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SOCIETY FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS PALM STUDY GROUP

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Hi friends!

Palms in Australia are rarely a dominant feature of the vegetation although there are places where their grouping could be termed spectacular! David Jones in his book lists fifty-seven species in twenty-two genera. The southern-most palm *Livistona australis* does extend into Victoria.

The Lamington National Park in South-East Queensland can boast quite large colonies of *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* (PICABEEN) as well as considerable groupings of *Linospadex monostachya* (WALKING-STICK). North-East Queensland rain forest areas also have large colonies of *Archontophoenix alexandrae*, various situations having various forms of this palm.

The really lovely fan palm *Licuala ramsayii* is particularly thick in dense forest country between Tully and Mission Beach and north to Cape Tribulation. In fact the saying that wherever the cassowary roams, so grows that palm.

Interesting notes per Don Stallard our member in Darwin:-

'while investigating one area South Arnhem Land possibly 150 kms. S-E of Katherine along with a cycas I found a *Livistona* species I could not name. Growing as it was with plants of an undescribed *Banksia*. I photographed the palm ----. Both cycas and palm were growing in sandy soil within a valley.

Meantime I look forward to the day that various sightings and studies may evaluate into a distribution map

which may give some bearing on our continent's background.

(Amen, to that Don) - Len Butt.

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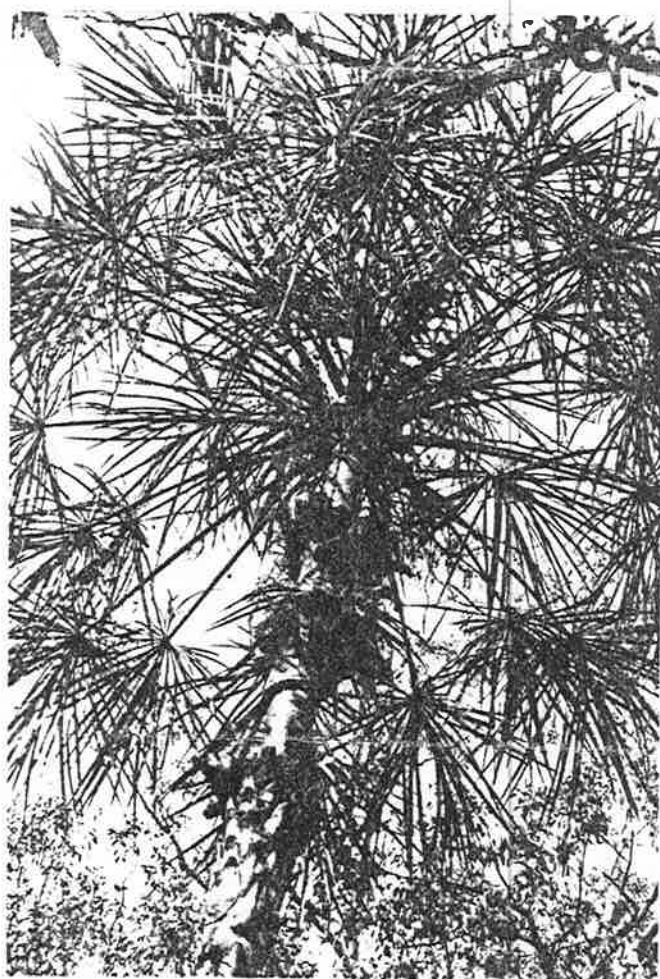
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UNAMED PALM FOUND IN A VALLEY
IN NORTHERN TERRITORY BY DON STALLARD.