

of the palms of Indochina (Beccari 1910) nor in the account of Magalon (1930) who mentions the presence of a single member of the genus, *D. pierreana*. I suggest that the varietal name is attributable to Conrard rather than Beccari. However, this is something of an academic quibble as the Vietnamese palm is significantly different from *D. longispatha* and represents an unnamed species. The other species recorded by Conrard, *D. geniculata*, is otherwise known from the Malay Peninsula including southern Thailand and Sumatra. I have examined the two specimens from Vietnam and again, this is certainly not *D. geniculata* and represents an unnamed taxon.

***Daemonorops mollispina* J. Dransf. sp. nov.** Robusta, bracteis rhachidum et rhachillarum conspicuis *D. ruptili* Becc. et *D. longispathae* similis sed vaginis foliorum spinis dense et conspicue molle-indumentosis fructibus orculiformibus distincta. Typus: Vietnam, Annam, *Poilane* 4945 (Holotypus P, isotypus K).

Daemonorops longispatha Conrard non Becc. var. *mollispina* Conrard in Gagnepain & Conrard, Fl. Gén. de l'Indochine 6: 1053 (1937).

Robust rattan climbing to 8 m tall. Stem without sheaths probably c. 25 mm diam., with sheaths 35 – 50 mm diam.; internodes apparently short, c. 10 cm long. Leaves cirrate, to 4 m long; sheath dull red brown, densely armed with straw-coloured flattened black-tipped triangular spines 10 – 45 × 2 – 4 mm, the surface of the spines frequently obscured by a very dense layer of pale grey or brown tomentum c. 1 mm thick, spines around leaf sheath mouth apparently erect, some to 150 – 180 mm long; knee absent; petiole to 50 cm long, 25 × 13 mm in section, adaxially flattened near the base, slightly convex distally, abaxially rounded, armed with scattered or abundant spines on all faces, those on adaxial surface generally short, to c. 10 mm or less, those on abaxial surface and margins to 85 × 4 mm, the spines solitary or in groups of 2 – 4, all spines bearing the same thick tomentum as that on the leaf sheath spines; rachis armed distally with grapnels of 3 – 4 reflexed black-tipped yellowish spines to 10 mm long and scattered single shorter spines, caducous pale grey or brown tomentum abundant on rachis surface; leaflets 60 on each side of the rachis, c. 3 – 4 cm distant, regularly arranged, 35 – 45 × 2 cm, armed with 2 rows of black bristles adaxially, abaxially apparently unarmed, the margins sparsely bristly. Inflorescence (only fragments of pistillate known in almost mature fruit), probably very large; peduncle, prophyll and rachis bracts not preserved; distal portion of infructescence with 10 partial inflorescences preserved in two herbarium sheets (K, P), c. 75 cm long, the partial inflorescences c. 8 – 9 cm distant, each with a dark red brown pulvinus at the base, the lower partial inflorescences to 18 cm long with 6 rachillae to 8 cm long, 2 – 3 mm diam.; bracts subtending rachillae reddish-brown, papyraceous, c. 10 – 15 × 8 mm, splitting irregularly; rachilla bracts triangular, acute, brown, papyraceous, c. 5 – 7 mm long with dense grey tomentum near the base, distally glabrous. Staminate and pistillate flowers unknown. Calyx of pistillate flower persisting in fruit, irregularly split, c. 4 mm long; petals persistent, c. 7 × 4 mm. Immature fruit barrel-shaped, 13 × 11 mm, including a conspicuous beak 3 × 2 mm, tipped with

the remains of the reflexed stigmas to 3×1 mm; pericarp covered in 15 vertical rows of pale brown scales to 1.75×1.75 mm exposed, with deep central grooves and darker brown margins. Seed very immature in available material. Fig. 1.

SPECIMEN EXAMINED. VIETNAM. Annam: Nui Han Heo, near Nhatrang, rocky soil, alt. 600 m, 21 April 1923, *Poilane* 4945 (K, P).

This seems to be a handsome, robust rattan with unusual leaf sheath armature. The dense almost woolly indumentum of the spines is known in no other species. The inflorescence with its conspicuous bracts subtending the rachillae and flower clusters, suggests a relationship with *D. rutilis* Becc. and *D. longispatha* Becc. *D. mollispina* differs in sheath armature and in the squat, barrel-shaped fruits.

***Daemonorops poilanei* J. Dransf. sp. nov.** Statura mediocris fructu et forma inflorescentiae *D. geniculatae* (Griff.) Mart. similis sed collis spinarum vaginae folii carentibus, petiolo spinis elongatis carenti et rachillis conspicue fractiflexis differt. Typus: Vietnam, Annam, massif de Cô Inh, Nhatrang, *Poilane* 2715 (Holotypus P).

Daemonorops geniculata Conrard, non (Griff.) Mart., in Gagnepain & Conrard, Fl. Gén. de l'Indochine 6: 1054 (1937).

Medium-sized rattan climbing to 3 – 4 m tall; stem without sheaths 12 mm diam., with sheaths 20 – 23 mm diam.; internodes 13 – 15 cm long. Leaves cirrate, 2.8 m long including the cirrus; sheaths densely armed with solitary and grouped, but not whorled spines of various sizes, the longest reflexed, pale straw colour, flattened, $20 - 45 \times 5$ mm often with wavy margins and scarcely swollen bases, intermingled with much smaller spines, slightly reflexed or horizontal, to $3 - 10 \times 1 - 2$ mm, caducous brown indumentum present between spines; knee only slightly swollen, armed as the rest of the leaf sheath; thin membranous caducous auricles to 10×5 mm present on emerging leaf-sheaths; petiole to 70 cm long, 11 – 12 mm wide near the base, tapering very slightly distally, \pm flattened adaxially near the base, slightly concave distally, abaxially rounded, abaxially armed with scattered large spines 10 – 20 mm long near the base and much shorter spines to 3×1 mm, adaxially very densely armed with short thick spines to 3×1 mm particularly near the base, distally very sparsely armed abaxially and with rather regular single or paired spines to 10 mm towards the margins, scattered brown scales also present; rachis sparsely armed with reflexed groups of 1 – 3 spines; leaflets linear-lanceolate, 28 – 36 on each side of the rachis, arranged in groups of 2 – 5, 3 – 5 cm distant within the groups, the longest to $40 - 60 \times 3 - 3.7$ cm, very sparsely armed along margins, transverse veinlets numerous, sinuous, conspicuous. Inflorescences (only pistillate known), to 65 cm long; peduncle 11 – 15 cm long, c. $8 - 10 \times 4 - 5$ mm in section, armed along the margins with regularly arranged reflexed or horizontal spines 5 – 15 mm long with swollen bases, sometimes accompanied by much shorter spines, caducous brown indumentum also present; prophyll 30 – 33.5 cm long, 2.7 – 3.4 cm wide, 2-keeled, adaxially unarmed, abaxially near the base armed with pale straw-coloured spines 5 – 20 mm long along the keels, distally armed with rather

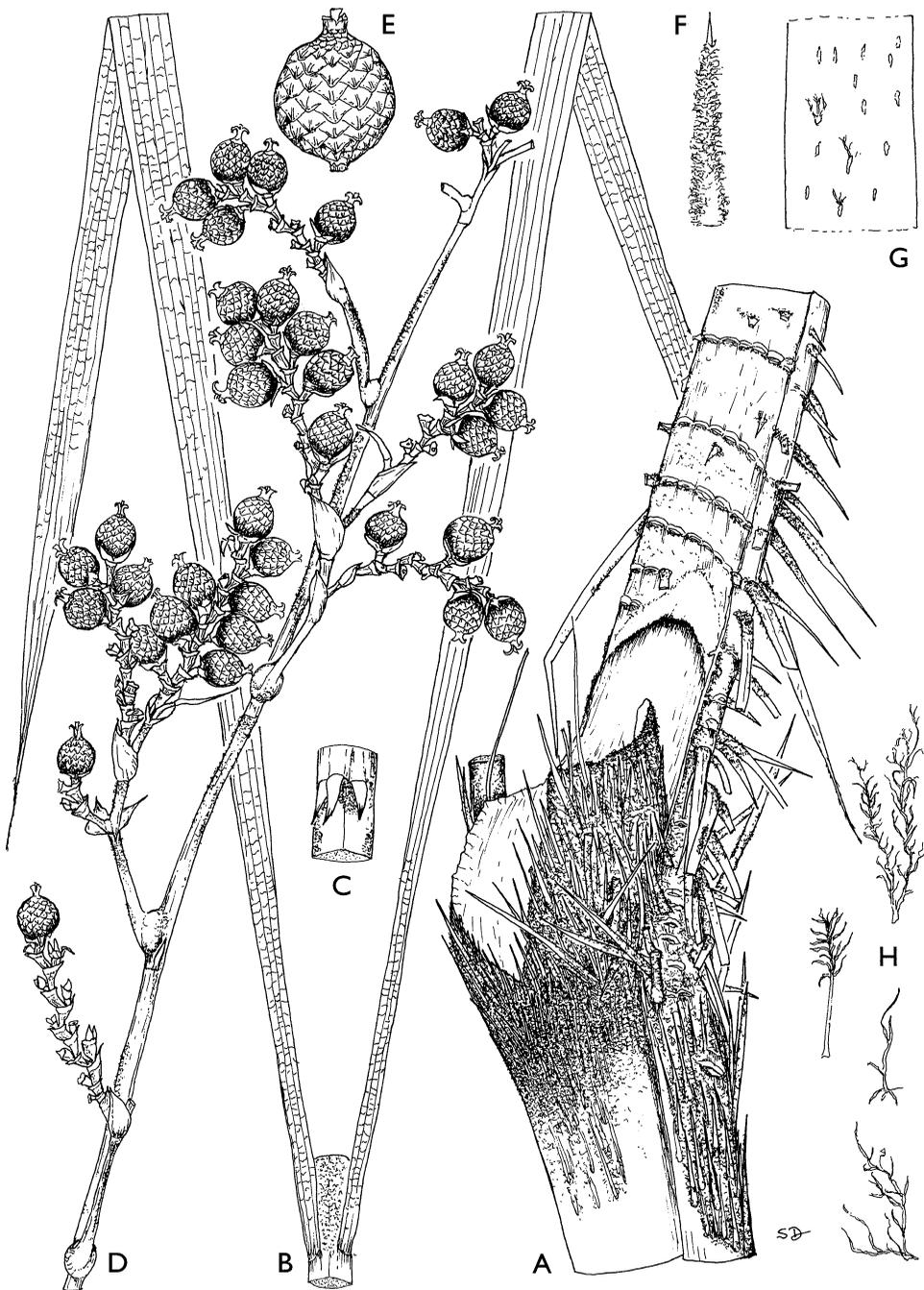


FIG. 1. *Daemonorops mollispina*. **A** portion of leaf sheath and basal part of petiole $\times \frac{2}{3}$; **B** part of leaf rachis and two leaflets $\times \frac{2}{3}$; **C** detail of spines on abaxial face of rachis $\times \frac{2}{3}$; **D** distal part of infructescence $\times \frac{1}{3}$; **E** immature fruit $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$; **F** detail of sheath spine with hairs $\times 2$; **G** surface of spine showing hair bases $\times 16$; **H** several hairs in detail $\times 16$. All from *Poilane* 4945. Drawn by Soejatmi Dransfield.