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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Palmar
November 12, 1952

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

The assessment form has just been fired off to the American Philosophical Society. I hope the project is approved, since it would be very pleasant and stimulating to have you here. Actually, as I may have indicated in an earlier letter, February isn't an ideal time to collect our local palms, but I can't say how it may be in other places. Many should still be in fruit however, and others seem to flower and fruit throughout the year. For example, our very handsome local species of Cryosophila flowered profusely last June, yet I found a specimen in good bloom just a week ago, though most are by now in fruit. I believe this to be new, as was also one collected near Lake Yojoa in Honduras earlier this year. I have just completed descriptions of both of them which should appear, together with photographs in the next issue of CEIBA. I wouldn't touch anything as complicated as Paetris or as controversial as Scheelea, but some of the smaller genera are relatively safe.

Costa Rica is a very rich country, and I'm sure you will find enough to make your stay worth while. If we had an extra day or two I would like to have you see the fine big Oenocarpus (?) that I sent to Dr. Bailey years ago from the highlands of adjacent Chiriqui Province. It is still one of the outstanding puzzles of this part of Central America and the dominant species in its area. I sent quite a few duplicates, together with flowers in liquid and some Kodachrome slides of the thing, as I remember it. Do you know anything about it/?

Please let me know when you expect to be in San Jose, and I will try to meet you there for a day or two on the paranos and along the Inter-American highway before we come down here.

Most sincere regards,

Paul H. Allen

I am very glad to have your key to the subgenera & sections of Bactris, and hope you will favor me with a reprint when it is published. I have never believed in either Pyrenoglyphis or Yuvia, since both are so very obviously Bactris when seen in the field. It is very tempting in taxonomy to perpetrate an intellectual tour de force, but it must be remembered that most of these have simply tended to becloud the issue. In the long view it is much more important to stress relationships than to become mired down in the endless revival or creation of names of dubious utility.

I had intended to stop by & spend a few days in Ithaca when on our recent States junket, but I heard that you weren't back and since I didn't know anyone else there I decided against it. Maybe next time, or better yet, maybe you can come down here. Maybe we can find your Neonicholsoniopsis, since we have many other of the Atlantic slope genera & species. We might even get over into adjacent Chiriqui & have another look at that handsome Cenocarpis that is all over the highlands there.

Most sincere regards,

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE } *Taxonomists*
H. E. MOORE, JR. }
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

5 November 1952

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

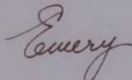
Dear Paul:

Upon receipt of your letter I hurried off to the American Philo-
sophical Society a request for a grant for field work from February
through April, hoping for consideration at their December meeting. I
took the liberty of naming you as a person who would be familiar with
the project and myself, hoping that you would find the enclosed state-
ment in line with your information. If it would not be too much trouble
would you be willing to return the assessment sheet to the Society?

Somehow I expect I'll manage to reach Costa Rica and will be happy
to spend as much time with you as you can spare and at such time as is
most convenient for you. Actually I can leave earlier than February if
it seems advisable and will put Cuba either first or last on my itinerary.

I will work out in detail the areas that I most need to visit for
Chamaedorea and then see how much territory can be covered outside of
your suggestions. Your information regarding living costs was very
much appreciated and I am glad to be able to provide an excuse for you
to get out. The whole venture is going to keep me on edge until I can
get started.

Very sincerely yours,



H. E. Moore, Jr.

lm

Dr. Moore is the only individual at present actively engaged in the critical study of tropical American palms. He has had extensive previous experience in the field, in Mexico, Central America and the West Indies, where he has shown outstanding ability in the observation and collection of important material.

Very little further progress can be expected in our understanding of this extremely important group until a great deal more field work has been done by qualified observers.

The larger palms are among the most difficult of all plants to collect, and are never adequately represented in herbaria. Probably dozens of species still await discovery, that are locally important as sources of fiber, thatch, food or construction material. Many types have a restricted or erratic distribution, and are missed by the casual observer. Only a specialist can be expected to fully realize the possibilities in such a group.

Paul H. Allen, Botanist, United Fruit Company
Palmar, Costa Rica

The following paragraphs concerning proposed research and budget is taken from an application for a grant from research funds of the American Philosophical Society and provided for your information in connection with the enclosed form which you are requested to return to the Society at your earliest convenience.

2. Statement of the Problem of Investigation. If work is in progress, state degree of completion; if not, date when you are planning to begin.

The investigation proposed is a program for field study of palms to be carried on in Florida, Cuba and Costa Rica from February through April, 1953. It is the second of two field projects intended to provide a background of adequate specimens, critical notes and photographs from living material for a continuing systematic study of palms, both native and cultivated, as they occur in the North America with especial emphasis at present on the genus *Chamaedorea* and allies. Begun in 1949 by the present applicant to deal with palms of continental regions, it is one part of a long-range project for the study of the family *Palmace* in the western hemisphere started by Dr. L. H. Bailey and carried on by him for nearly 30 years particularly in the West Indies. It is believed that completion of the present field program in conjunction with material now available from neighboring areas and a background of previous study, type photographs, descriptions and notes will provide the information necessary to complete by 1955 a revision of the native and cultivated species of *Chamaedorea* and allies upon which I have been working for nearly two years. At the same time material of additional genera will be collected to augment existing specimens providing the basis for completion of a preliminary survey of North American palms, the first phase of the broader plan.

4. a. Procedure to be followed:

Herbarium specimens, notes and photographs of palms, cultivated and native, to be obtained in Florida, (at the Fairchild Tropical Garden and the U. S. Plant Introduction Garden at Coconut Grove), Cuba (at the Atkins Garden and Research Laboratory of Harvard University, Cienfuegos) and in Costa Rica for study at the Bailey Herbarium in conjunction with materials now available.

b. Expected duration of investigation:

three months commencing about February 1st, 1953 as follows:

Coconut Grove - 1 week

Cienfuegos - 3 weeks

Costa Rica, Atlantic and Pacific sides - 2 months

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Palms, although economically next to grasses in importance, are neglected by the majority of ordinary botanical collectors owing to their size and the difficulty of making specimens and even when collected often lack important notes on habit and other characters vital for an understanding of them. For this reason, considerable field study is necessary to amass complete collections and to observe, photograph and note important characters not to be obtained from most existing herbarium specimens. This is true of the dioecious genus *Chamaedorea* and its allies, the principal subject of the present project and one of the principal subjects of the last. During the year 1952 collections and studies were made in Florida, Cuba, Mexico and British Honduras. The field work planned for 1953 is intended to complete work on the cultivated genera

Caryota, Ptychosperma and Coccolthrinax in Florida and Cuba and to provide study material from the extremely rich and important region of Costa Rica. About one-fifth of the known species of Chamaedorea have been described from this area generally on incomplete material and it is a center of palm diversity of primary importance, that has received relatively less attention by recent collectors than Panama to the south and Guatemala further north.

Mr. Paul H. Allen of the Experimental Station, Cia. Bananera, Golfito, Costa Rica has a considerable reputation as a student and collector of palms in tropical America and knows Costa Rica well. He is to be transferred from his present post to Honduras in April or May of 1953 and I would like to avail myself of his knowledge before he leaves. He has several times indicated a willingness to assist in a field project in the country and in correspondence received October 25th, 1952 writes that he will be available for joint travel and study before leaving. Facilities of the United Fruit Company at Golfito and probably at Quepos and Limon will be available. Previous experience indicates that the facilities of the Interamerican Institute at Turrialba will be available although final verification has not been received to date and field work does not depend on such facilities. The living collections and facilities of the laboratories at the Fairchild Tropical Garden, the U. S. Plant Introduction Garden and the Atkins Garden are available on this as on previous occasions.

There are no visa restrictions on the countries of Cuba and Costa Rica. Estimates of expenses other than fares are based on previous experience and on information provided by Mr. Allen.

3 a. Budgeting of this sum to be specified in detail, e.g., equipment, assistants, field work, travel, etc.:

Travel, Ithaca, N. Y. to San José, Costa Rica via Miami, Fla. and Havana-Cienfuegos, Cuba and return - \$455.00: living expenses and short-distance travel (and in Costa Rica occasional assistants) in Miami (1 week, \$60.00), Cienfuegos (3 weeks, \$105.00) and Costa Rica (2 months - \$400.00) \$555.00;
total - \$1,010.00.

Palmar
October 19, 1952

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

We have just returned from a five weeks junket to Honduras, to find your good letter. I am delighted at the prospect of having you here for awhile, so that I will have some honest excuse to get out and do something about our local palms. Since we expect to be transferred to Honduras permanently about April or May, your earlier date of Feb. through April would probably be best, though Palm collecting isn't tops at that time. We have a guest house here, where you can stay, and if you contact Mr. W. M. Hamer, our General Manager in San Jose I'm pretty sure the Company will stand your food & incidental expenses while in any of our Costarican divisions. As I remember it food & lodging at Turrialba costs about 2.50 a day, U.S. Pensiones in San Jose range from about 3.50 to 7.00 U.S. a day, including meals. Travel by bus about the country is cheap, but service cars run about 12.00-15.00 per day, to go to places like the paramos of the new interamerican highway. Counting the time you will be with us, or in Quepos or Limon, I should say a bare minimum of about \$150.00 per month would do, which would not allow anything for gifts, etc. I should think \$200.00 per month per person fairly ample, though it won't allow any lujo. Please let us know definitely when we can expect you, and I will try to meet you in San Jose.

Most sincere regards,

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE |
H. E. MOORE, JR. | *Taxonomists*
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

October 13, 1952

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station,
Cia. Bananera de Costa Rica,
Golfito, Costa Rica.

Dear Paul,

I have been much delayed in replying to your informative letter of August 14th by the A.I.B.S. meetings with the attendant confusion attendant upon preparation for them and since then I have been trying to plan some field work for this spring.

It was a considerable satisfaction to know that your predictions on the range of *Hoystenea* were borne out. I am inclined to agree with you that we probably recognize too many entities but think this observation could be extended to a good many other genera. Your notes on *Guilielma* agree with my own rather conservative concept of *Bactris* and I wholeheartedly concur in feeling that the emphasis should be on relationship rather than often all too dubious differences. For that reason I have never been able to accept *Yruba*, a rather sore point with Dr. Bailey, nor do I feel that *Zombia* has any special relationship to *Coffea* but has a very interesting relationship to *Astrocaryum* resemblances in *Guilielma* fruit but which may be due to great antiquity since there are small-fruited native species in Colombia and Brazil that, except for the fibrous pores, are not distinguishable from most *Bubactridae*. It will be some long time before I am able to amass enough information to publish such on *Bactris* as a whole but will certainly send you a copy of anything right from the press. My next major project is to try to start unraveling the snarl in *Chamaedorea*, another long job but one with a little more hope since there are fewer species and more material available.

This brings me to the real point of this letter. Since Costa Rica is such a very important area for palms I have talked with Lawrence and we both feel that if money can be obtained it would be most advantageous for me to visit Costa Rica before you leave and preferably next spring providing, of course, that I would in no way inconvenience you. Realizing that you are undoubtedly going to be well occupied from now on I hesitate to broach the project but would be grateful for any chance to spend a day or so with you in Golfito talking over things and of course any time that you might have free for field study. I have an allowance of three months, part of which should be spent at Soledad finishing some work I started last year. If things work out well, however, I would want to spend as much time as possible in Costa Rica.

At the moment I am trying to work up some data to accompany a request for a grant that is due the first of November and also any others that I may make. If you have any idea that you would be free enough to give me even a briefing on the country, if you have ideas on the time planned (Feb. - Apr. or Mar. to May) and what one would have to allow in the way of living expenses in Costa Rica (strictly *not de lujo*) and if you have time to drop me a line before the above deadline I would be much indebted to you. I am also going to write Prof. Thompson at Turrialba regarding facilities there hoping that his former connection as one of the Hortorium advisors will be helpful.

Please don't go to any trouble on this account for I shall go head with what information I can get here anyway.

Best Regards,
Emery

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE
H. E. MOORE, JR. } *Taxonomists*
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

13 August 1952

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

I was delighted to see your article on *Roystonea* in the recent issue of *Geiba* when I returned from what finally ended up as four and a half months in the field. I hope that you are going to continue your work with the genus for it is one that can only be fully understood by someone living in the area where it grows and who is able to observe it constantly. This spring I found large stands of it at the margins of the swamps in back of the dunes at Costzacolcos (Puerto Mexico) on the Vera Cruz coast. I managed to get a full series and if you would like, would be glad to send a specimen in exchange for the material of *R. Dunlapiana* that Louis Willdems sent up from Honduras. Unfortunately in making duplicate specimens I cut down the amount of material included, but with photographs and notes there will probably be ample.

At the moment I am having a lot of fun trying to work up material for a paper on palms of the Caribbean area for a symposium on the Caribbean flora at the meetings this September. I am finding things about distribution that I had never realized before and have also had to consider a few other problems that had been bothering me for some time. On one of these I would be very much interested to have your reaction - that is the position of *Guilielma* in relation to *Bactris*. I have been picking away at the last genus spasmodically and have come more or less to the conclusion that *Guilielma* very properly forms only a subordinate part of the genus if one considers *Pyrenodyphis* and *Yuyba* as integral parts. Except for the size of the fruit and, I suppose, of the trees there seems to be little reason to keep *Guilielma utilis* or *Jacibaea* apart and this becomes much more apparent when material of Brazilian and Colombian species that apparently are not cultivated are considered. Here the fruit is of the same size as of most *Bactris* and differs only in having the strongly applanate fibers about the ^{pericarp} ~~apices~~ at the top of the endocarp. Since you are familiar with all of these things from long experience with them in Central and South America I would be very much interested to hear what you think about the situation and am inclosing a copy of my general ideas on *Bactris*, which follow rather closely those of Burret in case you are interested.

While doing a little work at the Smithsonian, just after my return, I ran across a collection from the plains of San Carlos in Costa Rica that was extremely interesting. It was collected by Cook and Doyle if I remember correctly and the foliage is very much like that of *Neonicholsbnia* as indeed is the spadix as far as peduncle and spathes are concerned. The inflorescence itself, however, is

NEONICHOLSONIA
SPADIX
VERMILION IN
FRUIT ALSO

branched with probably five or six short rachillae and the flowers are sessile on the rachille, not at all crowded nor sunken. At the time I wasn't able to dissect flowers or do much more than make a note of the thing but I thought that I would call it to your attention in case you ever get into that area, so that you might be on the watch for it. As far as I know this collection is the only one and it is in flower, there being no fruit evident.

After this spring's work I am beginning to feel that I am getting a slight familiarity with the palms in the field, having spent some time in Cuba (where I dealt primarily with cultivated palms at the Soledad Garden), in Mexico, and British Honduras. Unfortunately, by the time I got to the isthmus of Tehuantepec and British Honduras, my time was drawing to a close and I was able to sample them only. Now I hope that I can get back again and devote more time to these two very interesting regions and then perhaps work south as I had hoped to do this ~~fall~~.

I don't suppose you will be getting up to the meetings this fall, but hope that you will be back in the states sometime and that you will have an opportunity to pay us a call in Ithaca. We are moving this fall to new quarters on the top floor of the agricultural library building where we have ample space and equipment, all brand new. There is a whole room devoted to palms, so of course, we will more than welcome any material that we can get hold of. Dr. Bailey has stopped work altogether on the palms and it may be that some time this winter I will be able to get at some tag ends of Panamanian material that are left over from the original sendings, including, I think, a collection or two of *Euterpe* and *Oenocarpus*. At the same time I hope to be able to lay at least ground work for study of some of the Colombian palms, especially *Bactris*, *Chamaedorea* and *Geonoma*. For that purpose, Dugand is sending all of the material from Bogota and Cuatrecasas has already sent what seems like several bales of material.

I hope that all is going well in Costa Rica and that you are getting about a good deal.

Best regards,

Emery

H. E. Moore, Jr.

*possibly
may
cook
Hend
Chamaedorea
& Oenocarpus
Cook*

SYNOPSIS OF BACTRIS SENSU LATU

1. Flowers irregularly arranged on a robust branched spadix, the pistillate in triads with two staminate acolytes interspersed with several solitary staminate flowers: medium to large armed palms with usually large, coarse, densely armed spathes.
2. Pistillate flowers with the staminodes united in a ring and forming a conspicuous orenate cupule within the corolla in fruit; fruit relatively large, mostly obovoid in outline, exceeding 2 cm. in length and more or less gradually narrowed to a conic apex; calyx and corolla segments cupular and more or less regularly orenate in fruit. Subgenus Pyrenoglyphis
2. Pistillate flowers with inconspicuous free dentiform staminodes generally more readily seen on the fruiting corolla than in flower or rarely lacking (?): fruit mostly globose to turbinate in outline, often abruptly umbonate, less than 2 cm. high (except B. Gasipaes of subgenus Guilielma, a cultigen with large fleshy ovoid fruits): calyx and corolla segments cupular and entire or irregularly dentate or orenate in fruit.
3. Endocarp with numerous applanate, strap-shaped fibers radiating from the foramina: generally large, colonial trees with strongly spine-ringed trunks and numerous large leaves with narrow pinnae grouped along the rachis. Subgenus Guilielma
3. Endocarp without radiating fibers at foramina; medium or more rarely large trees with or without spine-ringed trunks, solitary (?) or colonial; leaves various. Subgenus Eubactris
4. Pinnae with entire or bifid, acute to acuminate apices. Section Acmophyllum
4. Pinnae with erose-dentate truncate apices. Section Aiphanoides
1. Flowers regularly disposed, the pistillate in triads with two staminate acolytes at base of rachillae and solitary or paired staminate flowers above on moderately branched to simple spadices: staminodes dentiform or absent: medium to small, moderately or weakly armed to unarmed palms with generally smaller spathes. Subgenus Amylocarpus
5. Fruit aculeate or setose, the size of a cherry or larger; small to moderate palms with branched spadices and generally armed, exerted spathes. Section Piranga
5. Fruit glabrous or setose, about the size of a pea; arundinaceous, unarmed or weakly armed palms with simple or few-branched spadices and small, usually unarmed, often included spathes.
6. Calyx cupuliform, about equalling the similar, glabrous corolla; fruit glabrous. Section Isochlamys
6. Calyx low, 3-lobed, corolla cylindric, pilose, exceeding the calyx; fruit generally setose. Section Brachycalyx

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
GOLFITO DIVISION

Palmar
April 5, 1952

Dr. P. van Royen
Botanisch Museum en Herbarium
Rijksuniversiteit
Utrecht

Dear Dr. van Royen:

I am very much ashamed of myself for delaying this long in answering your last good letter received nearly a year ago. I can only plead that my office has been a shambles for more than six months during extensive termite repairs, and I have been on two very extended trips to Honduras and Nicaragua for exploration work. I hope you will find it in your heart to forgive the seeming discourtesy. I have received your fine first fascicle on the Podostemonaceae, and find it excellent. Many thanks. When the rest of the work is complete I would be very glad to have a copy.

I leave tomorrow for the United States, where I expect to be for at least two months, working over collections. I will be in Cambridge at the Ames Orchid Herbarium in about a month, and would be very glad if I can be of any help to you on doubtful orchids. They have excellent working facilities there, far better than anything I can have here of course. Any specimens should be sent to me c/o Mr. Charles Schweinfurth, Ames Orchid Herbarium, Botanical Museum of Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Mass.

Most sincere regards,

Paul H. Allen

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
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L. H. BAILEY, Director
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Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.
15 January 1952

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA, Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

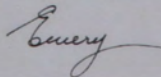
Dear Paul:

Many thanks for your fine letter. I was very glad to have your impressions regarding the palms of the areas which I will be travelling. I am very much afraid that this trip is not going to be as profitable as I would like because so much territory has to be covered in such a short period of time. However, I plan to do my best and will certainly keep your suggestions in mind. Most of my time in Cuba will be spent working with the cultivated palms in the garden at Soledad but I do hope to have at least a passing glance at the palms of Cuba as they grow native. In British Honduras my time may be even more limited for I am making the trip especially to see what I can of the *Orbignya*. Mr. Mark Trafton sent me a very fine series of *Orbignya* from Tela. The major difficulty seems to be that the fruits are apparently always one-seeded while those described by Martius are two- and three-seeded. While I realize that this is truly nothing to fret about I do want to see them growing somewhere else and make a sampling of fruits if possible or at least arrange for their collection at some later time. The Conservator of Forests in British Honduras will presumably be of some assistance. If you ever do have an opportunity to observe the fruits of *Orbignya Cohune* and note the percentage of one-, two- and three-seeded fruits, it might be of considerable interest and I know it would help me in arriving at a decision. While in Mexico I am extremely anxious to visit the extensive stands of *Orbignya* in western Mexico, particularly in Nayarit and Jalisco. What this palm is I do not know. Fruits sent by Rogers McVaugh are rather smaller than those of the Central American species and I assume that it will prove to be different, although I am definitely not willing to ~~have it~~ ^{have it} a guess on the limited material available to me now.

~~have it~~
hazard
On my return I will try to drop you a line and give you an idea of what has been accomplished. In the meantime, I am of course, still hoping that a trip to Costa Rica will work out within the near future but as yet am not able to make any promises or plans. The one thing I do know is that it should be a trip devoted exclusively to Costa Rica and I quite agree that March to June would be a good time if it can be worked, both for the palms and for me for it takes out that late stretch of winter and early spring. ~~is~~
unpleasant here in Ithaca

Hope that your trips to Honduras and Nicaragua are pleasant and profitable. My very best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emery".

H. E. Moore, Jr.

lm

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
GOLFITO DIVISION

Palmar
January 7, 1952

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

The most recent fascicle of the Gentes Herbarum series has thus far not been received, although I have been on the lookout for it ever since hearing through Alex Hawkes that it was out. Our mails are always slow at Christmas time, and I suppose it will get here one of these days.

You should have an interesting and very profitable time of it on your projected trip. Cuba has marvellous palms, some of them in great, majestic groves. If you have the time, you might look into the Rovstonea problem while there. It is my impression that a pretty good job has been done in charting the limits of variation in the genus, but I am far from convinced that many of the variants are good species. In particular, look at the stands along the highway between Havana and Cienfuegos. Some of them are very hodge-podge, at least as seen from a passing car, and might be worth investigating. You know more about palm possibilities in Mexico than I do, and I can only say that I have never seen any Palms in the highlands of Guatemala, which is the only part of the country I know. My guess would be that Salvador is by now pretty poor picking, with about 95% of the native vegetation stripped off excepting for a little near the Honduran border. Look for Rovstonea in British Honduras. I'll bet you a penny you'll find it.

I have been hard at work on a descriptive list of our local trees, including the arborescent palms, for about the last six weeks, the project being primarily a utilization manual. My principal efforts have necessarily gone into collections of trees, up to this point, but I am appalled at the number of palms about which I actually know nothing. As you know, a big thing like our Scheelea ? Attalea ? rostrata takes a half day to collect, for yourself and a boy. I hope now that I have a preliminary report on the trees out, that I can find time to clear up some of these perplexing problems.

We would certainly be glad to have you spend as much time as possible here, either this year or next. I plan to be in Honduras and Nicaragua next month, but will probably be here most of the rest of the dry season. It is a bit difficult to say what would be your best time to come. As far as weather, and general collecting and travel conditions the dry season is best, but many species unfortunately aren't in the best condition to collect at that time. If your stay is limited, you can get flowers or fruits, but not both. I think more species flower in the rainy season, by and large, and many fruit then too. All in all, your best bet would probably be to come in early March, and stay through June, if that were possible.

Did you ever get adequate material of the Honduran Orbigyas ? If not

let me know what you need, and I'll try to do something about it while there.

Most sincere regards, and the best of luck on your trip.

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE } *Taxonomists*
H. E. MOORE, JR. }
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

3 January 1952

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

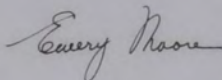
Dear Paul:

By now you have probably received the last fascicle of *Gentes Herbarum* with the description of the new *Bactris*. I hope that some day that we may have the pleasure of seeing more material from Costa Rica with your name on the label for it is certainly a pleasure to work with material collected by you.

If current plans go through I shall be spending most of the spring in the south, primarily in Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador and British Honduras, with a month divided between Florida and Cuba. I only wish that it were possible to get into Costa Rica but doubt that that will be possible. However, I have definitely planned to visit Costa Rica for a later field trip as funds and time become available, for it is an area that will require as much time as I can possibly devote to it. If all goes well it may be that I can work such a trip in the academic year of 1952-53 but of course, that remains to be seen. However, if you have any suggestions regarding the best time to do palm collecting in the country perhaps you will let me know so that I would have some guide in planning.

Your very lovely Christmas card arrived and I shall certainly not discard it for the drawing is a very handsome one. I wish you and your wife the very best for 1952 and hope that your work is progressing well.

Sincerely yours,



H. E. Moore, Jr.

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
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Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

11 September 1951

Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

The mature fruits of the *Bactris* ^{flora} tinoco arrived in excellent condition and I am most grateful to you for all of your trouble. I think they will serve the purpose very nicely.

Your trip to the Canal Zone sounds splendid and you must have been really busy to fill a freight car. I hope some time to visit Summit and perhaps then will see some of the bamboos of which you write. Those growing in Florida astonish me so that the Panamanian ones must be most impressive.

The best of luck to you in Honduras and Nicaragua. By the time you get this you will probably have done your bit with the Roystoneas. I must confess that the genus more than perplexes me, especially after having seen the things they cultivate in the Bahamas. Perhaps eventually through works such as yours the genus will be more readily understood.

Very best regards,

Emery

H. E. Moore, Jr.

lm

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

September 4, 1951

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

Enclosed you will find a few mature fruits of our entire-leaved Bactis from Tinoco. If you need more please let me know. These were picked up in a hurry the other day, but I think they will still be in good fruit for a month or more longer.

I have just returned from the Canal Zone and adjacent Panamanian territory, where I spent a very pleasant two weeks collecting Dioscoreas, seeing old friends and places, and, as usual, making quite a haul for our plant collection at Esquinas. The lot filled a freight car, on my return here, over eighty species being represented, all new to our collection. I am particularly glad to get sixteen new species of Asiatic bamboos, including such fine things as Gigantochloa reticulata, Gigantochloa aspera, and Dendrocalamus giganteus. I planted these myself at Summit in 1939 from material received from the U.S.D.A., David Fairchild and others, none at the time exceeding about pencil diameter and four or five feet in height. It was something of an experience to go back and see some of them with canes a foot in diameter, towering a hundred feet in the air. It certainly gives one an entirely new concept of the potentialities of the Grasses. Also how an ant must feel in a wheat field.

Within less than a week I leave for Honduras and Nicaragua. I hope to get to collect and photograph more wild Rovstoneas there. As you know, it is a fascinating, though perplexing genus. But what palms are not? Regards.

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE } *Taxonomists*
H. E. MOORE, JR. }
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

6 August 1951

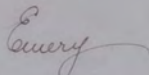
Mr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

Many thanks for the snaps of the *Raphia*. It certainly is a most interesting problem that you have unearthed. At the moment I am trying to get a few things ready for the next Gentes Herbarum so am putting them in a *Raphia* folder for future study to see if I can do anything with them and the material that is now in the herbarium. I know exactly how the little cargoes of urgent nothings descend on one and more than appreciate the time you do spend on palms. I have found in preliminary work on *Chamaedorea* that when given staminate and distillate material and fruit the genus makes considerable sense but the placing of poorly known species in a jigsaw puzzle is what really curls the hair. It is for that reason that any collections you may make will undoubtedly be especially valuable since you know what is required and are on the spot where you can observe them over periods of time. The same is true of *Geonoma* and its allies.

The very best of luck to you as you travel about in the next couple of months. Don't worry about the *Tinoco Bactris* as the endocarp is sufficiently formed in our fruits to be satisfactory for description and illustration and I feel reasonably sure that no fibers are developed at the pores even at maturity.

Most sincerely,



H. E. Moore, Jr.

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

July 31, 1951

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

It is pouring ducks this morning, with a leaden grey overcast that cuts midway across the forested range beyond the Rio Terraba. Hence no more annual inventory of our plant collection today, but a chance to answer your good letter, which is much the more pleasant task of the two.

I expect to be in Panama much of the month of August, and most of September in Honduras and Nicaragua, so further collections of the Tinoco Bactris will depend on such time as I can sandwich in. You are more than welcome to use the photos. I only wish they were better. The lens of my Speed Graphic has more than the normal quota of fungus, even for this climate, and my pictures are beginning to show it.

Enclosed are a few snaps of about equal quality of the recently collected Raphia which forms vast unbroken swamps near Sierpe lagoon, in a direct line back of the low hills at the head of Golfo Dulce. I had frankly expected it to be R. nicaraguensis, but the leaf margins are spiny, and I can't see any difference between these and R. taedigera from the Rajinga swamp in Panama. Just how some 30,000 odd acres of 'em managed to get their little selves isolated on the Pacific coast poses something of a problem, but here they are. The inflorescence certainly is a curious thing. The entire central rachis is, as you know, enveloped in cone-like papery bracts, which are fused to each other on the inner surface along a single narrow line, the lines having so far as I could determine a spiral arrangement, so that the individual miniature spathes and distichous hands of flowers or fruits do not unduly interfere with each other. I am always enchanted with the fruits, and have a few on my desk that have turned a beautiful glossy orange color, the individual scales being outlined in a dark, rich green. They are much handsomer than the cones of any pine, and among the most striking fruits to be found in nature.

We have several local Chamaedoreas, and I will try to get specimens for you. I think you are very brave to tackle such a genus. I would like to do more Palm collecting, but it seems like each week brings its little cargo of urgent nothings that take all my time. Maybe I can collect a few in Honduras, or Nicaragua.

Most sincere regards,

Dr. H. E. Moore, Jr.
Bailey Hortorium, Sage Bldg.
Ithaca, New York, U. S. A.



AIR LETTER

**VIA AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**

Dr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA, Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

FIRST FOLD



SECOND FOLD

1951 MAY 19

Dr. H. E. Moore, Jr.
Bailey Hortorium
Ithaca, New York, U. S. A.

Dr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA, Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur
Costa Rica

Bailey Hortorium
N. Y. State College of Agriculture
Cornell University
Sage Place
Ithaca, New York, U. S. A.

27 July 1951

Dr. Paul Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA. Bananera de Costa Rica
Palmar Sur, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

The folder of *Bactris* arrived in excellent condition and I am most grateful for all your efforts. The photos are a great help and with your permission we may want to reproduce one or more of them. If it is convenient to get mature fruit in August it would be useful as the pores are not completely filled and the endosperm well developed. However, we can make out with what we have. I hesitate to trouble you more than necessary.

It was of interest to learn that *Paurotis Wrightii* grows on coastal swamps of Honduras for I have no record of it there to straighten these things out in a paper this fall. The "*Cookii*" is definitely an *Erythea* but the species is a bit as there are two things I can't pin down. I doubt that it is distinct from the Guatemalan thing however.

Regarding the *Raphia*, could this be *R. nicaraguensis* described from the delta of the Rio San Juan? No one really knows what it is and the name has been batted about for some time. The photo of the type shows only a leaf portion and certainly I can't know much more about it. I can certainly understand your interest and wish I could see the things too.

Have been having fun with *Chamaedorea* trying to get some of the vated things straightened out and feel I'm beginning to understand the genus a bit. Costa Rica certainly is rich in species and many are known from one sex only. The staminate inflorescence is darned important in these things that I tear my hair at the time you want to put one in press I'll guarantee to do my best to work it out. For that matter anything else from your area.

Again, many, many thanks for all the trouble you have taken. It makes a great difference at this end and it is always a pleasure to work with one of your specimens.

Best regards,

Every

H. E. Moore, Jr.
Associate Professor
of Botany

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
C.A. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

July 19, 1951

Dr. H. E. Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Emery:

Your good letter, with the request for seeds of the amazing Bactris from Tinoco has been on my desk and conscience for some time, and my only excuse for not having made an earlier reply is that I spent nearly a month in Honduras soon after its receipt, and most of another month in San Jose between the dentist and hospital. All of the foregoing may explain my lack of manners, but nothing excepting time could bring the Bactris fruits to maturity. Even now nearly all of them are only about half formed, and it took me nearly a half day of looking to get one nearly mature cluster. I enclose this, together with photos of the plant and the fruits before they were dried. I have a vague recollection of having seen mature fruits about three years ago, and that they were red, but the present lot were mostly dark green, with a few showing some yellow coloring. The collecting notes are on the packet, but I doubt if you, or anyone else can read them. They are as follows:

Forest between Rio Esquinas and Palmar - Vicinity Tinoco Station.
Sea level. July 13, 1951

6264 - Bactris - Stoloniferous palm, with 5-8 canes averaging 12-15 ft. in height. Leaves entire, with bifid apices. Fruits apparently red when mature, mostly dark green, with a few turning yellow at this season. See photos of plant and fruits.

I should judge that the bulk of the fruits will be fully ripe by about August 15. If you would like to have more at that time, or more photos, or fronds, let me know & I will do the best I can. I can't promise spathes until they flower again in about April of next year, since those from the present season are already very badly decayed.

Lou Williams has been calling the fan palm collected on the road near El Zamorano Paurotis (Accelerorraphe) Cookii. The only Paurotis I know personally is P. Wrightii, which looks very, very different from the thing in the highland pine forests, which might well be an Erythea, so far as I know. I should doubt if both of the above are in the same genus. Just in passing, I found Paurotis Wrightii while in Honduras in the coastal swamps near Puerto Arturo, together with a very interesting Rovstona. I have decided the latter is new, but you'll hear more from me about that later. Just now I'm in a dither over vast unbroken local swamps filled with a giant Raphia. Who ever heard of Raphia on the Pacific side of Central America? I would be prepared to swear that this is the only place they occur, at least from the Colombian Chooco to southern Mexico, since I've seen nearly all of that coast either on the ground or from the air. Raphia swamps have a very distinctive look, even from the air, and I hope I wouldn't have missed them.

Most sincere regards,

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE | *Taxonomists*
H. E. MOORE, JR. |
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION RUFF SHEEHAN, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

4 May 1951

Mr. Paul H. Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
C.A. Bananera de Costa Rica
Golfito, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

Al Smith has forwarded a duplicate specimen of your *Bactris* with the 10-foot long entire leaves and as nearly as I can tell it is quite new and an extremely interesting thing. I still have one or two descriptions to check but I am reasonably sure that it will not turn up in the literature. You note that the fruits are red but I find none with the specimen nor do there appear to be any in Washington. If by any chance you have an opportunity to obtain fruit of this thing it would be a great help in determining its systematic position and, as a matter of fact, viable seed would undoubtedly be welcomed by such people as Harry Dunaway at the Fairchild Tropical Garden or Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Langlois at The Retreat in Nassau, The Bahamas. It should prove a very handsome thing for tropical horticulture.

I hope that you are still able to continue some of your work with the palms and we will always be glad to do our best with determination. At the moment I am trying to puzzle out a fan palm that you collected near the Escuela Panamericana in Honduras. It is undoubtedly an *Erythea* as I understand the genus now and I hope sometime soon to have it worked out and let you know about it.

Best regards,

Emery Moore

H. E. Moore, Jr.

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE }
H. E. MOORE, JR. } *Taxonomists*
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

13 April 1950

Mr. Paul H. Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
CIA, Bananera de Costa Rica
Golfito, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

The two letters containing the fine kodachromes arrived within a day of each other and it is very helpful to have them. The behavior of the Bacteris is most interesting and your photographs give me a much better idea of them than could be obtained even from your always exceptionally well-prepared specimens. The photographs of number 3531 I will put with the specimens until Dr. Bailey either studies them himself or gives me a "go ahead" signal. The second photograph of this number indicates a truly handsome thing. I do not recall your saying that you wish these returned but if you do I will have duplicates made from your originals and return the latter.

It was good to know that you had such a successful trip and I only regret that you could not stop by and visit us here. Sometime I should like to continue that stimulating talk we had in New York for it is the experiences of persons like yourself who can help those of us who must work many times from specimens without the benefit of actual field knowledge.

I hope that you may have both time and opportunity to continue your palm collections and can assure you that anything sent here will receive prompt attention. I am leaving the 29th of April for four months in Europe and hope to see the types of many American palms so that I should be better equipped when I return in September.

If you should be interested in continuing your collection of other groups I think that we would be glad to work out an arrangement for sets either through exchange of books and/or periodicals or on a per specimen basis to the extent that our limited budget would allow. This would be especially true of such groups as the orchids that find their way into cultivation for we have very little material from Costa Rica and we are trying to build both a herbarium and conservatory collection of the more important orchid species.

Dr. Bailey has been home for some weeks now and continues to improve slowly although it will be a long time yet before his strength returns. I know that he will be interested in the fine kodachromes and the next time I see him I will take them in.

I look forward to hearing from you again and hope that everything is working out well. Please feel free to call on us if there is any way in which we can be of assistance to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Emery Moore

H. E. Moore, Jr.

lm

This is a copy of the letter that must, indeed, have amazed or amused the customs collector.

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE
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ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

17 March 1950

Mr. Paul H. Allen
Esquinas Experiment Station
C.I.A. Bananera de Costa Rica
Golfito, Costa Rica

Dear Paul:

The two letters containing the fine kodachromes arrived within a day of each other and it is very helpful to have them. The behavior of the *Bactaris* is most interesting and your photographs give me a much better idea of them than could be obtained even from your always exceptionally well-prepared specimens. The photographs of number 3531 I will put with the specimens until Dr. Bailey either studies them himself or gives me a "go ahead" signal. The second photograph of this number indicates a truly handsome thing. I do not recall your saying that you wish these returned but if you do I will have duplicates made from your originals and return the latter.

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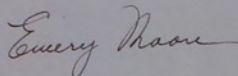
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Dr. Bailey has been home for some weeks now and continues to improve slowly although it will be a long time yet before his strength returns. I know that he will be interested in the fine kodachromes and the next time I see him I will take them in.

I look forward to hearing from you again and hope that everything is working out well. Please feel free to call on us if there is any way in which we can be of assistance to you.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emery Moore". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

H. E. Moore, Jr.

lm

CIA. BANANERA DE COSTA RICA

Palmar
March 14, 1950

Dear Dr. Moore:

This is me again. Enclosed you will find another, better Kodachrome of my No. 3531. This is the actual plant from which your specimens were taken. I think you will agree that it is a handsome thing, whatever it may prove to be.

Most sincere regards,

Paul H. Allen

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
GOLFITO DIVISION

March 11, 1950

Dr. Emery Moore
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

Dear Dr. Moore:

Many, many thanks for the list of Palm determinations received shortly after our brief, but stimulating visit in New York. My junket to the States, Cuba and Honduras could scarcely have been more pleasant or profitable. I managed to collect seeds, plants or cuttings of about a hundred species along the way, all new to our collection here, as well as flowering and fruiting records on Central American timber trees, and hundreds of black and white and Kodachrome pictures.

Enclosed you will find a few colored slides of Palm species we discussed when I last saw you. As you will note, No. 3357 and 3358 are very similar in general aspect, excepting for the leaves. Both however were to be found commonly in the same area, and both always had the aspect of mature plants. The Euterpe or Coccothrinax (No. 3531) is the dominant Palm species in the highlands of Chiriqui and Bocas del Toro Provinces in Panama, from about five thousand to nearly nine thousand feet elevation. In the lower part of its range, or in dry, or otherwise difficult situations it has a single trunk, but in wet, shaded valleys it becomes strongly stoloniferous, with 6-10 stems. Although it is so exceedingly common that it is difficult to understand why someone hasn't collected it before, it is entirely confined to areas which until recent time were completely inaccessible. I have never seen it anywhere else, even in similar situations in adjacent Costa Rica.

(2)

According to my records, I made liquid specimens of the flowers and fruits, as well as dried specimens of these, together with the fronds, crownshaft, & spathe & inflorescence. I wonder if you ever received a complete set? There was also supposed to be a much better Kodachrome than the one now enclosed.

How is Dr. Bailey getting along? I sincerely hope that this finds him well on the road to recovery.

Regards, as ever,

BAILEY HORTORIUM
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

L. H. BAILEY, *Director*
G. H. M. LAWRENCE } *Taxonomists*
H. E. MOORE, JR. }
ETHEL ZOE BAILEY, *Curator*
MARION E. RUFF, *Illustrator*

Address:
BAILEY HORTORIUM
SAGE PLACE, ITHACA, N. Y.

31 December 1949

Mr. Paul H. Allen
Botanical Museum
Oxford St.
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Paul,

Enclosed you will find a list of determinations for those palms collected by you in Panama and Colombia and sent here by Woodson.

It was a real pleasure to see you again at the meetings and I was much encouraged by your comments and by the thought that you are willing to continue collecting palms. There are many problems connected with the Costa Rica area and material from there will be most valuable.

I am keeping in mind your remark concerning transportation via United Fruit and when the opportunity presents itself will write you for further information. It now seems unlikely that I will be able to plan for trips before 1953 at the earliest as the revision of Hortus Second will continue to take most of my time.

We all hope that you will be able to stop here on your way to St. Louis.

Best regards,

Emery Moore

H. E. Moore, Jr.