



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society

Affiliate of the International Palm Society

Monthly Update

September 2009

FEATURED THIS MONTH: *Hyophorbe indica*



Hyophorbe indica



Hyophorbe indica
horn-like inflorescence bud

Closely related *Hyophorbe* Cousins



Hyophorbe lagenicaulis
(bottle palm)



Hyophorbe verschaffeltii
(spindle palm)

Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society Officers

Betty Ahlborn, President (561) 722-8106
Tom Ramiccio, First Vice President, Sales (561) 582-5915
Marshall Dewey, Second Vice President, Planting
Dale Holton, Third Vice President, Programs (561) 965-6792
Ruth Sallenbach, Secretary (561) 965-5430
Ingrid Dewey, Treasurer
Dennis McKee, Membership Chairman (561) 642-3015
Brenda Beck, Editor & Historian (561) 963-5511

Appointees

Charles Beck, Librarian
Marty Dougherty, Web Master
Ruth Lynch, Refreshment Chairman
Kitty Philips, Activities & Events Coordinator

VISIT US AT palmbeachpalmcycadsociety.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 4 Don't Miss the Fall 2009 Palm & Cycad Sale
- 5 Featured this Month: *Hyophorbe indica*
- 6 The Transformation of Elise Moloney's Garden
- 8 Scott Zona's Top 20 Palms for South Florida
- 8 The Contest is On and the Clock is Ticking
- 10 Annual Picnic to be held on September 5th
- 11 Upcoming Meetings and Events
- 13 This Month's "Thank You"
- 13 August 5, 2009, Name Drawing Prize Winner
- 14 Two-Headed Sabal Palmetto

Opinions expressed and products or recommendations published in this newsletter may not be the opinions or recommendations of the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society or its board of directors.

**DON'T MISS
THE FALL 2009
PALM AND CYCAD SALE**

Saturday, September 26th
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 27th
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Caloosa Park
1300 S.W. 35th Avenue
Boynton Beach, FL



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED
FOR BOTH DAYS**

For more information, please contact
Tom Ramiccio at (561) 386-7812

RARE AND
EXOTIC PALMS

SALE!

PALM AND CYCAD
PUBLICATIONS

PALM SOCIETY
T-SHIRTS AND HATS

FERTILIZER

CYCADS



PALM TREE
POSTERS

FEATURED THIS MONTH: *Hyophorbe indica*

by Charlie Beck

Hyophorbe indica is endemic to Réunion Island and grows in moist, low elevation forests. They are reported to be near extinction in the wild. Surprisingly, *Hyophorbe indica* DNA is closely related to *Wendlandiellia* which is native to the western Amazon. Other genera related to *Hyophorbe* are *Gaussia*, *Synechanthus*, and *Chamaedorea* – all new world palms.

Hyophorbe indica are self cleaning, pinnate, and monoecious (male and female flowers on the same plant). The leaves are arching and the inflorescence bud is hornlike. They reportedly grow to 30 feet in height. The crownshaft is an attractive deep green displayed on a gray ringed trunk.

Hyophorbe indica is relatively new to South Florida palm enthusiasts. I don't remember this palm offered for sale prior to 1998. The first grouping I planted here in Palm Beach County died but my second try was successful. I planted these palms on a berm to eliminate periodic inundation during the rainy season. My specimens are now nine years old. (See photographs on page 2.) They have six feet of trunk which measures 5 ¼ inches in diameter at waist height. They are blooming this year for the first time. The leaves are strongly arched and measure seven feet long. I have not noticed any nutritional deficiencies

(Continued on page 12)

(561) 586-2332



LAKE OSBORNE ANIMAL CLINIC

JOHN T. LYNCH, D.V.M.

1502 Lake Osborne Dr.
Lake Worth, FL 33461

For permission to reproduce any article that appears in this publication, contact the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society editor at beck4212@aol.com

The Transformation of Elise Moloney's Garden, 1999-2009

by Elise Moloney

Ten years ago I bought *Betrock's Guide to Landscape Palms* from Uncle Bim's in an effort to identify the palm *Livistona chinensis* growing in the front yard of my newly purchased West Palm Beach home. For the last ten years, I have removed undesirable plants, purchased desirable plants, dug, relocated some plants, watered and fertilized all. I have nurtured my garden and transformed it into a tropical paradise, not to mention, cultivated a lot of friendships along the way!

Probably appearing to be a perpetual novice, I have received some valuable advice through the years. Someone said "*if you want to learn more about a particular palm---BUY IT*". So here I am 19 Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society sales later. It's absolutely true, buying does indeed widen and expand the horizon of knowledge!

I can never remember all the Latin names, however, I do remember WHO I acquired most of my palms from. Let's see, there's the:

- *Areca catechu* & *Pritchardia pacifica* from Jack Dewey
- *Butia capitata* & *Syagrus coronata* from Betty Ahlborn
- *Carpoxylon macrospermum* from Ron Croci
- *Chamaerops humilis* var. *cerifera* & *Encephalartos ferox* from Rick Kern

- *Coccothrinax crinita* & *Dypsis crinita* from Dale Holton
- *Copernicia ekmanii* from Mike Harris
- *Dypsis cabadae* from Gale Carter
- *Hyophorbe indica* from Chris Covington
- *Pseudophoenix sargentii* from Veronica "Bos"
- *Satakentia liukiensis* from Kurt Decker
- *Syagrus schizophylla* from Larry Dietrich

You could say "*it takes a village*" to create a palm garden! My main objective was to emulate several environmental conditions that would allow me to have a variety of plants in my postage stamp-sized plot - full sun, dappled sun, under story/shade; the entire time cognizant of what areas were wet and dry.

The first step to make room for desirable plants was to eliminate the undesirable ones. It was a giant step and no doubt the most expensive one. I got rid of all Queens, Ficus, Black Olives and Mallaleuca. Two totems were carved out of Mahogany adding to tropical taste.

I have always been drawn to before and after photos. It is the printed evidence of the impact that plants or green space has on a house. They make a house a home

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

by softening angles, adding depth, interest, and curb appeal. Our eye abruptly stops at hardscape yet is lured into green space. I did an extensive paper in college on the affects plants have on the human psyche. The benefits are endless! Plants are therapeutic and have healing powers - just ask your garden variety horticulture therapist. Plants in offices increase the creative potential and concentration of workers. Furthermore, there was a study in Chicago showing that on tree-lined streets there was more neighbor in-

teraction with less crime and domestic violence. Our magnetism to plants is evolutionary; so is human socialization.

**Plant a Palm and
Have a Frond for Life!**

*Elise Moloney
West Palm Beach, Florida*

**See before and after photographs of
Elise's garden on page 15**


**PLACE YOUR
BUSINESS CARD AD
\$5 PER MONTH
OR \$60 PER YEAR**

Send your business card and check payable to the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society to:
Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society
c/o Brenda Beck
P.O. Box 21-2228
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33421

**PLACE YOUR
FOR SALE AD
\$5 PER MONTH
OR \$60 PER YEAR**

(ad space is approximately 2" X 3.5")
E-mail your ad and any photograph you would like included to beck4212@aol.com.
Send your check payable to the Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society to:
Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society
c/o Brenda Beck
P.O. Box 21-2228
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33421
(Check must be received prior to print.)

Phone: 582-4401 Fax (561) 547-8300



Thomas M. Ramiccio
PRESIDENT/CEO

GREATER LAKE WORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
501 Lake Ave • Lake Worth, Florida 33460
e-mail: tramiccio@aol.com • www.lwchamber.com

Scott Zona's Top 20 Palms for South Florida

by Brenda Beck



Scott Zona

At the August 5, 2009, general meeting, Scott Zona, Ph.D., a noted palm biologist from the Department of Biology at Florida International University in Miami,

was our guest speaker (sorry I misstated his former place of employment in our August newsletter).

Dr. Zona has had many years experience with growing palms, and presented a list of his top 20 palms for South Florida. He stated his belief that these palms are underutilized in Florida landscape. His list was as follows:

- *Carpentaria acuminata* – tolerates full sun, does not require



**THE CONTEST
IS ON AND THE
CLOCK IS TICKING!**

ONLY 4 MORE MONTHS LEFT!

On January 6, 2010, an award will be presented to the grower of the largest and most healthy *Dictyosperma album* var. *rubrum* seedlings that were given out to attendees of the May 6, 2009, general meeting. So, the race is on – who will become the next master grower and win this prestigious award?

Sorry – commercial growers are not eligible.

any irrigation once established, and has bright red fruit

- *Carpoxyton macrospermum* – needs protection when young but eventually will take full sun and has graceful arching pinnate leaves
- *Chamaedorea metallica* – small palm that requires shade and has blue-green metallic leaves
- *Chambeyronia macrocarpa* – requires light shade and steady moisture and has a bright red new leaf
- *Coccothrinax alexandri* – grows in full sun and is drought tolerant once established
- *Copernicia baileyana* (His favorite) – grows in full sun, is drought tolerant once established, has a massive white solitary trunk but requires a large open space
- *Copernicia macroglossa* – grows in full sun, is drought tolerant once established, and has a massive presence in the garden with its skirt of dead leaves
- *Cryosophila stauracantha* – requires a moist location and is tolerant of alkaline soils, has

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

- interesting root spines, and the underside of leaves is gray
- *Dypsis cabadae* – This tall clustering palm appreciates light shade and steady moisture, and has ornamental green stems that look like bamboo
 - *Dypsis lanceolata* – similar to *D. cabadae* but likes a little shade
 - *Guihaia argyrata* – small to medium-sized clustering palm that has a bronze-colored under leaf
 - *Hyphaene coriacea* – drought tolerant, has palmate leaves that are often silvery, and a branching trunk
 - *Kentiopsis oliviformis* – requires full sun and steady moisture, has silvery green crownshaft
 - *Kerriodoxa elegans* – has enormous leaves and needs a moist protected area
 - *Leucothrinax morrisii* – requires full sun, the underside of leaves has a whitish appearance, and is native to the lower Keys
 - *Manicaria saccifera* – this dichotomously branching palm requires a moist protected location (swampy areas)
 - *Pseudophoenix vinifera* – this large palm has a solitary stem with a conspicuous belly, requires full sun, and is drought tolerant once established
 - *Sabal causiarum* – the massive solitary stem has large costapalmate leaves, requires full sun, is drought tolerant, and tolerates alkaline soil
 - *Satakentia liukuensis* – requires full sun and has a dark green crownshaft
 - *Serenoa repens* – this clustering, shrubby Florida native palm is tolerant of all soils, is drought tolerant, and best grown in full sun



MEMBER ANNUAL PICNIC & MOST SPECTACULAR PLANT AUCTION OF THE YEAR!!!



September 5, 2009
9:00 a.m. to ??



PICNIC LOCATION

Home of Ruth Sallenbach
6285 South Military Trail
Lake Worth
(On the west side of Military Trail
between Lantana and Hypoluxo Roads)

Please bring a covered dish or dessert!

Donated plants (of any kind) for the auction are most welcome.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2009
Time 7:30 p.m.
Location Mounts Botanical Garden
Subject: Video Presentation: Madagascar Palms
Speaker: Jeff Marcus, Owner of Floribunda Palms & Exotics

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2009
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Ruth Sallenbach's Home
 6285 S. Military Trail, Lake Worth
 (561) 965-5430

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 10, 2009

South Florida Palm Society Garden Tour

The tour includes visits to Action Theory Nursery, the Tropical Education Research Center, John DeMott's garden, and a tour of RF Orchids. There is no cost to members but non-members must pay \$10. A box lunch will be served. For more information or to make your reservation, call Jeff Chait at (305) 934-2839.

(Continued from page 5)

or cold damage. I grow these in light shade, but I'll bet these palms would grow equally well in full sun.

Plant this palm for its medium size, self cleaning arching fronds, and striking deep green crownshaft. I don't believe many are growing in Palm Beach County.

GROWING CONDITIONS IN OUR GARDEN FOR *Hyophorbe indica*

Location	4 miles from ocean in suburban Lantana
Soil	Sand over a layer of hardpan (pineland flatwood habitat)
Irrigation	¾ inch applied twice a week
Flooding	None
Fertilization	3 times a year with Palm special analysis
Light	Light shade
Micronutrient Deficiencies	None observed
Insect Damage	None observed
Hurricane Resistance	Good
Lethal Yellowing	Unknown



Village Marina

464-4391

Wes Taylor

This Month's "Thank You"

General Membership Meeting Refreshments

Lew & Cathy Burger
Jim Gallagher & Maryann Marino
Patt Lindsey

Tom Ramiccio
Brenda Skaggs

Plant Donations

Betty Ahlborn
Keith Butry
Larry Davis

Mike Harris
Dale Holton

Winner of the August 5th Name Drawing Prize
was **Thomas Mueller**

who was not present. He missed out on receiving a M. Espinosa signed
and numbered *Pseudophoenix ekmanii* print.

AND

The second winner of the August 5th Name Drawing Prize
was **Nicole Dougherty**

who was present. She received a *Coccothrinax Crinita*.

HOLTON NURSERY PALMS and CYCADS

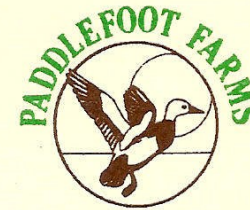
5221 3rd Road
Lake Worth, FL 33467
Phone (561) 965-6792
Email cycadnut@gate.net



"By appointment only"



A TWO-HEADED SABAL PALMETTO: Maryann Marino and Jim Gallagher forwarded this picture of a palm spotted on Tybee Island in Georgia by their neighbor.



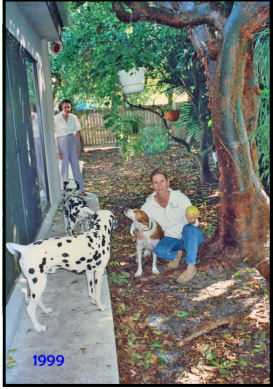
13823 Paddlefoot Lane
Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Phone
(561) 722-8106
(561) 798-4562
BETTY AHLBORN

Exotic Palms
&
Tropicals

Please share stories your garden experiences. Submit your stories and photos to beck4212@aol.com

Elise Moloney's Garden—Before and After



Palm Beach Palm & Cycad Society
P.O. Box 21-2228
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33421

