

***Drymophloeus lepidotus*** H. E. Moore,  
*sp. nov.*

Caulis solitarius ad 9 m. altus; foliorum pinnae anguste obovatae ad apicem oblique truncatae subtus dense lepidotae; floris masculi stamina 37-45 et pistillodium ovoideo-attenuatum; fructus ruber anguste ovoideus 14 mm. longus 7 mm. in diam.

Trunk solitary, to ca. 9 m. high, 7.5-10 cm. in diam. Leaf-sheaths densely floccose-lepidote where protected, the scales with red-brown centers and white cottony margins, becoming red-brown-punctulate with persistent scale attachments where exposed; petiole with a rather dense cover of brown-black-centered, pale or dark, lacerate-margined, membranous scales above and below where protected, or merely dark-punctulate where exposed, rounded abaxially, slightly convex adaxially; rachis with small, dark, membranous, basifixed, entire or lacerate scales, especially above, or only dark-punctulate when exposed or aged; pinnae narrowly obovate in general outline, apparently regularly arranged along the rachis, very densely covered below on all the nerves with minute, shining, narrowly pale-margined, brown scales and with elongate, dull to shining, brown, twisted, basifixed or medifixed, membranous scales to 10 mm. long on the principal nerves toward the base, glabrous above except for a few large scales on the principal nerves near the base and sparser, minute, dark brown scales on the midnerve, intermediate principal nerve, and margins especially toward the base, median pinnae ca. 53 cm. long on the upper margin, probably ca. 9 cm. wide at the middle (none complete), cuneately tapered to the base, narrowed toward the obliquely lobed and minutely toothed apex, subapical pinnae ca. 25 cm. long, 3.3 cm. wide with nearly truncate apices, apical pinnae ca. 15 cm. long, 3 cm. wide,

truncate and toothed at the apex. Inflorescence with 2 peduncular bracts, the lower (prophyll) ancipitous, ca. 29 cm. long, with small, pale-margined, brown, membranous scales outside, glabrous within, the upper inserted ca. 2 cm. above the lower; peduncle slender, ca. 1.8 cm. wide at insertion of lower bract, ca. 11.5 cm. long, glabrous except below the bracts where minutely brown-scaly; rachis glabrous, bearing several divaricate branches to 45 cm. long (an entire inflorescence not seen), these again once- to twice-branched into angled and often flattened rachillae 14-20 cm. long, 2-3 mm. in diam. Flowers borne in loosely spiralled to subdistichous triads in the lower one-half to two-thirds of the rachillae but toward the apex paired or often solitary staminate flowers are borne in subdistichous to distichous fashion: staminate flowers cream-colored, glabrous, ca. 5 mm. long; sepals gibbous at the base, 2.2-2.4 mm. high, 3.0-3.4 mm. wide; petals ca. 4.2 mm. high, 3 mm. wide; stamens ca. 37-45, the filaments short, anthers linear, 2.5-3 mm. long, deeply bifid at base and apex; pistillode ovoid-attenuate, about two-thirds as long as the stamens: pistillate flowers seen only in very young bud; fruiting perianth of sepals ca. 3 mm. high, 3.5-3.8 mm. wide; petals ca. 9 mm. high, 11 mm. wide; staminodes several, distinct or irregularly connate. Fruit red at maturity, yellow when incompletely mature, 2.4-2.5 cm. long, 9-10 mm. in diam., narrowly ovoid, broadest near the base and gradually tapered to a rounded-conic stigmatic residue; exocarp "pebbled" when dry from internal attachment of very short, pale fibers; seed narrowly ovoid, ca. 14 mm. long, 7 mm. in diam., the hilum round, basal, raphe-branches ascending and anastomosing from the base; endosperm homogeneous; embryo basal.

Specimens examined. BRITISH SOL-  
OMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

SAN CRISTOBAL: ultrabasic hill east of Wainoni, 1400–1600 ft. alt., 10 Aug. 1965, G. Dennis R. S. S. 53 (BH, holotype).

Material of the holotype is incomplete

1. Pinnae densely lepidote below on all nerves; staminate flowers small, ca. 5 mm. high, with ca. 37–45 stamens and ovoid-attenuate pistillode; fruit ovoid, broadest near the base, tapered to the apex. San Cristobal. ----- *D. lepidotus*
1. Pinnae not lepidote below except for membranous scales on the midnerve; staminate flowers large, 10–12 mm. long with 190–327 stamens and ovoid or subglobose, trifid pistillode; fruit broadest at or above the middle.
  2. Fruit broadly ellipsoid, 1.9–2.0 cm. long; flowers subdistichously arranged along slender rachillae 3–4 mm. in diam.; staminate flowers with ca. 190 stamens. Santa Ysabel ----- *D. subdistichus*
  2. Fruit obovoid, 2.4–2.5 cm. long; flowers spirally arranged along thick rachillae 6–8 mm. in diam.; staminate flowers with 290–327 stamens. San Cristobal. ----- *D. pachycladus*

**Drymophloeus litigiosus** (Beccari) H. E. Moore, *tr. nov.*

*Ptychosperma litigiosum* Beccari, Malesia, 1:50. 1877 ('*litigiosa*').

*Coleospadix litigiosa* (Beccari) Beccari, Ann. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg 2:90. 1885.

**Drymophloeus oninensis** (Beccari) H. E. Moore, *tr. nov.*

*Ptychosperma litigiosum* var. *oninense* Beccari, Malesia 1:52. 1877 ('*oninensis*').

but clearly represents a taxon distinct from the other two species of *Drymophloeus* known from the Solomon Islands. The three species may be distinguished as follows.

*Coleospadix oninensis* (Beccari) Beccari, Ann. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg 2:90. 1885.

**Drymophloeus pachycladus** (Burret) H. E. Moore, *tr. nov.*

*Rehderophoenix pachyclada* Burret, Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin 13:87. 1936.

**Drymophloeus subdistichus** (H. E. Moore) H. E. Moore, *tr. nov.*

*Rehderophoenix subdisticha* H. E. Moore, Principes 10:93. 1966.

## PALM LITERATURE

(Continued from page 66)

revision in 1930 and who described many species afterward. This conservatism is all to the good when based on careful observation and has resulted in the recognition of only 75 species of *Geonoma*.

Unfortunately, conservatism at the generic level in *Calyptrogyne* has brought about an odd situation, one in which the description of the staminodial tube as digitately lobed applies only to

the subgenus *Pholidostachys* but not to subgenus *Calyptrogyne* nor to subgenus *Calyptronoma*. The reviewer is not convinced that *Calyptrogyne*, *Calyptronoma*, and *Pholidostachys* are not acceptable though related genera. Species descriptions too often fail to agree in detail with specimens which were cited as having been examined, suggesting lack of care in preparation. A more detailed review has recently appeared in *Taxon* 18: 230–232, 1969.

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