

† *Aiphanes vincentiana*, spec. nov. Fig. 68.

Truncus solitarius, 4-5 dm. diam., indefinite annulatus spinis ad 1 dm. longis: folia circa 3 dm. longa, pinnata, viridia utrinque; pinnæ 50-60 paribus, 1 m. longæ, 7-9 cm. latæ, nervi longitudinales multi, apex erosus, paucis setis brevibus subter, pinnæ terminales lineares; petiolus sparsis spinis planis 15 mm. ad 4 cm. longis, vaginæ sparse aculeatæ spinis ad 5-7 cm. longis: spatha interfoliaris, circa 1 m. longa, sparse debiliterque aculeata; spadix circa 8 dm. longus, pedunculus valde aculeatus basi; rachillæ plurimæ, longæ gracilesque, validæ sed fines filiformes: fructus pæne globulares, 14-15 mm. crassi cum sicci, aliquid fastigati ad basin et apicem, endocarpium crassum et perdurum, non areolatum, albidis maculis; semen 7-8 mm. diam., endocarpium explens.

Large much-armed palm, trunk 4-5 dm. diameter, outer part black and hard as iron, inside white and soft, ringed with rosettes of flattened spines to 1 dm. long: leaves pinnate, about 3 m. long; main pinnæ nearly or quite 1 m. long, in 50-60 pairs closely placed, glabrous and green on both surfaces, 7-9 cm. broad, bearing many strong prominent longitudinal nerves or ribs, margins smooth, apex erose with an extended finger on upper margin, with a few short prickles 1-2 cm. long on under surface, at end of leaf almost linear; petiole liberally supplied with short and long spines 5 mm.-4 cm. long and pointing downward, midrib bearing only short or minute prickles, spines on leaf-sheath often 5-7 cm. long and conspicuously flat: spathe long and narrow, 1 m. or so in length, only sparsely weak-prickly; spadix about 8 dm. long and peduncle 5-6 dm. long, very thorny at base but nude toward apex; rachillæ very many, long and slender but strongest fertile ones 2-3 mm. thick when dry, the ends filiform, fruit-pits shallow and small: fruit nearly globular, vermilion in color at maturity, 14-15 mm. thick when mature and dry, a trifle longer including the very brief beak and often slightly tapered base, surface featureless, very hard with a thick shell that inside the outer wall is not pitted but marked with light colored flecks; seed filling the interior cavity, homogeneous, about 7-8 mm. thick.

Cumberland Valley, St. Vincent, Windward Islands, British West Indies, in forests, woodlands and thickets, *John Beard 230*.

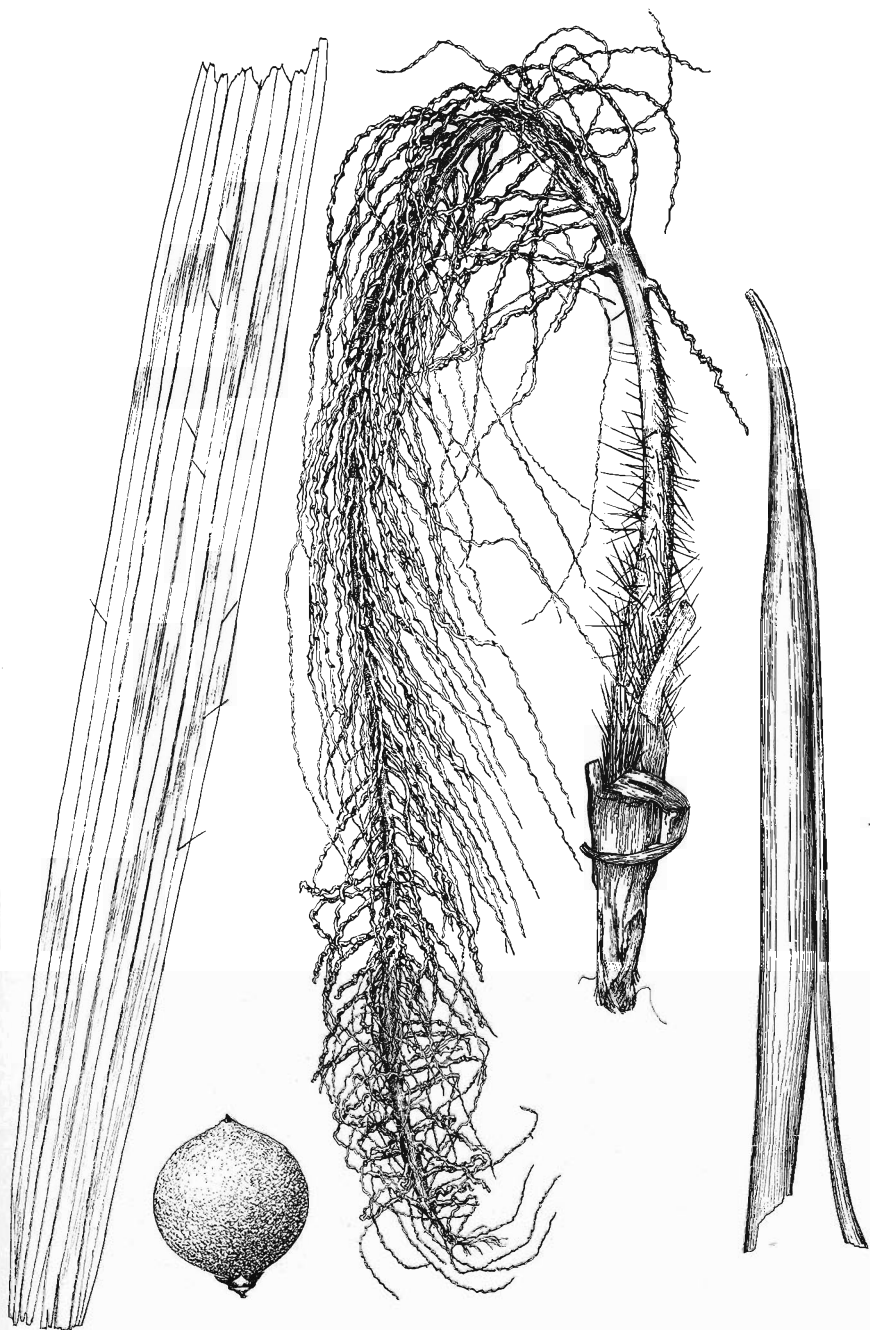
*Aiphanes minima*, Burret, in Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin, xi, 558 (1932).  
Fig. 69.

*Bactris minima*, Gaertn. Fruct. et Sem. Pl. ii, 269, t. 139 fig. 5 (1791), excl. syn.

*Martinezia corallina*, Mart. Hist. Nat. Palm. iii, 284 (1845); *Palm-etum Orbignianum*, 76 (1847).

*Aiphanes corallina*, Wendl. in Kerch. Palm. 230 (1878).

*Curima corallina*, O. F. Cook, in Bull. Torr. Bot. Club, xxviii, 563 (1901).



68. *ALPHANES VINCENTIANA*  $\times \frac{1}{3}$ ; fruit  $\times$  nearly 2. St. Vincent island.