

## REVIEW

DICK WATLING: **Palms of the Fiji Islands**. Environmental Consultants Ltd., Suva, Fiji, 2005. 192 pp., colour illus. ISBN 982-9047-02-4. Price: USD 39.

'Palms of the Fiji Islands' is a beautifully illustrated book describing all Fijian palms, native and introduced. All indigenous species are described with a lot of details, including notes on distribution, habitat, ecology, uses and conservation. The species are all illustrated by at least two water colours by George Bennett (one of a plant in its environment, one of the fruits), and a distribution map in colour. This main section on indigenous palms is followed by a chapter on introduced palms both ancient and recent and by a chapter by Dick Phillips on propagation and cultivation of palms. The book ends with a table that summarizes morphological and ecological characteristics.

'Palms of the Fiji Islands' is a very nice book with a highly informative text by Dick Watling and impressive illustrations by George Bennett. The only minus point may be the lack of nomenclatural information (author names and literature citations for accepted names and synonyms). However, I do recommend the book to all palm lovers.

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