



## Seeking palms on remote islets

Recently, I joined experts from Jardín Botánico Rafael Moscoso (JBSD, Santo Domingo), University of Gothenburg (Sweden), Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (UK), and The New York Botanical Garden to investigate rarely-seen *Coccothrinax* palms. The photo above shows how inaccessible these palms are – requiring a boat trip and a difficult climb through thick, sharp bromeliads – and also how excited we were to spot these rare finds. These palms are now much better documented, with specimens at JBSD and elsewhere, and seedlings at Montgomery. These palms are an important addition to our landscape.

This was one of many interesting palms we sought over the course of many days. I was also glad to participate in a conference on our work at Jardín Rafael Moscoso, sharing Montgomery's work. It was great to reconnect with friends from prior palm searches, and make new connections.

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