



**Dypsis
tokoravina**



Dypsis ifanadianae, a tree palm growing near Ifanadiana (Beentje & Beentje 4729).

NOTE. Though this species slightly resembles giants such as *D. bejfo* and *D. pilulifera*, the open leaf sheaths make it immediately recognizable. The open sheath and large size are reminiscent of *D. prestoniana*, but that taxon has a more slender trunk.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Maroantsetra: Antalavia, Nov. 1989 (dead infl.), Dransfield *et al.* JD6739 (K, P, TAN, type). Mananara Avaratra: Antanambe, Oct. 1994 (fr.), Dransfield & Beentje 7507 (K, TAN).

14. DYP SIS IFANADIANAE

A rather slender tree palm reminiscent of *D. lastelliana* through the pendulous leaflets, but immediately distinct from that species by its green leaf-sheath. The name comes from the nearest large town and administrative unit.

DISTRIBUTION. Only known from the Ifanadiana area.

HABITAT. Lowland rain forest; steep mid slopes; 200–450 m.

LOCAL NAMES. Not recorded.

USES. Not recorded.

CONSERVATION STATUS. Critical. Restricted to a small area, where clearing of forest is continuing apace; less than fifty trees known.

Dypsis ifanadianae Beentje *sp. nov.*

Palma insignis habitu *D. lastelliana* superficialiter similis sed vagina folii viride non brunneo-tomentosa, *D. nauseosae* affinis sed

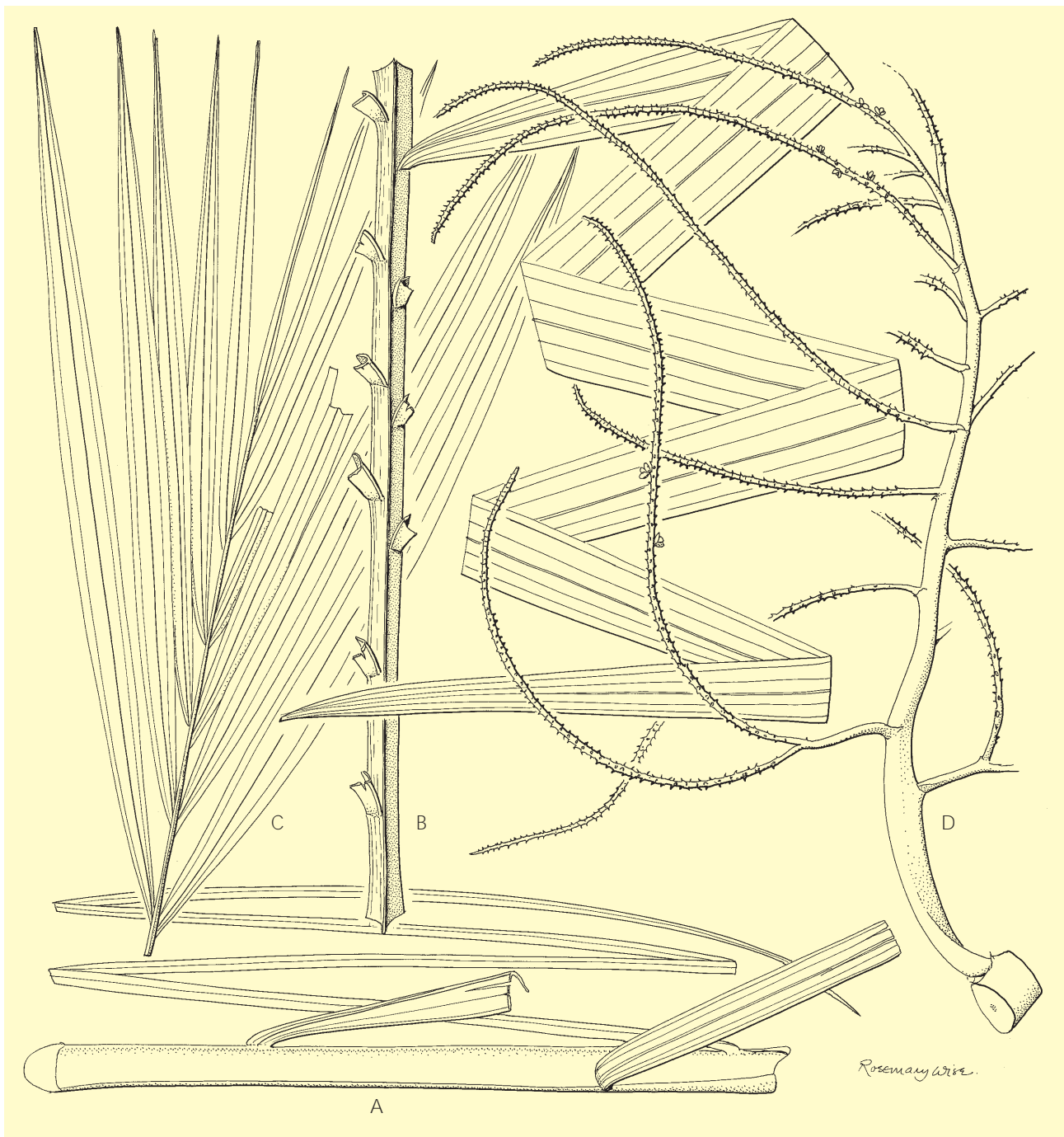


**Dypsis
ifanadianae**

fructu parvo endospermio homogenero differt. Typus: Madagascar, Ifanadiana: 34km E of Ifanadiana, *Beentje & Beentje* 4729 (Holotypus K; isotypi MO, TAN).

Slender solitary palm. **TRUNK** 15–24 m tall, conspicuously stepped and ringed, 18 cm diam.; internodes 12 cm long, orange-brown with white nodal scars 1.5 cm broad, with age the whole trunk becoming pale grey to almost white; upper internodes green with white scars. **LEAVES** 7 in the crown, spirally inserted, pinnate with leaflets in one plane but curving downwards; sheath 72 cm long, at the base 20 cm wide (when flattened), green, 50–75% open, with minute scattered scales, with brown triangular ligules 5×2.3 cm; petiole 30 cm long, proximally 6×4 cm, distally 4×3 cm, channelled with sharp edges, waxy and with minute scattered scales; rachis c. 3 m long, proximally channelled, in mid-leaf 1.4–2.5 cm diam., sharply

keeled, waxy and ? with minute scattered scales; leaflets regular, c. 55 on each side of the rachis, the proximal $90\text{--}108 \times 1\text{--}3$ cm, median $104\text{--}110 \times 4.3\text{--}5$ cm (interval 4 cm), distal $15\text{--}37 \times 0.4\text{--}2.2$ cm, glaucous and glabrous, with attenuate apices, main veins 5, prominent. **INFLORESCENCE** infrafoliar, with curved peduncle, branched to 3 orders; peduncle 57 cm long, proximally 4×2 cm, distally 3×2 cm diam.; prophyll c. 89 cm, borne at c. 5 cm above the base of the peduncle, 10 cm wide, 2-winged; peduncular bract inserted at 26 cm from the base of the peduncle, 65 cm long, the distal 18 cm closed, beaked for 4 cm; rachis 60 cm long, with c. 21 branched and c. 16 unbranched first order branches, these proximally 2.8×1.6 cm; rachillae 12–33 cm long, 3–4 mm diam., with distant triads in slight pits, with triangular, entire bracts. **STAMINATE FLOWERS** unknown. **PISTILLATE FLOWERS** with imbricate sepals $2.5\text{--}3 \times 2.5\text{--}3.5$ mm, orbicular, rounded, slightly spurred at the base; petals



Dypsis ifanadianae. **A** distal part of petiole with lowermost leaflets $\times 1/3$; **B** mid section of leaf $\times 1/3$; **C** leaf tip $\times 1/3$; **D** first order inflorescence branch $\times 1/3$. All from *Beentje & Beentje* 4729. Drawn by Rosemary Wise.

4–4.5 × 3–5 mm, hooded, orbicular with minute acute apex; staminodes 0.8–1.3 mm, flat and narrow; ovary c. 3.5 × 4.5 mm, asymmetrical, the stigmas slightly lateral and 1.3 mm high. **FRUIT** 8 × 7–10 mm; endocarp with anastomosing fibres. **SEED** transversely ellipsoid, broader in one plane than in the other, 6.5 × 5.5 × 8–9 mm, with homogeneous endosperm. **EOPHYLL** bifid.

NOTE. This species is rather close to *D. nauseosa* but distinct by its small fruit with homogeneous endosperm.

SPECIMENS SEEN. Ifanadiana: 34km E of Ifanadiana, July 1992 (fl., fr.) *Beentje & Beentje* 4729 (Holotype K; isotypes MO, TAN).

SIGHT RECORD. This species has been observed by HB at Ambinanindrano and Andranomaitso.

15. DYPsis LASTELLIANA

This is a very elegant species, now widespread in cultivation. The densely red-brown hairy crownshaft is particularly ornamental. In cultivation it seems to require warmer and moister conditions than *D. leptocheilos*. The name refers to the collector of the type, de Lastellé.

DISTRIBUTION. NW, NE and E Madagascar.

HABITAT. Moist lowland forest on slopes (gneiss, quartz, granite), often rather open or near forest mar-



Dypsis lastelliana. **A** portion of leaf sheath × 1/3; **B** petiole and basal leaflets × 1/3; **C** mid section of leaf × 1/3; **D** leaf tip × 1/3; **E** peduncular bract × 1/12; **F** part of inflorescence × 1/5; **G** fruit × 2/3; **H** fruit in cross section × 2/3. All from *Dransfield et al.* JD6359. Drawn by Margaret Tebbs.