



**Dyopsis
scandens**

cences and this has allowed a rather complete description to be prepared. The climbing habit makes this species instantly identifiable. The leaves have distinctive distant reflexed leaflets that are grossly swollen at the base in the manner of those of *D. pinnatifrons* and *D. nodifera*.

These reflexed leaflets presumably act, as in *Chamaedorea elatior*, as grapnels that help to support the long flexible stems. Leaf texture and inflorescence, flower and fruit structure suggest that the relationships of *D. scandens* are probably with *D. jumelleana* and related species.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Ifanadiana: c. 10 km east of Ifanadiana, Nov. 1994 (dead infl.), *Dransfield & Beentje* JD7515 (Holotype K; isotypes BH, P, TAN)

58. DYP SIS FANEVA

A fairly rare species from lowland rain forest, but highly distinctive. The name *faneva* (flag in Malagasy) refers to the leaves, which are remarkable for the large terminal flabellum.

DISTRIBUTION. Maroantsetra, Mananara and near Fenoarivo.

HABITAT. Littoral forest or moist lowland rain forest, on steep or level slope; 1–300 m.

LOCAL NAMES. *Tsinkiara mavinty* (Betsimisaraka).

USES. None recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Endangered. The lowland rain forest in this area is not well protected, and numbers are low; we have seen less than fifty individuals.

Dyopsis faneva *Beentje* sp. nov.

D. boiviniana affinis sed inflorescentia in plures ordines ramificanti rachillis brevibus *D. procerae* et *D. paludosae* superficialiter similis sed staminibus 6 non 3 differt. Typus: Antalavia, *Dransfield et al.* JD6465 (Holotypus K; isotypi P, TAN).

Clustering palm in tufts of 3–12 stems. **STEMS** 3–6 m, 3–5 cm diam.; somewhat stilt-rooted at base; internodes 3–10 cm, brown; wood soft; crownshaft moderately well-developed, with occasionally a yellowish stripe below the rachis. **LEAVES** 8–9 in the crown (sometimes with up to 4 marcescent leaves present), spirally inserted, porrect and arching; sheath pale creamy yellow or green, spotted with red, 24–30 cm long, with scattered brown scales (distally rather dense), with auricles to 3.2 cm high; petiole absent or up to 10 cm long, with scattered scales, channelled adaxially, 9–10 × 5–6 mm diam.; rachis 79–94 cm long, in mid-leaf 5–6 mm wide, with scattered scales; leaflets 8–21 on each side of the rachis, regular, stiff, straight, in one plane, somewhat arcuate, 1–4 folds wide, proximal 25–63 × 0.1–3.6 cm, median 62–72 × 1.7–11 cm (interval 6–7.5 cm), distal 42–55 × 7–10 cm, main veins 1–4, apices long-attenuate, main veins with ramenta, minor veins with scattered scales, distal pair joined for 11–17 cm, with 8 main veins, apices dentate over a width of 2–2.2 cm. **INFLORESCENCE** interfoliar, branched to 2 orders, spreading, c. 50 × 50 cm; peduncle 28–64 cm, distally 1.2–1.7 × 0.5–1 cm diam., rusty-pubescent; prophyll 29–54 cm long, borne at 13–17 cm above the base of the peduncle, 2.2–2.5 cm wide, with scattered scales, opening for the distal 4–6 cm; peduncular bract inserted at 21–30 cm from the base of the peduncle, 12–30 cm long, split over its distal 10–14 cm; rachis 14–19 cm, with 4–6 branching and 7–16 unbranched first order branches (the proximal with an axis of 9 cm, with 5 rachillae), all axes hairy; rachillae 10–28 cm long, with scattered scales, with distant triads. **STAMINATE FLOWERS** orange in bud; sepals 1.3–1.8 × 1.2–1.5 mm, the middle one sometimes very asymmetrical; petals 1.9–2.8 × 1.5–2.1 mm; stamens 6, didymous, 1- or biseriate (offset to 0.4 mm), filaments 0.8–1 mm, fat and ellipsoid, anthers 0.6–0.7 × 0.7–0.9 mm; pistillode c. 1 × 1.2 mm, pyramidal. **PISTILLATE FLOWERS** unknown. **FRUIT** unknown.



**Dyopsis
faneva**

NOTE. Distinct from the very similar *D. mangorensis* in the more-branched inflorescence with shorter rachillae, and from the similar *D. procera* and *D. paludosa* in the six (not three) stamens.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Maroantsetra: Antalavia, Feb. 1988 (fl.), *Dransfield et al.* JD6465 (Holotype K; isotypes P, TAN). Mananara Avaratra: Antanambe, Oct. 1991 (dead infl.), *Beentje* 4454 (BH, K, MO, P, TAN); idem, April 1992 (old infl.), *Beentje et al.* 4618 (K, TAN). Fenoarivo Atn.: Tampolo-Fenoarivo, Feb. 1970 (bud), *Guillaumet* 2531 (K, P).

59. DYPsis FANJANA

Rather like *D. faneva*, but with entire or hardly dissected leaves. The name comes from the local name for the species.

DISTRIBUTION. Only known from Mananara Biosphere Reserve.

HABITAT. Lowland rain forest, steep mid slope; 115–250 m.

LOCAL NAMES. *Fanjana* (Betsimisaraka).

USES. None recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Endangered. Known from a



Dypsis faneva. **A** leaf sheath $\times 2/5$; **B** distal part of petiole with lowermost leaflets $\times 2/5$; **C** mid section of leaf $\times 2/5$; **D** leaf tip $\times 2/5$; **E** part of inflorescence $\times 2/5$. All from *Beentje et al.* 4618. Drawn by Rosemary Wise.