

# *Linospadix microcaryus* (Domin) Burret

## Family:

**Areaceae**

Burret, (M.)K.E. (1934) *Notizblatt des Botanischen Gartens und Museums zu Berlin-Dahlem* 12: 331.

## Common name:

Palm, Walking Stick; Walking Stick Palm

## Stem

Clustering small palm, 1-3 m tall. Usually flowers and fruits as a shrub 1-3 m tall but occasionally grows to 4 m.

## Leaves

Petiole and rhachis (at least towards the base) scurfy or densely clothed in prostrate hairs. Lateral leaflets about 15-20 cm long. Terminal leaflets or segments wider at the base than any of the lateral leaflets. Leaflets discrete. Elongated clear 'cells' visible with a lens in the leaf blade. Cells run +/- parallel with the midrib and veins, 3-23 per leaf. Leaflet apex usually praemorse, at least the broader apical ones. Compound leaf petiole more than half the length of the leaflet producing section of the rhachis.

## Flowers

Inflorescence contains both male and female flowers, spikes about 30-80 cm long, peduncles about 40 cm long, male flowers opening and falling before the female flowers in the same cluster reach maturity. Anthers about 8-12 per flower. One ovule per ovary.

## Fruit

Fruits globose to turbinate, about 4-8 mm diam., longitudinally ribbed with fibres. Seeds about 3-6 x 3-5 mm.

## Seedlings

Seed germination time 105 to 196 days. First leaf compound with two leaflets or deeply lobed, Y or V-shaped, each lobe with a midrib and 1 or 2 other major veins plus a number of minor longitudinal veins. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf compound with two or three broad-based, sessile or up to 8 or 9 longitudinally veined leaflets. Leaflets usually notched at the apex. Compound leaf base sheathing the stem and densely clothed in crisped hairs.

## Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to NEQ. Found in the Mt Spurgeon and Mt Lewis areas and southwards to Innisfail. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1600 m. Grows as an understory plant in a variety of well developed types of rain forest.

## Natural History & Notes

Sometimes cultivated as an indoor plant.

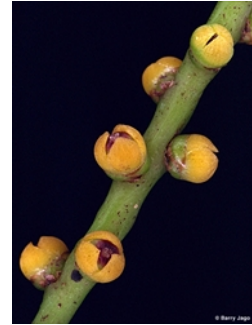
Distinguished from other species by the combination of the clustering habit, globose or top-shaped fruit, and leaf usually irregularly pinnate.

## Synonyms

**Bacularia microcarya** Domin, *Bibliotheca Botanica* 89(4): 499(1928), Type: Nordost- Queensland: Regenwalder bei Harveys Creek (Domin, l. 1910). holo: PR?. **Bacularia sessifolia** Becc. ex Martelli, *Atti della Soc. Toscana di Scienze Naturali Residente in Pisa. Memorie* 44: 133(1934), Type: Queensland, Russell River, 1886, Sayer s.n.; holo: FI. **Bacularia sessifolia** var. **multisecta** Becc., *Nuovo Giorn. Bot. Ital.* 42: 30(1935), Type: Not designated. Fide Dowe & Irvine 1997). **Linospadix microcarya** var. **multisecta** (Becc.) Burret, *Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Mus. Berlin-Dahlem* 12: 331(1935), Type: Not Designated. Fide Dowe & Irvine (1997).

## RFK Code

3327



Female flowers. © Barry Jago



Male flowers. © Barry Jago



Mature fruit [not vouchered]. © J.L. Dowe



Pinnate leaf form [not vouchered]. © J.L. Dowe



In lowland rainforest [not vouchered]. © J.L. Dowe



Fruit, several views, cross section & seed. © W. T. Cooper



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



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