

PALM LITERATURE

PALMEIRAS BRASILEIRAS E EXÓTICAS CULTIVADAS (NATIVE AND CULTIVATED PALMS OF BRAZIL). H. Lorenzi, H.M. de Souza, J.T. de Medeiros Costa, L.S.C. de Cerqueira & E. Ferreira. Instituto Plantarum, Nova Odessa, São Paulo, Brazil. 2004. ISBN: 85 86714 20 8. 22 x 30 cm, hard pictorial cover, color throughout, in Portuguese. Pp 432.

Brazil's prominence as the tropical country with the best studied palm flora is carried forward another step with this new edition of the book *Palmeiras no Brasil*, published in 1996. Like the first edition, each taxon is described on a single page. The text provides common names and synonyms and describes the palm, its habitat, utility and propagation; accompanied by outstanding color photographs of the tree, the inflorescence and the fruit. The size of the book has been enlarged by about 80 percent; the number of native and introduced taxa featured are increased to 208 and 185, respectively; a key to the native palms is now provided and small distribution maps added to each entry. More than 90 percent of the native palm taxa of Brazil are described, including two natural *Syagrus* hybrids, the intergeneric hybrid *X Maximbignya dahlgreniana* and five undescribed species. The section on exotic palms covers nearly all of the common tropical ornamentals. A glossary is provided of botanical terms used in the book, along with

indexes of scientific names and common names and a bibliography.

My only criticism of this otherwise excellent book is that it does not appear to take into account revisions of *Aiphanes* (Borchsenius & Bernal 1996), *Allagoptera* (Moraes 1996), *Bactris* (Henderson 2000) and *Euterpe* and *Prestoea* (Henderson & Galeano 1996) published since the first edition.

I strongly recommend this book to those who grow or have an interest in Brazilian palms. The book has a sturdy binding, the printing on glossy paper is of the highest quality and the reproduction of color photographs is excellent. The IPS Bookstore stocks this title.

LITERATURE CITED

- BORCHSENIUS, F. AND R. BERNAL. 1996. *Aiphanes* (Palmae). Flora Neotropica Monograph 70. The New York Botanical Garden.
- HENDERSON, A. 2000. *Bactris* (Palmae). Flora Neotropica Monograph 79. The New York Botanical Garden.
- HENDERSON, A. AND G. GALEANO. 1996. *Euterpe*, *Prestoea* and *Neonicholsonia* (Palmae). Flora Neotropica Monograph 72. The New York Botanical Garden.
- MORAES R., M. 1996. *Allagoptera* (Palmae). Flora Neotropica Monograph 73. The New York Botanical Garden.

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