



Daemonorops komsaryi (Arecaceae)—a new rattan from the Bird's Head Peninsula, Indonesian New Guinea

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Abstract

Daemonorops komsaryi (Arecaceae), a new species of rattan from the Bird's Head Peninsula in West Papua, Indonesia, is described and illustrated. This species closely resembles *D. calapparia*, but is distinguished by having more than 60 leaflets on each side of the leaf rachis, and in having slender, rigid, long blackish-brown spines and long petioles.

Keywords: Palms, Papuasias, taxonomy, rattans

Introduction

Since 1995 several herbarium collections of the genus *Daemonorops* have been made in the western part of the Bird's Head Peninsula and neighbouring islands in New Guinea. The rattan is usually very robust and its sheaths are covered by very long brownish-black spines. This rattan is only found in Raja Ampat Islands and around Sorong on the mainland. In these areas, the rattan has been used traditionally and commercially. Nine herbarium specimens collected in different localities near Sorong and the Raja Ampat Islands were compared with 57 other specimens of *Daemonorops* from Sulawesi, Maluku, and Nusatenggara, housed at Kew (K), Herbarium Bororiense (BO) and Herbarium Manokwari (MAN), leading us to conclude that the New Guinea material represents an undescribed species. The research is part of taxonomic work for the Palms of New Guinea project (Baker 2002) and is a further addition to the growing list of new rattans discovered recently on the island (e.g. Baker & Dransfield 2014, Maturbongs *et al.* 2014).

Taxonomic treatment

Daemonorops komsaryi Maturb., J. Dransf. & Mogeia, *sp. nov.* Type:—INDONESIA. West Papua: Waifo Village, Waigeo Island, 26 May 1997, Maturbongs 513 (holotype K!, isotype MAN!, BO!)

Diagnosis:—Similar to *D. calapparia*, but distinguished by having more than 60 leaflets on each side of the rachis, by having a much longer petiole and in the leaf sheath armature composed of slender, rigid, long blackish-brown caducous spines.

Moderately robust to very robust clustering rattan climbing to 25 m high. **Stem** with sheaths 40–80 mm diam., without sheaths to 23–30 mm diam.; internodes 16–25 cm long. **Leaf** cirrate 3.8–5.6 m long including petiole and cirrus; sheath yellowish brown, bearing cream to chocolate-coloured indumentum, densely armed with rather irregular partial whorls of long needle-like brown to black spines, the longest to 50 mm long, usually much less, spirally oblique but sometimes not so, caducous and leaving irregular bases giving old sheaths a rough appearance, sparse short black spinules also present; knee well developed, 90–60 × 47–44 mm, armed, with conspicuous ridge and sometimes spinules at the base; ocrea very short or inconspicuous; petiole 20–55 cm long, 25–35 mm wide and 12–20 mm thick at the base, abaxially convex rather flat toward the tip, adaxially concave to the middle, bearing cream or dark brown indumentum, smooth to very densely armed on adaxial surface and both edges, with groups of downward pointing

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