

or prickles on rachis or other parts and not morphological pinnæ, commonly in addition to the pinnular spines.

For Trinidad, one must be aware, also, of the existence of Herbarium List, Botanical Department, Trinidad, by J. H. Hart, F. L. S., Superintendent, published at Port-of-Spain in 1908. This is a catalogue of eighty-nine pages, of "actual specimens mounted, classified, and arranged under their Natural Orders in new Cedar Cabinets." A new but undescribed species of *Desmoncus* is in this catalogue, and I give it name and diagnosis.

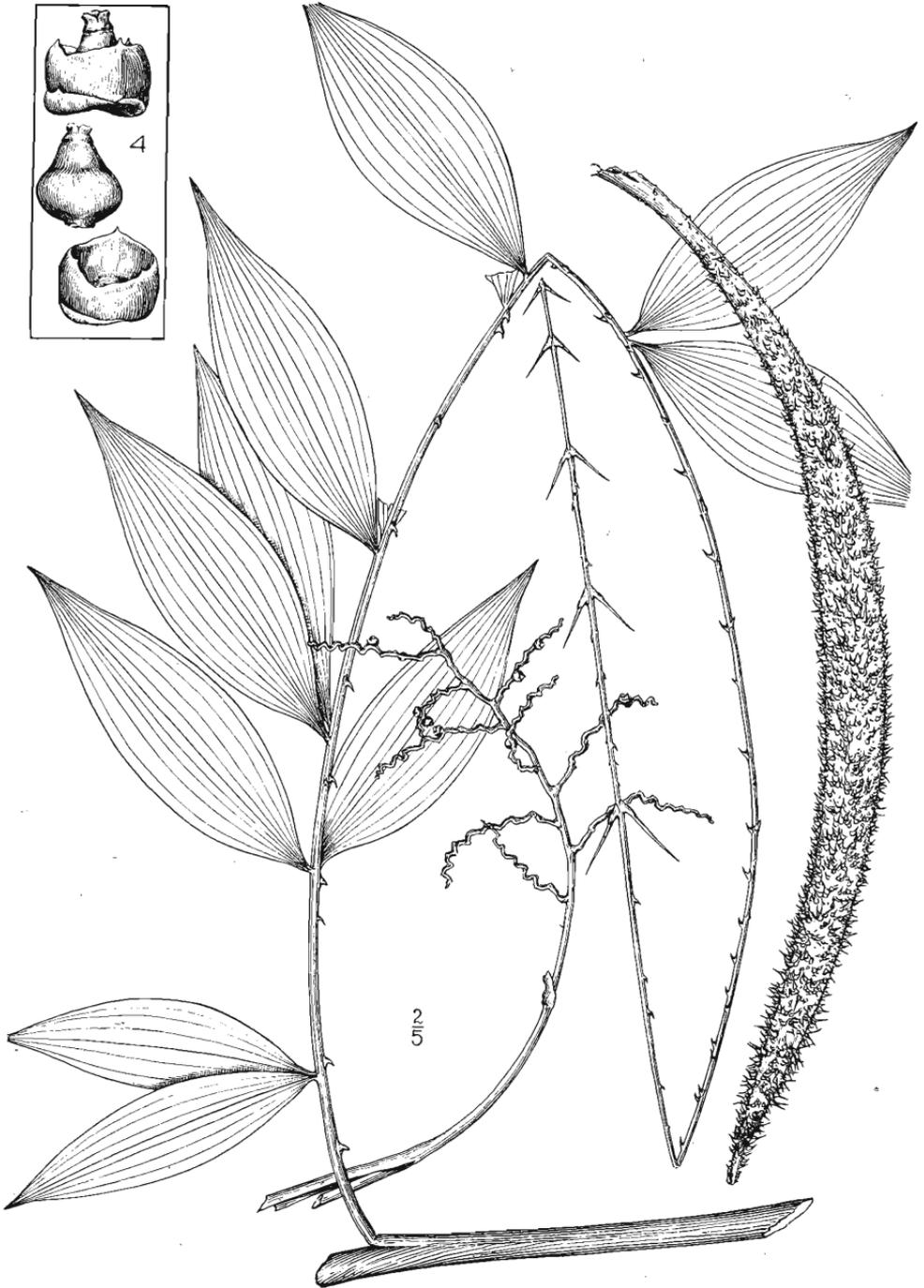
***Desmoncus major***, Crueger ex Grisebach, Fl. Brit. W. Indies, 519 (1864). § *Orthacanthium*. Fig. 109.

Glabrous vigorous climber, uncinata but not aculeate: leaf 1 m. and more long, with angled and grooved petiole and rachis; pinnæ many on either side, opposite and alternate, firm in texture, narrowly lance-oblong and pointed, 20-25 cm. long, 4-5 cm. broad, strongly nerved, narrowed to base, light green in color, often with 1-3 stout black spines 2-3 cm. long on midrib underneath and the pinna itself usually subtended by a much longer spine, the cirrhus whip carrying 5-6 pairs of big-based retrorse stout spines about 3 cm. long or even longer: spadix 30 cm. long and 20 cm. broad, the continuing aculeate rachis bearing several or many lateral unarmed rachillæ, peduncle not armed; cymba (spathe) 30 cm. long, 5-6 cm. broad at expansion and becoming more or less flat, bearing many small white-based spines of differing lengths of which the longest may be 15 mm.; pistillate flowers 4-5 mm. apart, about 2 mm. high, consisting of a very small calyx, a cup-like gamopetalous lightly lobed corolla attached to which on the inside are 6 elongated staminodia and inclosing a protruding columnar pistil: fruit not seen or described.

Distribution on Trinidad not recorded. Grisebach mentioned only Caroni on the authority of Crueger. Britton collected it at Balandra Bay and Swabey at Point Radix. I have taken it in the wild at Mayaro. Hart lists two numbers in the Trinidad herbarium, both of which are before me, but one of them is the new species I am now to describe. There are no Grisebach specimens of *D. major* in the herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England.

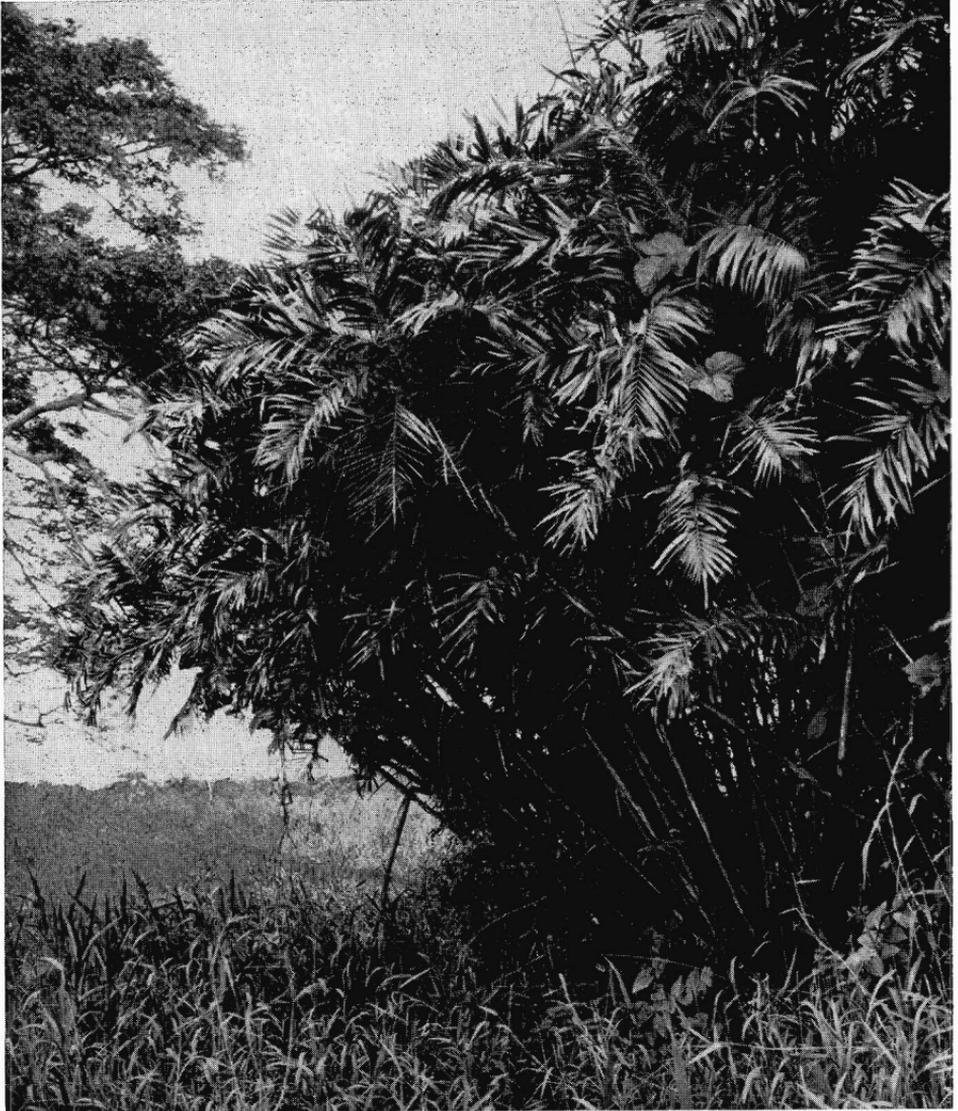
† ***Desmoncus Prestoei***, spec. nov. § *Campylacanthium*. Fig. 110.

Gracilis, scandens, glaber, ferens et pinnulares rectas spinas reflexas in parte terminali rachidis et breves lato-basatos validos uncinatos aculeos in rachide spathaque: folia circa 1 m. longa; pinnæ oppositæ vel suboppositæ, inermes, elliptico-lanceolatæ, acutissimæ, angustatæ ad basim et spinis non subtentæ, valde nervatæ, circa 15 cm. longæ, 4 cm. latæ, vaginæ brevi-spinosæ et aculeatæ: spadix 30 cm. longa, 2-3 cm. lata, cylindrica; rachillæ tenues, 3-8 cm. longæ, undulatæ; flores pistillati 2-4 mm. inter se distantes, 2-3 mm. alti, calyx non profundus et latus, corolla gamopetalosa et undulata: fructus ellipsoideus, glaber, 20 mm. longus, 15 mm. diam.; semen 15-16 mm. longum, multi-venatum, micropyla subbasalis.



110. LEAF, SPADIX, SPATHE of *Desmoncus Prestoei* of Trinidad. Pistillate flower, pistil, corolla-cup at upper left. Note the hooked spines as well as the long straight foliolar spines.

Apparently a more slender climber than *D. major*, the glabrous stems often or usually reddish: leaf with the whip about 1 m. long, rachis slender and angled and provided with many small stout recurved prickles 5 mm. or less long, the whip also with prickles and a few pairs of slender pinnular spines; pinnæ several pairs opposite or subopposite, spineless and otherwise unarmed, elliptic-lanceolate and sharp-pointed, narrowed to base and not subtended by spines, about 4 by 15 cm. in dimensions, strongly nerved, leaf-sheaths variously prickly and short-spiny and the veining usually



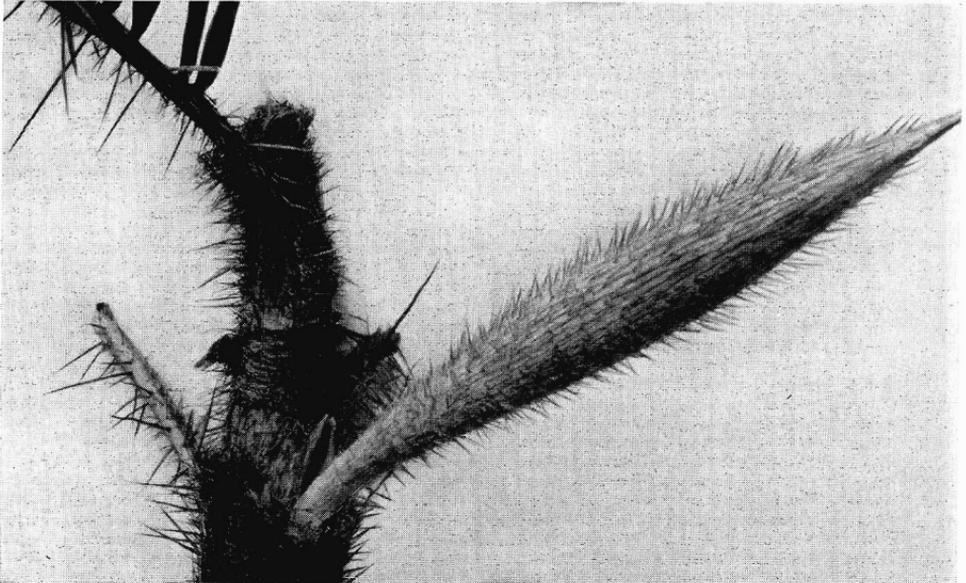
III. CHARACTERISTIC CLUMP of *Bactris minor*, at Cartagena, Colombia, where it was discovered about 175 years ago by Jacquin.

curved: spadix to 30 cm. long and not much if any exceeding 10 cm. broad, the cymba or spathe long and narrow and nearly cylindrical and not much flattened when open, perhaps not more than 2-3 cm. thick, covered with many short hooked broad-based prickles and little protuberances; rachillæ slender, 3-8 cm. long, very undulate; pistillate flowers 2-4 mm. apart, 2-3 mm. high, calyx shallow and broad, corolla bowl somewhat undulate on margin and containing a stout columnar pistil scarcely exerted: fruit ellipsoid, glabrous, 20 mm. long and 15 mm. broad, shell tenuous and loose from the large veiny seed, micropyle subbasal.

Trinidad, localities not always stated; now represented in the official Trinidad herbarium by ten sheets collected from 1865 to 1920, the latter date "climbing on Maximiliana," O'Meara Savanna Britton & Hazen 1559, in 1933 at Matura by R. C. Marshall 12827. In the Hart catalogue this plant is listed (without description or comment) as *Desmoncus minor*, Prestoe, three sheets of number 5568 collected by W. E. Broadway; two of these sheets are still in the collection and I accept the number as type of the species. The name *D. minor* was awarded by Henry Prestoe, former Government Botanist and Superintendent of the Botanic Garden. Under the Rules *nomina nuda* are not to be taken up either as established names or synonyms, and I therefore associate Prestoe's name with the interesting and neglected palm that he recognized.

#### BACTRIS

Before we attach ourselves to the excessive genus *Bactris*, in which



112. SPATHE NOT YET OPENED of *Bactris minor*.  $\times \frac{1}{2}$ . Colombia.