

# A new species of *Bactris* (Palmae) from the Amazon region<sup>1</sup>

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de Granville, Jean-Jacques (ORSTOM, B.P. 165, 97323 Cayenne Cédex, Guyane Française) and Andrew Henderson (The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458-5126, U.S.A.). A new species of *Bactris* (Palmae). *Brittonia* 46: 147–150. 1994.—A new species, *Bactris pliniana*, from the Amazon region is described and illustrated. Its relationships within the *Piranga* group are discussed.

**Key words:** Palmae, *Bactris*, Amazon.

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In the course of the preparation of treatments of *Bactris* for the Flora of the Guianas by de Granville, and for an Amazon palm flora (Henderson, in press), we have come across the following undescribed species.

***Bactris pliniana*** Granv. & Henderson, sp. nov. (Figs. 1 & 2)

**TYPE:** FRENCH GUIANA. Waki River, Dégrad Somboto, 6 Jul 1973, *de Granville 1728* (HOLOTYPE: NY!; ISOTYPES: CAY!, U!).

A *Bactride* acanthocarpoide pinnis sigmoideis distans.

Stems cespitose, 1.5–3.0 m tall, 2.5–5.0 cm diam.; internodes (0.5)2–6(15) cm long, with rings of black, flattened spines 1–4 cm long. Leaves 6–12, erect, 2–4.5 m long; sheath brownish-green, 15–80 cm long, sheath and petiole with a few black, somewhat flattened spines 0.5–7 cm long; petiole cylindrical, canaliculate adaxially, yellowish-green, 0.2–1.0 m long; rachis 0.8–2.5 m long; pinnae 12–30 per side, irregularly arranged in 7–10 clusters of 2–7 pinnae, spreading in different planes, oblanceolate to sigmoid, long acuminate, the middle ones 35–60 cm long, 2.5–7 cm wide, apical ones to 16 cm wide. Inflorescences interfoliar; peduncle 9–25 cm long, recurved, laterally flattened, brown-velvety to hairy at the top;

prophyll 8–15 cm long; peduncular bract 20–38 cm long in total, with a fusiform part densely covered with dark brown, soft hairs 0.2–1 cm long, somewhat spiny toward the apex, intermixed, particularly on the lower half, with yellowish hairs; rachis 2.5–8 cm long, hardly visible, bearing 20–60 very slender, flexuous rachillae, 5–15 cm long, brown spinulose basally; flowers in triads at base of rachillae, these interspersed with solitary staminate flowers, distally with paired or solitary staminate flowers; staminate flowers 2–2.5 mm long (pre-anthesis); sepals connate into a 3-lobed calyx, the lobes deltate, ca. 0.5 mm long; petals connate below for ca. half their length, free and valvate above, fleshy, obovate, 2–2.5 mm long; stamens 6; pistillode absent; pistillate flowers (post-anthesis) 3–5 mm long; sepals connate into a cupular, glabrous calyx, ca. 1 mm long, 2–3 mm diam.; petals connate into a tubular, densely brownish-black spinulose corolla, 3–5 mm long staminodes absent; fruits globose to widely obovoid, ca. 2 cm diam. (1.5 cm when dry), yellowish green becoming bright orange when ripe, densely spinulose; mesocarp starchy; fruiting perianth 7–12 mm diam. with glabrous, lobed calyx smaller than the spinulose, lobed corolla; seedling with a bifid eophyll.

Distribution, habitat, and ecology: Amazon region of the Guianas, Peru (Loreto), and Brazil (Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Pará); lowland forest in low-lying, swampy areas at elevations below 350 m. In French Gui-

<sup>1</sup> Studies on the Flora of the Guianas 78.



FIG. 1. Habit of *Bactris pliniana* (de Granville & Kahn 5405).

ana, flowers have been observed mostly from June to November and fruits from December to May. The seeds germinate in 6–8 months.

**Etymology:** Named in honor of Dr. Plinio Sist, who first recognized this species as distinct.

**Local names and uses:** *Marajá* (Brazil),

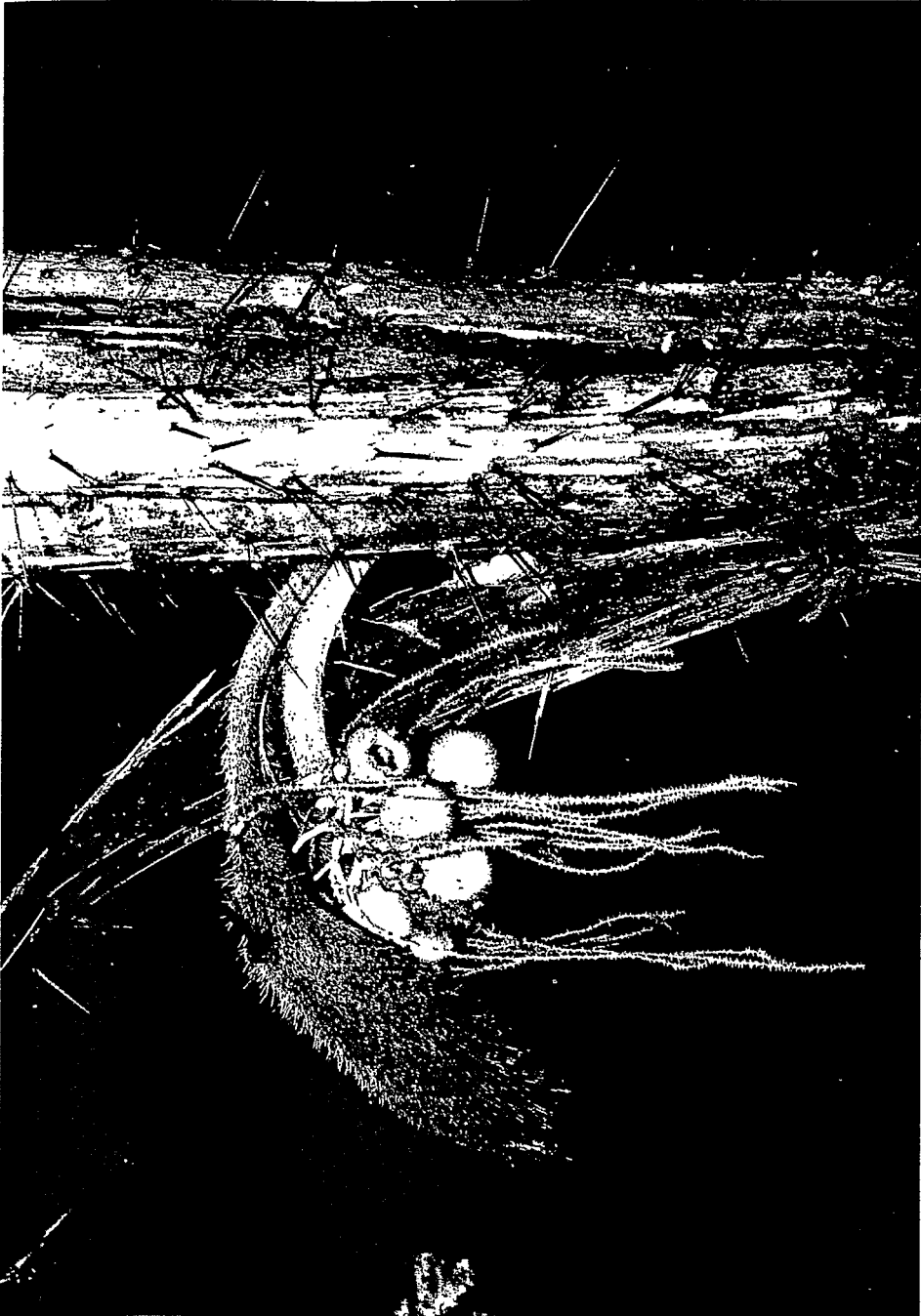


FIG. 2. Inflorescence of *Bactris pliniana* (de Granville 7167).

*uhahik, ujakit* (Peru), *naaimaka, nanaimaka, kiskismaka* (Suriname).

Additional specimens examined: GUYANA. Kamakusa, 12 Dec 1922, *Leng 350* (NY).

SURINAME. Lower Corentyne River Basin, Kalebabo. 4 Oct 1879, *Im Thurn 17* (K); Tapanahoni River near Apetina, ca. 100 m, 5 Jul 1977, *Moore et al. 10321* (BH); Upper Commewijne River Basin, Mapanee Creek, 5 Jan 1963, *Wessels Boer 463* (U); 7 Jan 1963, *Wessels Boer 465* (U); Oelemali River, near airstrip, 26 Mar 1963, *Wessels Boer 1091* (NY, U); 28 Mar 1963, *Wessels Boer 1145* (U).

FRENCH GUIANA. Near track from Cayenne-Régina highway (R.N.2) to Bélizon, 4°20'N, 52°23'W, *Biliet & Jadin 4455* (BR); lower Approuague River Basin, Crique Kapi, 4°7'N, 52°5'W, 5 m, 14 Jan 1991, *Cremers 11616* (CAY); lower Oyapock River Basin, Savane-Roche du Quatorze Juillet, 3°58'N, 51°52'W, 50 m, 19 Apr 1991, *Cremers 12336* (CAY); Saül, Crique Cochon, on trail to Roche Bateau, 15 Dec 1971, *de Granville 897* (CAY, P, U); Petite Waki River, old village Hubert, 20 Jul 1973, *de Granville 1880* (CAY, K, U); Mana River, Saut Dalles, 19 Jul 1981, *de Granville 4600* (CAY); Cayenne, ORSTOM botancial garden, cultivated (seedling), 22 Jan 1982, *de Granville 5005* (CAY); Périnette Mountain, 15 km S of Saül, 1 Apr 1983, *de Granville 5453* (CAY); 18 km S of Saül, 4 Apr 1983, *de Granville 5528* (CAY); upper Camopi River Basin, Belvédère Mountain, 7 Dec 1984, *de Granville 7167* (CAY, U); Waki River, old village Grigel, 30 Jul 1973, *de Granville B-5055* (CAY, P); Saül, Crique Cochon, on trail to Roche Bateau, 10 Mar 1983, *de Granville & Kahn 5405* (CAY); Upper Oyapock River, Amerindian village of Trois Sauts, 2°13'N, 52°50'W, 11 Sep 1960, *Irwin et al. 48171* (NY); Approuague River, Saut Grand Japigny, 7 Aug 1968, *Oldeman B-1773* (CAY); without locality, 1842, 1864, *Mélinon s.n.* (P).

BRAZIL. Acre: Rio Moa, near mouth of Rio Azul, Meia Doze, 7°25'S, 73°15'W, 14 Feb 1992, *Henderson et al. 1686* (NY); 14 Feb 1992, *Henderson et al. 1689* (NY); Mun. Mancio Lima, ca. 5 km W of Mancio Lima, ca. 7°40'S, 72°55'W, 17 Feb 1992, *Henderson et*

*al. 1708* (NY). Amapá: Mun. Oiapoque, BR 156, 109 km SSE of Oiapoque on road between Oiapoque and Calçoene, ca. 3°N, 51°30'W, 5 Dec 1984, *Mori et al. 17197* (HAMAB, MG, NY). Amazonas: Mun. Atalaia do Norte, Rio Javari, Estirão do Ecuador, 4°30'S, 71°4'W, 9 Jan 1989, *Henderson et al. 854* (NY); Barro Vermelho, left bank of Rio Juruá, 6°28'S, 68°46'W, 20 Oct 1991, *Pardini 24* (NY). Pará: Ilha de Marajó, Rio Cururu, 0°37'S, 50°10'W, 14 Nov 1987, *Tavares et al. 375* (HAMAB); Rio Trombetas, s.d., *Trail 941* (K).

PERU. Loreto, Requena: Río Ucayali, 200 km SW of Iquitos, Jenaro Herrera, 4°55'S, 73°40'W, 125 m, Mar 1985, *Kahn & Mejia 1760* (K); Oct 1985, *Kahn & Mejia 1827* (USM); Oct 1982, *Mejia 123* (USM).

*Bactris pliniana* is a member of the Piranga group (Sanders, 1991), characterized by its numerous, filamentous rachillae, regularly arranged triads tending to be on the adaxial surface of the rachillae, and spinulose fruits. Within this group, it is most similar to *B. acanthocarpoides* Barb. Rodr. but differs in its sigmoid pinnae, larger fruits, shorter prophyll, and strongly recurved and hairy peduncular bract. It has been confused with both *B. acanthocarpoides* and *B. acanthocarpa* Mart. in the herbarium because of the resemblance of these three species.

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#### Literature Cited

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