species lacks leaf-sheath and has only an incomplete inflorescence. Both flowers and fruit are present and though the latter is immature, it is probably near its mature size. The staminate flowers with distinctive pistillode, the structure of the inflorescence, and the pinnae clearly identify the genus, and so distinctive is even the young fruit that I do not hesitate to describe the species.

The epithet *haerestigma*, from the Latin *haereo* (to stick or cleave to) and *stigma*, is chosen because the stigmatic residue remains close to the perianth that once surrounded the pistil, growth having been almost completely unilateral (Fig. 8). It is this feature that distinguishes *Clinostigma haerestigma* from other species of the genus. The stigmatic residue in other species is near or above the middle, sometimes excentrically apical, with the exception of *C. carolinense* which is distinguished by its large fruit (15 mm. long) with stigmatic residue 5–7 mm. above the base.

Stilt roots are a prominent feature of some *Clinostigma* species—*C. exorrhiza*



8. *Clinostigma haerestigma*. a, staminate flower in bud $\times 7\frac{1}{2}$; b, fruit in three-quarter view $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$. (From dried material of *Corner* R.S.S. 2700, BH.)

of Fiji, for example—but were not noted for *C. haerestigma* by the collector. Other species, moreover, are perhaps more frequent at higher elevations, often on mountain ridges. Thus, it is somewhat exceptional to find one apparently near sea-level and on ultrabasic soil.

DRYMOPHLOEUS

The material described below as *Drymophloeus lepidotus* agrees with the genus *Rehderophoenix* Burret, previously thought endemic to the Solomon Islands, in all details except the pistillode of the staminate flower which is ovoid-attenuate as in many other ptychospermate palms rather than short and trifid as in species earlier assigned to *Rehderophoenix*. The pistillode may vary substantially in flowers of a single inflorescence (in *Brassiophoenix*, for example), and by itself scarcely seems a stable basis for distinguishing a genus. *Rehderophoenix* otherwise agrees well with *Drymophloeus* with which it is here united. Two species of *Coleospathix* earlier noted as belonging here (*Gentes Herbarum* 8: 299, 1953) are also transferred. *Drymophloeus* as so modified extends from Halmahera, Ceram, Amboina, to New Guinea, the Solomons, and possibly to Fiji and Samoa.