# A systematic histological study of palm fruits. VIII. Subtribe Dypsidinae (Arecaceae)

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Abstract. Analysis of the pericarp structure in the four genera of the palm subtribe Dypsidinae reveals tissues similar to those in other taxa within the pseudomonomerous Indo-Pacific arecoid palms, but generally in unspecialized configurations consistent with their presumed basal position within this group. Unique tissues within some members of genus *Dypsis* include thin-walled, tannin-filled fibers around the vascular bundles. Large-fruited members of the presumably related genera *Lemurophoenix*, *Masoala*, and *Marojejya* show more distinctive arrangements of protective tissues and are quite different from one another. Only *Marojejya* appears to be closely related to *Dypsis. Lemurophoenix* and *Masoala*, by possession of both unsheathed vascular bundles and bundles with heavy fibrous sheaths, show possible affinities with genera well-removed from *Dypsis*.

Key Words: Dypsidinae, palms, Arecaceae, fruits, pericarp, histology.

22The subtribe Dypsidinae (tribe Areceae, 23subfamily Arecoideae) has been in considerable flux in recent years. In Genera Palmarum 24(Uhl & Dransfield, 1987), it was considered 2526to consist of 6 genera (Dypsis, Neodypsis, Chrysallidocarpus, Neophloga, Vonitra, and 2728Phloga), which recently have been considered 29a single genus, Dypsis (Dransfield & Beentje, 1995). Dypsis, as currently recognized, con-30 sists of approximately 140 diverse species 3132divided into 18 groups. Recently, the mono-33 typic genera Masoala and Lemurophoenix, 34plus Marojejva with 2 species, have been 35moved into the subtribe based on results of 36 phylogenetic studies (Dransfield et al., 2005). The subtribe is confined primarily to Mada-37 38 gascar but with outliers in eastern Africa and islands of the Indian Ocean. 39

The subtribe Areceae (sensu Dransfield et 40al., 2005) consists of palms from the Indo-4142Pacific region characterized by gynoecia that 43are tricarpellate but unilocular by abortion of 44 two locules (pseudomonomerous), and uniovulate. The Dypsidinae has been consid-45ered to represent an early branch of the 4647 Areceae, in part because of the occasional

occurrence of trilocular (but functionally 48 uniovulate) gynoecia in some species (Uhl & 49Dransfield, 1987). The sister group relation-50ship of Dypsidinae to the remaining pseudo-51monomerous palms is supported by Hahn 52(2002a, b), but not clearly by Asmussen and 53Chase (2001), Lewis and Doyle (2002), Loo et 54al. (2006), or Norup et al. (2006). In these 55studies, however, the major subdivisions of 56this tribe are still highly unresolved, and so the 57potential sister group relationship of the 58Dypsidinae is not precluded. These analyses 59are also not consistent with respect to the 60 monophyly of either *Dypsis* or Dypsidinae. 61

The analysis of Lewis and Doyle (2002) 62 suggests that Masoala, Marojejya, and 63 Lemurophoenix are nested within a para-64 phyletic *Dypsis*. In the analysis of Asmussen 65 and Chase (2001), Marojejya and Lemuro-66 phoenix fall out close to Dypsis lutescens, but 67 Masoala appears to be closely related to 68 Roscheria, the Arecinae, and other advanced 69 members of the tribe Areceae. In Loo et al. 70(2006), members of the Dypsidinae fall into 71different branches of a polytomy, with 72Masoala in a clade with Bentinckia and 73

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74Oncosperma, & with Lemurophoenix & Dypsis heterophylla in a terminal polytomy with 75Cyrtostachys. Marojejva is unresolved within 76 the bigger polytomy. Clearly the phylogenetic 77relationships of this group are not fully 78resolved. 79

The present study is the eighth in a series 80 focusing on the comparative histology of the 81 pericarp in the arecoid palms (Essig, 1977, 82 1999, 2002; Essig & Young, 1979; Essig & 83 Hernandez, 2002; Essig & Litten, 2004; Essig 84 et al., 1999, 2001). This installment com-85 pletes the analysis of the tribe Areceae. 86

#### Materials and methods

88 The study employed standard histological techniques following the preceding papers in 89 this series. Preserved fruits representing 42 90 species in 13 of the 18 groups of Dypsis, plus 91 several unnamed specimens, and one each of 92Lemurophoenix, Masoala, and Marojejya 93were obtained from herbaria (primarily Kew 94(K) in this instance) and prepared for sec-95tioning by dehydrating in an ethanol/TBA 96 sequence, embedding in paraplast and sec-97 tioning on a rotary microtome. Slides were 98stained with safranin and fast green. Quality 99 of the slides varied with the quality of 100preservation, and some were fragmentary. 101 102Representative taxa were illustrated by semi-103diagrammatic line drawings, and traced from digital photographs, which show the distribu-104tion, size, and shape of various tissues, but 105not cellular detail. A few representative 106photographs of the unique features of this 107 108 group are included.

#### Results

Introductory information for each group, as 110 well as distribution information, overall fruit 111 measurements, notes on fruit color, and 112nature of the endosperm were largely taken 113from Dransfield and Beentje (1995). 114

115Lemurophoenix

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Monotypic genus from northeastern 116 117 Madagascar.

119Lemurophoenix halleuxii J. Dransf. (Dransfield 55691, K), northeastern Madagascar. Fruit 40 120121mm in diameter, pericarp 8-10 m thick;

endosperm homogeneous to slightly ruminate. 122Outer surface irregular with obscure dark laver 123beneath, beneath that separated patches of 124brachysclereids; middle pericarp of scattered 125brachysclereids, short strands of tannin cells, 126occasional roundish vascular bundles with 127moderate fibrous sheath, many small naked 128vascular bundles in inner half; tannins and 129other distinctive tissues lacking in the inner-130most pericarp; locular epidermis thick, of 131 narrow macrosclereids. (Fig. 1A) 132

#### Marojejya

Madagascar.

A genus of 2 species form northeastern 134135

- Marojejya darianii J. Dransf. & N. Uhl 137(Dransfield 6452, K); northeastern Mada-138
  - gascar. Fruit 20 mm in diameter, pericarp 139

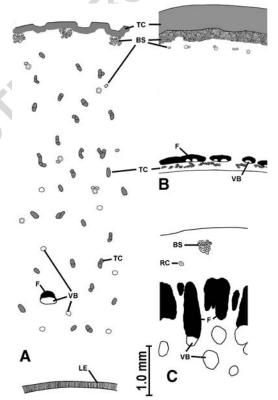


FIG. 1. A. Lemurophoenix halleuxi (from Dransfield 55691, K), B. Marojejya darianii (from Dransfield 6452, K), C. Masoala madagascariensis (from Dransfield 6770, K). LE Locular epidermis of macrosclereids, VB vascular bundle, F fibers, TC tannin-filled parenchyma cells, RC raphide cells, BS brachysclereids.

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140 3 mm thick; endosperm homogeneous, 141 but testa crenulate. Outer pericarp with thick band of continuous tannin/pigment 142filled cells, followed by thick mantle of 143brachysclereids, and a few larger, more 144 isolated brachysclereids close by; middle 145pericarp lacking distinctive tissues; dis-146 tinct endocarp of flattened fibrous vascu-147 lar bundles; fibrous sheaths thick; a few 148tannin cells to the interior; locular epider-149 mis lacking. (Fig. 1B) 150

151 Masoala

152 A monotypic genus from northeastern 153 Madagascar.

Masoala madagascariensis Jum. (Dransfield 1556770, K [immature]); northeastern Mada-156gascar. Fruit dimensions and color un-157known. Outer pericarp with scattered 158large patches of brachysclereids and occa-159sional small raphide cells; mid-region 160dominated by a layer of strongly radially 161 162 distended fibrous vascular bundles and 163similarly-shaped purely fibrous; the imma-164ture interior with several series of vascular bundles without sheaths. 165(Fig. 1C)

166 Dypsis group 1

A large group of 23 species occurring in all 167 parts of Madagascar, including species described 168in both Chrvsalidocarpus and Neodypsis; endo-169170 sperm homogeneous or ruminate. Seven specimens were examined, all with flattened, but 171172discrete fibrovascular bundles; most with the outer 25-50% of the pericarp heavily tanninif-173erous, and with scattered, sometimes bundle-174175like, patches of brachysclereids and enlarged raphide cells throughout the mesocarp. 176

Dypsis ampasindavae Beentje; Neopdypsis 178loucoubensis Jum. (Beentje & Andriampaniry 1794701, K); northwestern Madagascar. Fruit 180 10-13 mm long, 7.5 mm in diameter, 181 mature color unknown; pericarp 1.5-182 1.6 mm thick. Epidermis smooth, pig-183mented; outer half of pericarp heavily 184tanniniferous with some raphide cells; 185inner half of the pericarp without tannins 186 187 but with scattered raphide cells, these 188 largest in mid-pericarp, and abundant brachysclereids irregularly distributed in clusters of various sizes or solitary, some in 190 tight oblique clusters resembling short 191 fibrous bundles, but lacking stegmata; vascular bundles discrete, flattened, rimmed 193 with many stegmata. (Fig. 2A) 194

- Dypsis decaryi (Jum.) Beentje & J. Dransf.; 196 Neodypsis decaryi Jum. (Read 827bis BH; 197Beentje & Andriampaniry 4614, K); south-198ern Madagascar. Fruit 22.7 mm long, 199 19.5 mm in diameter, bluish-white at 200maturity; pericarp 1.9-2 mm thick. Epider-201mis of squarish cells with convex external 202walls; outer pericarp with a discontinuous 203band of large tanniniferous cells; brachy-204 sclereids in a continuous band, 2-4 cells 205thick about 1/3 of the way into the 206mesocarp from the surface; middle to inner 207pericarp of simple parenchyma tissue, with 208occasional scattered large raphide-bearing 209cells; vascular strands oval, on the inner side 210 of thick, broad, flattened fibrous sheaths, 211stegmata present; innermost pericarp with a 212thick band of small tanniniferous cells. 213
- Dypsis lastelliana (Baill.) Beentje & J. 215Dransf.; Neodypsis lastelliana Baill. (Moore 2169014, BH); northern Madagascar. Fruit 18-21724 mm long, 12–17 mm in diameter, mature 218color unknown, pericarp 2.3-2.4 mm thick. 219Epidermis flat, pigmented; outer half of 220pericarp of parenchyma and scattered small 221raphide-bearing cells; massive mantle of 222brachysclereids in mid-pericarp, inner peri-223carp with frequent large raphide-bearing 224 cells, vascular bundles with broad flattened. 225thick fibrous sheaths, fibers with thick walls; 226thick band of very thin tanniniferous cells 227adjacent to seed coat. 228

Additional specimens examined briefly and 229found to be generally similar to the above 230(except as noted): Dypsis manajarensis 231(Jum. & H. Perrier) Beentje & J. Dransf.; 232Chrysalidocarpus manajarensis Jum. & H. 233Perrier; Chrysalidocarpus fibrosus Jum. 234(Beentje & Andriampaniry 4796, K); Dypsis 235ovobontsira Beentje (Beentje et al. 4645, 236K—outer pericarp essentially free of tannin; 237**Dypsis prestonii** Beentje (*Beentje* 4672, K); 238Dypsis tsaravoasira Beentje (Baker et al. 2391017, K). 240

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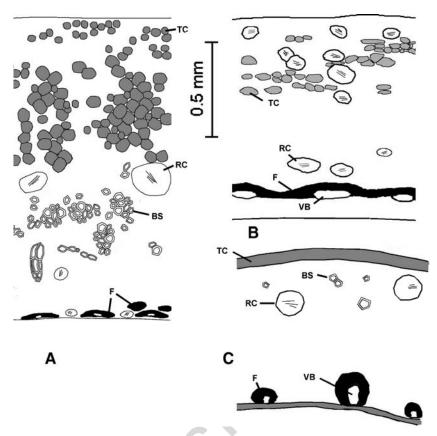


FIG. 2. A. Dypsis ampasindavae, group 1 (from Beentje & Andriampaniry 4701, K), B. Dypsis andrianatanga, group 3 (from Beentje et al. 4571, K), C. Dypsis confusa, group 9 (from Beentje et al. 4627, K). VB vascular bundle, F fibers, TC tannin-filled parenchyma cells, RC raphide cells, BS brachysclereids.

241 Dypsis group 2

This group consists of a single species
originally placed in the genus *Chrysalidocar- pus* and later in *Macrophloga*; seed with
ruminate endosperm.

247Dypsis decipiens (Becc.) Beentje & J. Dransf.; Chrysalidocarpus decipiens 248Becc., Macrophloga decipiens (Becc.) 249Becc. (Beentje & al. 4658, K); central 250Madagascar. Seed with homogeneous en-251dosperm. Fruit 20-25 mm long, 20-22 mm 252253in diameter, color at maturity unknown. The single specimen available for study 254was missing the entire outer pericarp. The 255endocarp consists of numerous discrete, 256overlapping, flattened fibrovascular bun-257258dles approximately 0.3-0.4 mm wide, with 259an underlying layer of tanniniferous cells.

#### Dypsis group 3

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A widespread group of 22 species occur-261ring throughout Madagascar, on the island of 262Pemba off the coast of Tanzania, and in the 263Comoros Islands, including species formerly 264placed in Chrysalidocarpus, Neodypsis and 265Phloga; considered closely related to group 1; 266endosperm homogeneous to ruminate. Seven 267species were examined; most with very 268broad, flat, more-or-less confluent fibrous 269bundle sheaths, but in this regard, Dypsis 270lanceolata is anomalous with distinct, broad-271ly ovate bundles. 272

Dypsis andrianatonga Beentje. (*Beentje et 274 al. 4571*, K); northern Madagascar. Fruit 275 9–20 mm long, 7–15 mm in diameter, 276 color at maturity unknown; pericarp ca. 277 1 mm thick. Epidermis flat, lightly pig-278

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279mented; outer pericarp with subepidermal layer of clear cells, scattered patches of 280tanniniferous cells, and scattered large 281raphide cells; middle pericarp with scat-282tered small clusters of brachysclereids; 283inner pericarp without tannins, with scat-284tered large raphide-bearing cells; vascular 285bundles with broad, flat, confluent fibrous 286287sheaths. (Fig. 2B)

289 Dypsis pembana (H. E. Moore) Beentje & J. Dransf.; Chrysalidocarpus pembanus H. E. 290Moore. (Moore 9030, BH; Williams 177/ 29129256-7, K); Tanzania: Pemban Island. Fruit 11.2 mm long, 5 mm in diameter, dark red 293294at maturity; pericarp 0.7–0.9 mm thick 295(specimens examined immature). Epidermis 296flat; outer pericarp with a thick subepidermal band of tanniniferous cells; middle pericarp 297with scattered tanniniferous cells, occasional 298brachysclereids and large raphide/raphide-299bearing cells; vascular bundles broadly ovate, 300 301 sometimes confluent; fibers with stegmata.

Additional specimens examined briefly and 303 found to be generally similar to the above, 304 305 (except as noted): D. lanceolata (Becc.) Beentje & J. Dransf. (Hull s.n., K)-fibrovas-306 cular bundles broadly ovate, rather than broad 307 and flat; Dypsis baronii (Becc.) Beentje & 308Dransf. (Beentje 4412, K); Dypsis onilahane-309 sis (Jum. & H. Perrier) Beentje & J. Dransf. 310 (Beentje & Andriampaniry 4586, K); Dypsis 311 312rivularis (Jum. & H. Perrier) Beentje (Du Puv 313et al. 176A, K); Dypsis serpentina Beentje (Dransfield et al. 7502, K). 314

315 Dypsis group 4

Six species of eastern Madagascar formerly
placed in the genus *Neophloga*, with red fruits
and ruminant endosperm. Two species were
examined, both with roundish vascular bundles.

321Dypsis macdonaldiana Beentje. (Beentje & 322Andriampaniry 4591, K); southeastern Madagascar. Fruit 7.4 long, 5.0 mm in 323324 diameter, red at maturity; pericarp ca. 0.75 mm thick. Epidermis of squarish cells 325 with convex outer walls; outer pericarp with 326 thick band of tanniniferous/pigmented tissue 327 328 immediately below epidermis; middle to 329outer pericarp of parenchyma with frequent large raphide-bearing cells, sclereids ex-330tremely rare; inner pericarp with 1–2 layers331of vascular bundles with roundish fibrous332sheaths; fibers thick-walled, without tannin333in lumen, with stegmata; innermost pericarp334densely tanniniferous, partially enveloping335the vascular bundles.336

Additional specimens examined briefly and337found to be generally similar to the above:338**Dypsis scottiana** (Becc.) Beentje & J. Dransf.339(Beentje & Andriampaniry 4608, K).340

Dypsis group 5	342
No specimens available.	343
Dypsis group 6	344
No specimens available.	345
<i>Dypsis</i> group 7	346
No specimens available.	347

DYPSIS GROUP 8 349

Seven species formerly placed in *Neophloga* 350 with yellow, orange or red fruits and homogeneous endosperm. Two species were examined, 352 both with flattened fibrous bundle sheaths. 353

Dypsis concinna Baker; Neophloga concinna 355(Baker) Becc. (Beentie et al. 4653, K); 356 central eastern Madagascar. Fruit length 357 unknown, 6.1 mm in diameter, fruit red at 358maturity; pericarp ca. 0.6 mm thick; epi-359dermis papillate, lightly pigmented; outer 360 pericarp with thick, discontinuous band of 361tanniniferous cells, with occasional large 362 raphide-bearing cells; mid-pericarp with 363 additional series of large raphide-bearing 364 cells, sclereids lacking; inner pericarp with 365a single layer of vascular bundles with 366 flattened fibrous sheaths, with small tanni-367 niferous cells on both sides, fibers thick-368 walled, without internal tannin. 369

Additional specimens examined briefly and370found to be generally similar to the above: **D.**371**heterophylla** Baker (*Beentje & Adriampaniry*3724408, K).373

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#### 374Dypsis group 9

A poorly defined group of three species; 375 endosperm homogeneous. 376

Dypsis confusa Beentje (Beentje et al. 4627, 378K); northeastern Madagascar. Fruit 8.4 mm 379 long, 4.2 mm in diameter, orange to red at 380maturity; pericarp ca. 0.65 mm thick. 381 Epidermis flat, pigmented; outer pericarp 382 383 with a continuous subepidermal zone of tanniniferous tissue, 5-6 cells thick; large 384raphide-bearing cells scattered through 385middle pericarp, sclereids lacking; vascular 386bundles in a single series in the inner 387 pericarp, with thick fibrous sheaths, round-388 ish in outline with unusual extensions 389radiating outward, fibers filled with tannin, 390 with stegmata on some of the outer fibers; 391392 innermost pericarp consisting of a thin band of tanniniferous cells. (Fig. 2C) 393

395 Additional specimens examined briefly and 396 found to be generally similar to the above: Dypsis hiarakae Beentje (Beentje et al. 397 398 4578, K).

- 399 Dypsis group 10
- No specimens available. 400
- 401 Dypsis group 11

A group of 17 species of small palms formerly 402 placed in Neophloga; endosperm homogeneous. 403

Dypsis catatiana (Baill.) Beentje & J. Dransf. 405(Beentje & Andriampaniry 4669, K); east-406 ern Madagascar. Fruit 10-15 mm long, 5-407 9.5 mm in diameter, deep, shiny red at 408 maturity; pericarp ca. 1 mm thick; epidermis 409flat, darkly pigmented; outer pericarp with 410 thick band densely tanniniferous tissue imme-411 412 diately below the epidermis; middle to inner pericarp of parenchyma, without sclereids; 413inner pericarp with a single series of vascular 414 bundles with roundish fibrous sheaths, fibers 415with thin walls and internal tannin, and a thin 416 inner band of tanniniferous cells. 417

Dypsis group 12 418

A group of 7 species of small undergrowth 419palms, including the type of the genus Dypsis 420

(Dypsis forficifolia Noronha ex Mart.); endo-421sperm homogeneous. 422

- Dypsis lantzeana Baill. (Beentje et al. 4619, 424 K); northeastern Madagascar. Fruit 10 mm 425long, 7 mm in diameter, cherry red to dark 426 purple at maturity; pericarp ca. 0.9 mm 427 thick. Outer pericarp with 2-3 layers of 428 tanniniferous cells, those immediately be-429low the epidermis distinctly smaller and 430rounder, with large, scattered brachyscler-431eids and occasional large raphide-bearing 432 cell; inner pericarp with a single series of 433 widely spaced vascular bundles with thick, 434terete fibrous sheaths, the fibers thin-walled 435with internal tannin, with a thin layer of 436 flattened tanniniferous cells between bun-437dles and seed coat. (Fig. 3A) 438
- DYPSIS GROUP 13

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A group of three species of moderate-sized 440 undergrowth palms, considered part of Dypsis 441 sensu strictu, but at one time segregated as 442 the genus Adelodypsis. Two specimens ex-443 amined both with a highly unusual form of 444 bundle-sheath, consisting of thin-walled 445fibers filled with tannin, and with radiating 446 fibrous extensions from the sheath. 447

**Dypsis pinnatifrons** Mart. Eastern Madagascar 449(Beentje & Andriampaniry 4800, K). Fruit 45014 mm long, 6.5 mm in diameter, green 451turning brownish at maturity; pericarp ca. 4522 mm thick. Epidermis flat, unpigmented; 453outer pericarp with a loose aggregation of 454tannniferous cells, 4-5 cells thick; mid-455pericarp with numerous scattered, large 456raphide-bearing cells; inner pericarp with a 457single series of vascular bundles with sheaths 458of very thin-walled fibers filled with tannin, 459and with radiating fibrous extensions, sheaths 460 confluent with a thick band of tanniniferous 461tissue, three to four cells thick. (Fig. 3B) 462

Additional specimens examined briefly and 464found to be generally similar to the above: 465Dypsis paludosa J. Dransf. (Dransfield JD 466 6771, KĴ. 467

A single species of moderate-sized under-469growth palm; endosperm weakly ruminate. 470

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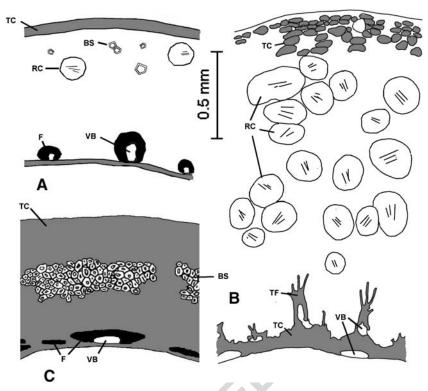


FIG. 3. A. Dypsis lantzeana, group 12 (from *Beentje et al. 4619*, K), B. Dypsis pinnatifrons, group 13 (from *Beentje & Andriampaniry 4800*, K), C. *Dypsis crinita*, group 16 (from *Rafamantanait et al. 302*, K).

471Dypsis mirabilis J. Dransf. (Dransfield JD 472 6771, K); northeastern Madagascar. Fruits 12 mm long, 7 mm in diameter, green (?) 473at maturity; pericarp 0.8-0.9 mm thick. 474 Epidermis flat, unpigmented; outer peri-475carp of 2-3 layers of unpigmented paren-476 chyma immediately below the epidermis, 477 followed by a continuous band of tanninif-478 erous cells 2-4 layers thick; middle peri-479carp with scattered, large brachysclereids 480 and occasional large, raphide-bearing cells; 481 inner pericarp with a single series of 482 483 vascular bundles with thick, roundish fibrous sheaths, with thick-walled fibers 484 lacking internal tannin, and a thick band of 485flat tanniniferous cells, ca. eight cells thick, 486 to the interior. 487

488 DYPSIS GROUP 15

489 A group of 3 species of moderate under490 growth palms; endosperm homogeneous or
491 only slightly ruminate.

Dypsis fasciculata Jum. (Beentje et al. 4636, 492K); northeastern Madagascar. Fruit 49314 mm long, 7.5 mm in diameter, green 494(?) at maturity; pericarp 1.1-1.2 mm 495thick. Outer half of pericarp weakly 496tanniniferous, with scattered raphide-bear-497ing cells; inner pericarp with a single 498series of vascular bundles similar to those 499of D. pinnatifrons, with thin-walled, tan-500nin-filled fibers forming an irregular 501sheath with radiating extensions, and with 502a thin layer of tanniniferous cells to the 503interior. 504

#### DYPSIS GROUP 16 505

A group of 10 species of large to moderate 506 palms, mostly from northeastern Madagascar, 507 including the former genus *Vonitra*, and one 508 species classified in the genus *Antongilia*, 509 considered to be closely linked to groups 3 510 and 7 by Dransfield and Beentje (1995); 511 endosperm ruminate. 512

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513**Dypsis crinita** (Jum. & H. Perrier) Beentje & J. Dransf.; Vonitra crinita Jum. & H. 514515Perrier; (Rafamantanantsoa et al. 55, K); northern Madagascar. Fruit 20-24 mm 516long, 17-18 mm in diameter, purple-black 517518at maturity. Pericarp 0.7 mm thick; epi-519dermis flat, pigmented; outer pericarp densely tanniniferous/pigmented; middle 520pericarp a massive, occasionally interrup-521ted, mantle of brachysclereids; inner peri-522carp densely tanniniferous with scattered 523large raphide-bearing cells; vascular bun-524dles with broad, flat fibrous sheaths, the 525526fibers thick-walled, sometimes with small tannin-filled lumens; an additional thin 527zone of tanniniferous cells adjacent to the 528seed coat. (Fig. 3C) 529

Dypsis perrieri (Jum.) Beentje & J. Dransf.; 531Antongilia perrieri Jum. Northeastern 532533Madagascar (Dransfield et al. 6749, K) 534Fruit 15-21 mm long, 12-16 mm in 535diameter, dull greenish-brown at maturity; 536pericarp ca. 2.5 mm thick. Epidermis flat, unpigmented; outer half of the pericarp 537 with a thick band of unpigmented paren-538539chyma tissue, ca. 15 cells thick, followed by a massive mantle of tightly-packed 540brachysclereids, ca. 20 cells thick, raph-541542ide-bearing cells not evident; inner half of the pericarp with a thick region of unmod-543ified parenchyma and ca. 3 layers of 544vascular bundles with thick, broad, fibrous 545sheaths, the fibers thick-walled and with-546out interior tannin, tissue to the interior of 547548the vascular bundles tanniniferous, a few layers thick. 549

551Additional specimens examined briefly and 552found to be generally similar to the above: Dypsis dransfieldii Beentje (Dransfield et al. 5536468, K); Dypsis fibrosa (Wright) Beentje & 554J. Dransf. (Beentje 4498, K); Dypsis moorei 555Beentje (Moore 9918, BH); Dypsis pusilla 556557Beentje (Beentje et al. 4651, K).

558Dypsis group 17

559A single species previously segregated as 560the genus Phloga; endosperm ruminate.

562Dypsis nodifera Mart.; Phloga nodifera 563(Mart.) Salomon. (Henderson et al. 759, K);

eastern Madagascar. Fruit 8-10 mm long, 5-5648 mm in diameter, color when mature 565unknown, pericarp ca. 1 mm thick. Epider-566mis flat; outer pericarp with a subepidermal 567layer of tanniniferous tissue 1–3 cells thick; 568middle pericarp of parenchyma tissue with 569scattered raphide-bearing cells and large 570brachysclereids; inner pericarp with a 571single series of vascular bundles with 572moderate, terete fibrous sheaths, fibers 573filled with tannin: a thick band of flat 574tanniniferous cells to the interior. 575

Dypsis group 18

A group of 18 species of small under-577 growth palms, including a group once segre-578gated as the genus Trichodypsis; endosperm 579homogeneous. 580

Dypsis mocquerysiana (Becc.) Becc.; Tricho-582dypsis mocquerysiana Becc. (Dransfield 583et al. 6368, K); northeastern Madagascar. 584Fruit 13 mm long, 5.5 mm in diameter, 585bright red at maturity, pericarp ca. 0.6 mm 586thick. Epidermis flat; outer pericarp with a 587 continuous subepidermal layer of tanninif-588erous tissue ca. three cells thick; middle 589pericarp with scattered raphide-bearing 590cells, and no sclereids; inner pericarp with 591a single series of vascular bundles, but with 592alternating bundles somewhat displaced 593toward the center, with thick roundish 594fibrous sheaths, some of the outward-595displaced bundles apparently with no 596mature vascular tissue within; fibers thick-597 walled without internal tannin: cells to the 598interior weakly tanniniferous, thin. 599

#### Discussion

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In general, fruits in the Dypsidinae share 601 the same set of tissues seen in other members 602 of the Areceae, in similar varied patterns. 603 These include fibrous vascular bundles, bra-604 chysclereids, tanniniferous cells, and raphide-605 bearing cells. All except Lemurophoenix 606 (Fig. 1A), however, lack the sclerified, pali-607 sade-like locular epidermis characteristic of 608 so many of the Areceae. 609

There are some distinctive features, however, 610 and some support for the Dypsidinae as the 611 sister group to the remainder of the Areceae. 612

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613According to Rudall et al. (2003), the species of 614 Dypsis are variable with respect to the degree to which their ovaries are pseudomonomerous. 615 Some have trilocular ovaries with an ovule in 616 each locule, though no cases have been cited of 617 more than one fertile ovule. As the single 618 fertile ovule enlarges, the ovary bulges outward 619 from the axis, with the stigma remaining close 620 621 to the base on the opposite side, resulting in the 622 lateral to basal stigmatic residues characteristic of mature fruits in this group. The fruits of 623 triovulate genera, such as Orania, behave the 624 625 same way when only one locule is fertilized. Fruits with basal to lateral stigmatic residues 626 627 are found in genera amongst other subtribes of 628 the Areceae (Bentinckia, Iguanura, Basselinia, Deckenia, and all members of the Clinosper-629 matinae and Verschaffeltiinae), but the trend, 630 631 and most common condition is toward apical stigmatic residues resulting from more-or-less 632 equal growth of the fertilized and non-fertilized 633 634 sides of the ovary.

635 Another apparent archaic feature in the pericarp of the Dypsidinae is the presence of 636 only one system of vascular and fibrous 637 638 bundles. While there may be a mixture of naked and fibrous vascular strands, some-639 times with some intermixed purely fibrous 640 bundles, none in this group has a separate 641 series of fibrous bundles in the outer pericarp, 642 643 as is found in the Ptychospermatinae, Car-644 poxylinidae, Archontophoenicinae, Basselinidae, and others. Similar simple bundle 645 systems are found in other genera scattered 646 throughout the Areceae (e.g., Bentinckia, 647 Iguanura, Nephrosperma, Cyrtostachys, and 648 649 Linospadix).

In Dvpsis, fruits lack the thickened locular 650epidermis that is so common among the 651Areceae. In this character, the genus may or 652 may not also be archaic. Similar locular 653 epidermises have been seen in a number of 654 other groups, such as the Phytelephantoideae 655Ceroxyloideae, Geonomeae and Caryoteae 656 (Essig, 1999), though these have not been 657 carefully analyzed to see if they are homolo-658 gous. Also, some other Areceae lack a locular 659 epidermis (Cyrtostachydinae, and many other 660 individual genera). Lemurophoenix, if truly 661 part of the Dypsidinae, is an exception with a 662 well-developed locular epidermis. The fruits of 663 *Lemurophoenix* are guite large, with an excep-664 tionally thick pericarp of 8-10 mm. Larger 665 fruits in general are more amply endowed with 666 protective tissues. 667

Species, rather than groups, within Dypsis 668 can be distinguished by the relative amounts 669 of tanniniferous tissue, raphide-bearing cells, 670 and brachysclereids, while the shape of the 671 fibrous bundle sheaths may have more signif-672 icance (Table I). Most have fibrous vascular 673 bundles that are round or radially distended in 674 outline (Figs. 2A and 3A, B), but groups 1, 3, 675 8, 16 have markedly flattened bundles 676 (Figs. 2A, B and 3C). Two unusual special-677 izations are found in some of the groups of 678 Dypsis. One is a modification of the fibrous 679 bundle sheaths in which the fibers are thin-680 walled and filled with tannin (Figs. 2C, 3B, 681 and 4A). This is found in groups 9, 11, 12, 13, 682 15, 16, 17, and possibly others for which 683 inadequate material were available. Tannin-684 filled fibers likely represent a synapomorphy 685 defining a clade including these groups. I have 686

TABLE I			
CHARACTERS OF POTENTIALLY DIAGNOSTIC VALUE WITHIN THE DYPSIDINAL	Е		

t1.1	Character	Groups/Genera
t1.2	Fibrovascular bundles strongly flattened, often confluent	Dypsis groups 1, 3 (exc. D. lanceolata), 8, 16, Marojejya
t1.3	Fibers of bundle sheath tannin-filled	Dypsis groups 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17
t1.4	Bundle sheaths with radial extensions	Dypsis groups 9, 13, 15
t1.5	Bundle sheaths and fibrous bundles strongly radially distended	Masaola
t1.6	Vascular bundles widely dispersed in the pericarp, many without fibrous sheaths	Lemurophoenix
t1.7	Locular epidermis composed of macrosclereids Brachysclereids numerous in mid to outer pericarp	Lemurophoenix Dypsis groups 1, 3, 12, 14, 16, 17, Lemurophoenix,
t1.8	brachyscieletus numerous în find to outer pericarp	Marojejya, Masoala

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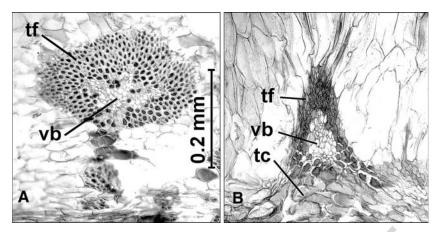


FIG. 4. Photomicrographs of the peculiar, tannin-filled fibers found around the vascular bundles in several species, note also the finger-like extensions in *D. pinnatifrons*; A. *D. catatiana* (from *Beentje & Andriampaniry* 4669, K), B. *D. pinnatifrons* (from *Beentje & Andriampaniry* 4800, K).

687 seen similar tannin-filled fibers elsewhere only in the peripheral cells of the fibrous bundles of 688 Alsmithia, but there is no other reason to 689690 suggest a connection with that genus. A second modification, found as a subset of this 691 group, consists of odd radial extensions of the 692 fibrous bundle sheaths (Figs. 2C, 3B and 4B). 693 This character is found so far in groups 9, 13, 694 and 15. This is such a distinctive and unusual 695character that it is highly likely a synapomor-696 phy uniting these groups. 697

With respect to the other 3 genera, pericarp 698 characters may shed some light on their 699 unresolved relationships. Aside from the 700 anomalous presence of a thickened locular 701702 epidermis, Lemurophoenix bears some resemblance to Masoala (which might of course 703 704develop a locular epidermis as it matures), particularly in the occurrence of unsheathed 705 vascular strands in addition to some with 706fibrous sheaths. In this regard, however, it 707 708 shows little resemblance to any species of *Dypsis*, which all have thick fibrous sheaths 709 around all of their vascular bundles. Masoala 710711(Fig. 1C) is highly distinct, however, in that the fibrous sheaths of its outer band of 712 vascular bundles are massive and radially 713714 distended, with some purely fibrous bundles intermixed, while fibrous sheaths are few and 715716relatively thin in Lemurophoenix. Pericarp 717 anatomy therefore is not supportive of a relationship between Lemurophoenix and/or 718 Masoala with any members of Dypsis that 719720 have been seen.

Looking outside of the Dypsidinae, the 721pericarp anatomy of Masoala finds its 722 greatest similarity with members of the 723 Oncospermatinae, and with the unplaced 724genera Heterospathe and Bentinckia, in 725which fruits have an outer series of thick 726 fibrous vascular bundles and/or purely fi-727 brous bundles, and inner unsheathed vascu-728 lar bundles. This suggested link of Masoala 729 with Oncospermatinae supports the relation-730ship suggested by the recent phylogenetic 731studies of Loo et al. (2006) and Norup et al. 732 (2006).733

Marojejya (Fig. 1B) has the most Dypsis-734 like fruit, with flattened fibrous bundle 735sheaths, a thick layer of tanniniferous tissue 736 below the epidermis, and a dense mantle of 737 brachysclereids below that. It shows affinities 738 with Dypsis groups 1, 3, 8, and 16. Interest-739 ingly, Marojejya was resolved as sister to D. 740lutescens (group 3) in one phylogenetic 741analysis (Asmussen & Chase, 2001), and 742 with D. heterophylla (group 8) in another 743 phylogenetic analysis (Loo et al., 2006). 744Pericarp data therefore support the inclusion 745of Marojejva in Dypsis. 746

This study, though very cursory and with a 747 limited sample of species, reaffirms the value 748of anatomical data, which may both challenge 749and confirm conclusions derived from other 750sorts of data. Anatomical studies of the palms 751should continue and should be considered 752seriously in future revisionary and phyloge-753 netic studies. 754

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