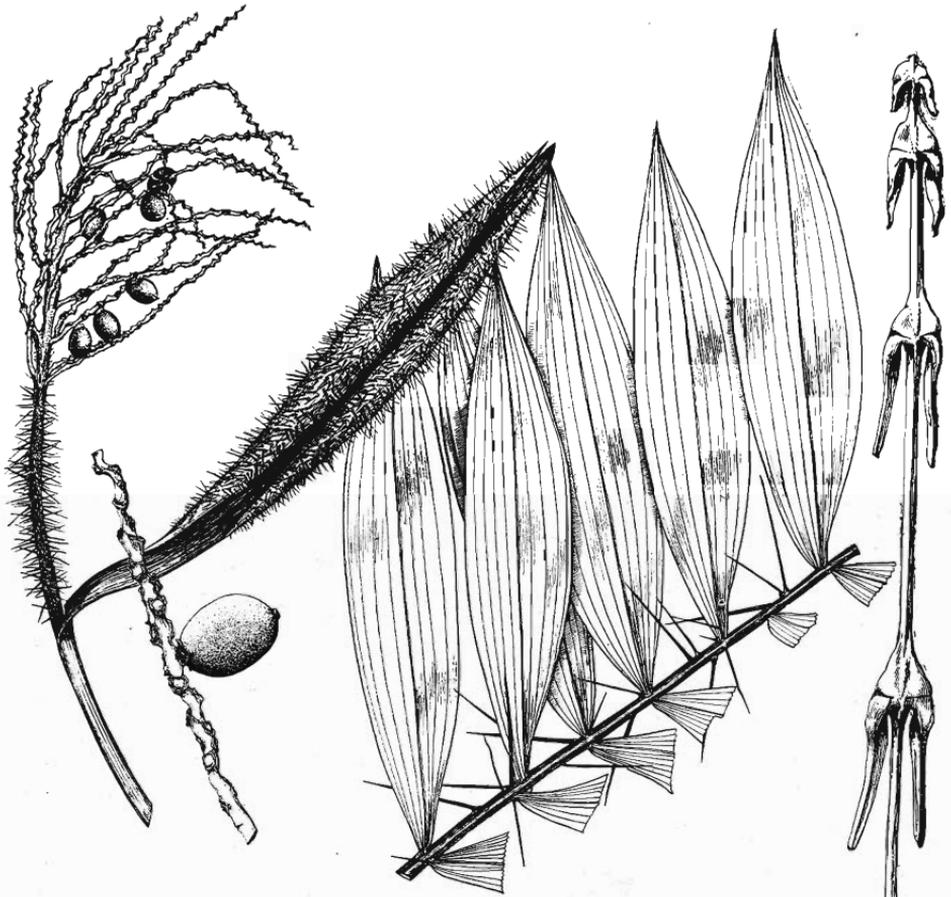


4-6 cm. long; cirrhous whip long but stout and stiff, the hooks 3-4 cm. long, bent straight backward and with thick hard woody bases: spadix 15-20 cm. long, spathe to 30 cm. or more long and thickly covered with rather short prickles most of which have a conspicuous white base; flowers yellow and fragrant: fruit short-oblong, about 12 mm. long, 6 or 7 mm. thick, rounded or blunt at apex except for a very small short central point.

Tobago, at Mile End, *Broadway 4077*. A sheet collected at Rockley Vale, Tobago, *Broadway 3498*, may be this species although the pinnæ are narrow and the spathe small.

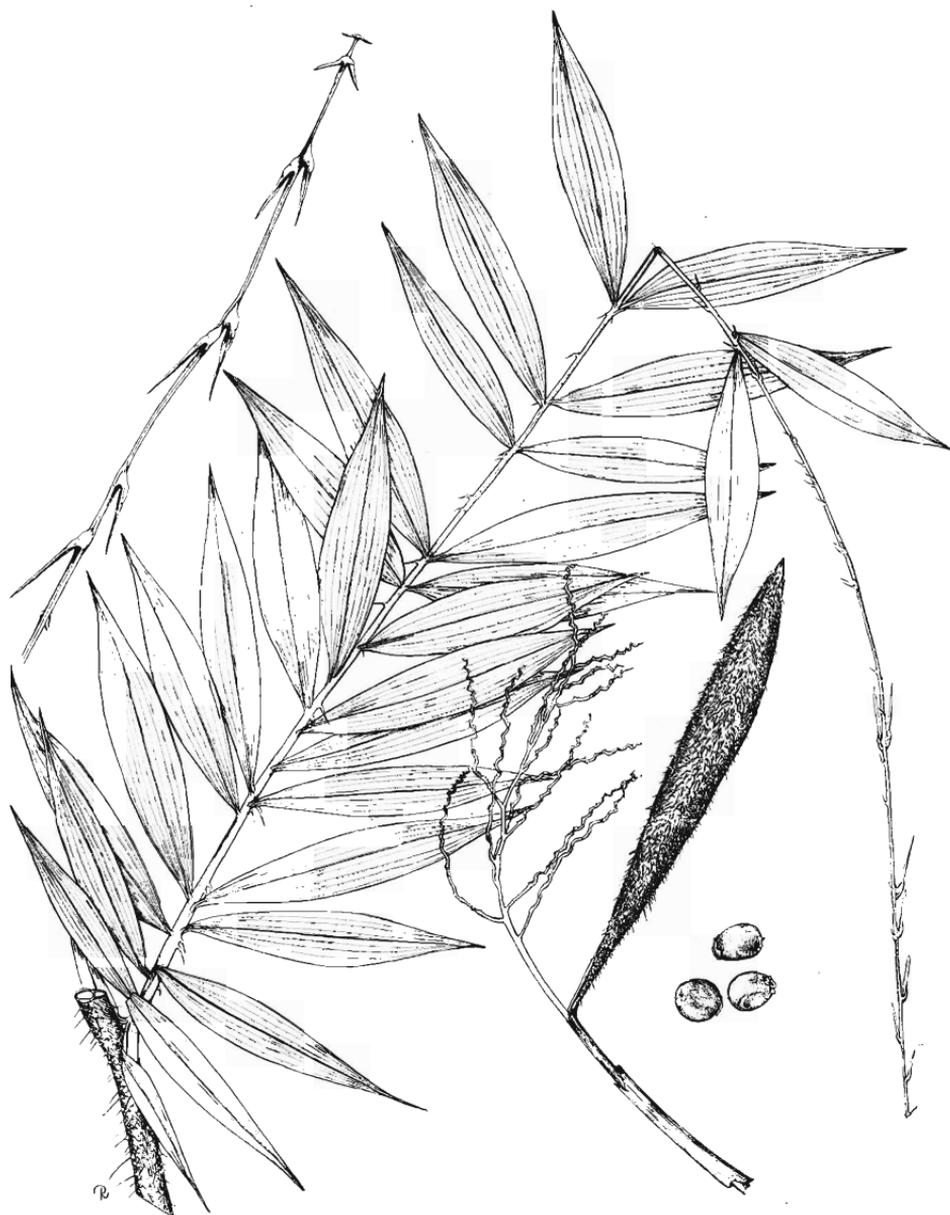
†5. *Desmoncus peraltus*, spec. nov. Fig. 156.

Gracilis, peraltus, ad 14 m.: pinnæ tenues, parvæ angustæque, fere alternatæ, 15 cm. longæ, 2-3 cm. latæ, longo-acuminatæ ad apicem basinque, unci fere oppositi, graciles, 2-3 cm. longi, unci breves in axe subtus: spatha longa angustaque, 20 cm. vel plus longa, pæne cylindrata sed 2-2.5 cm. lata cum aperta, obsita aculeis crassis sæpe basi alba: fructus globulares vel brevi-oblongi, 10-12 mm. longi, obtusi apice.



155. *DESMONCUS TOBAGONIS* of Tobago; foliage, whip (at right), spathe and spadix, fruit. $\times \frac{1}{3}$.

Slender but very tall (*peraltus*) glabrous climber, the long extensions often standing strongly upright to reach support, sometimes to 20 m., bole and leaf-sheaths with scattered short points or spines: pinnæ small and narrow, thin, glossy, prevailingly alternate, 15 cm. long by 2-3 cm. broad, long-acuminate into a very narrow point, narrowed also to base, finely many-nerved either side the midrib; cirrhous whip very slender, hooks perhaps opposite at apex but otherwise alternate, 2-3 cm. long and with



156. DESMONCUS PERALTUS; very slender, two whips (right and left), foliage, spathe and spadix, fruit. $\times \frac{1}{3}$.

non-morphological hooks below them on the rachis: spadix about 20 cm. long, rachillæ short, 10 cm. or less long; spathe long and narrow, 2-2.5 cm. broad when open and 20 cm. or more long, thickly covered with stiff broad-based and often white-based prickles 2-3 mm. long; fruit globular-oblong, 10-12 mm. long, obtuse at apex with very brief central point.

Arena, *Bailey 101* (type), making thickets 10-15 feet tall but ascending exploring shoots reaching two and three times that height; Cumuto, *Bailey 306*, in dense bush, shoots reaching to 60 feet in height.

6. **Desmoncus Prestoei**, Bailey, *Gent. Herb.* vi, 215, fig. 110 (1943), reproduced as Fig. 157.

Glabrous strong climber often with reddish stem; trunk and sheaths sparsely provided with stiff thick-based spines 3-5 mm. long and also very small setæ with now and then prickles 1-2 cm. long; pinnæ opposite or subopposite, unarmed, short and most of them broad, about 4-5 cm. broad and 15 cm. long but some of them one-half this width, acutely pointed but not narrowly acuminate, strongly side-veined, rachis bearing separated strong almost hook-like spines; cirrhous whip with many short hooks and ended by a few pairs of slender somewhat reversed spines 1-2 cm. long; spadix small, 10-20 or more cm. long, glabrous, rachillæ tortuous; spathe long and narrow, nearly cylindric, not much flattened when open, thickly covered with many short thick-based prickles 2-3 mm. long together with small stout protuberances; pistillate flowers 2-4 mm. apart and 2-3 mm. high, calyx-cup broad and shallow, corolla-cup more or less undulate on margin and containing a scarcely exerted stout columnar pistil; fruit large, ellipsoid-globular, about 18-20 mm. long and 15 mm. broad, the thin shell soon separating from the veiny seed.

Trinidad, on O'Meara savanna and at Matura; probably widely distributed. This is apparently the plant intended by the late Henry Prestoe as *D. minor*, a floating herbarium name that cannot be taken up under the Rules; we meet Henry Prestoe again in the genus *Prestoea*.

5. BACTRIS—GRI-GRI PALMS, ROSEAU PALMS

The vast occidental genus *Bactris* is indifferently understood. The viciously spiny character of most of the species apparently prevents them from being freely collected, yet this armature should stimulate an enterprising collector to master them. We have not given sufficient attention to the understanding of the Colombian species on which Jacquin founded the genus nearly two hundred years ago. More than 200 species are now described, but if we had the type specimens before us we probably could not make all of them out in terms of living plants.

Recent experience indicates that the species are probably mostly local