

However, the presence of ramentae on the leaflet undersurface of *H. sibuyanensis* is without significance as *H. elata* also has this feature. The two species are certainly very similar in details of the inflorescence.

*H. sibuyanensis* is here retained as a distinct species in the absence of more herbarium material from the type locality.

**11. *Heterospathe trispatha* Fernando** sp. nov. inflorescentia infrafoliari prophylo et duobus bracteis peduncularibus praedita distinctissima. Typus: Luzon, Aurora Prov., Baler, Dikaluyangan, *Fernando* 481 (holotypus LBC; isotypi BH, K).

Solitary, slender, undergrowth palm to 3 m tall. Stem c. 5 cm diam.; internodes to 2 cm long. Leaves pinnate, to 8 in crown, arching; young leaves reddish-brown; leaf including petiole to 1.5 m long; leaf sheaths not forming a well-defined crownshaft, each to 40 cm long, drying striate, the edges fibrous and marcescent; petiole c. 35–46 × 0.8 cm, flattened adaxially, the edges sharply angled, convex abaxially and minutely punctulate, mid-rachis triangular, bifacial adaxially, flattened abaxially and minutely punctulate. Leaflets to 26 on each side of the rachis, unicostate, regularly arranged, spaced 3–4 cm apart, linear-elliptic, long acuminate to sigmoid or falcate near apex, midrib and secondary nerves prominently elevated, ramenta prominent along midrib on undersurface, the leaflets drying brittle; basal leaflets c. 31 × 2 cm; middle leaflets c. 35 × 3 cm; apical leaflets c. 20 × 0.7 cm. Inflorescence infrafoliar, arching, to 45 cm long, branching to 2 orders; peduncle c. 17 × 2 × 0.9 cm, covered with dense, dark brownish tomentose scales, the surface drying striate; prophyll woody, c. 24 × 6 cm, lance-shaped, 2-keeled laterally, and splitting apically, the surface scaly, persistent; peduncular bracts 2, the first borne c. 2–3 cm above the prophyll, c. 33–40 × 3.5 cm, similar to the prophyll, second peduncular bract borne 4–5 cm above the first, c. 33–36 × 3 cm, protruding through first peduncular bract or enclosed within it; first order branches to 9, up to 4 basal first order branches further branching, each c. 30 × 0.4 cm, with 2–6 rachillae, distal branches as rachillae, arranged spirally along axis; rachilla terete, c. 22–30 × 0.2–0.3 cm, covered with caducous, tomentose scales, drying striate; triads borne spirally along rachilla and subtended by low, lip-like bracts. Staminate flower oblong, 4 × 3 mm; sepals 3, broadly imbricate, much shorter than the petals, c. 2 × 1.75 mm, one often larger than the other two, sparsely ciliolate along the margin; petals 3, valvate, striate when dry, acute at tip, 4 × 2.5 mm; stamens 6; anthers dorsifixed, 2.5 mm long, filaments white, 2 mm long; pistillode conical, 2.5 × 1 mm, briefly trifid at apex. Pistillate flower ovoid-obtuse in bud, shorter than the staminate flower, c. 3 × 2.5 mm; sepals 3, broadly imbricate, rounded, 2 × 2 mm; petals 3, imbricate at base with acute valvate tips, 2.5 × 2 mm; pistil ovoid, 2 × 1.3 mm, briefly trifid at apex; staminodes minute, tooth-like, borne at base of pistil. Infructescence with arching rachillae. Fruits spirally arranged in 3–4 lax series, bright green, ripening yellow then red, broadly ovoid, c. 1.2 × 0.8 cm, stigmatic residue obliquely apical, epicarp drying granulose with sclerosomes. Seed oblong-ovoid, c. 6.5 × 6 mm, rounded on both ends, hilum prominent; endosperm deeply ruminant. (Fig. 4).

**DISTRIBUTION & HABITAT.** Luzon (Aurora Prov.); in lowland dipterocarp forest; c. 50 m. Endemic.



FIG. 4. *Heterospathe trispatha*. A habit  $\times \frac{1}{60}$ ; B stem with sheaths and basal portions of petioles and inflorescences  $\times \frac{1}{4}$ ; C basal portion of leaf with petiole and first leaflets  $\times \frac{1}{3}$ ; D mid-portion of leaf  $\times \frac{1}{3}$ ; E apical portion of leaf  $\times \frac{1}{3}$ ; F infructescence  $\times \frac{1}{4}$ ; G staminate flower  $\times 6$ ; H staminate flower with calyx and one petal removed  $\times 6$ ; I pistillate flower  $\times 7\frac{1}{2}$ ; J pistillate flower with calyx and two petals removed  $\times 7\frac{1}{2}$ ; K fruit  $\times 2$ ; L seed  $\times 2\frac{3}{4}$ ; M vertical section of seed  $\times 2\frac{3}{4}$ . A-F and K-M from *Fernando* 481, G-J from *Fernando* 566. Drawn by F. B. Samiano.

LUZON. Aurora Prov., Casiguran, Dilasag, *Fernando* 763 (LBC), Baler, Dikaluyangan, *Fernando* 481 (holotype LBC; isotypes BH, K) & 566 (BH, K, LBC).

Within *Heterospathe*, this species is most unusual. For one, as the epithet suggests, the inflorescence bears three bracts—a prophyll and two peduncular bracts—rather than a prophyll and a single peduncular bract which is typical in the genus. Secondly, the inflorescences are infrafoliar (as in *H. scitula*) not only at anthesis but even while still completely enclosed in the bracts. However, despite the unusual features, details of the leaflet, flower, fruit, and seed indicate affinity with *Heterospathe*. *H. trispatha* may, thus, be considered as an aberrant member of the genus.

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