

**Changes since last shown:** The exhibit was last shown nationally at NTSS2021 and internationally at London 2021 and IBRA23. Minor changes have been made, and some new rare material has also been added.

**Background:** The coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera*) is a monotypic (single species) genus of pinnate leaved palm the world. It is a symbol of the tropics that is easily recognized by almost everyone. The origins of the coconut palm remain one of the 'intriguing mysteries' of palm systematics and taxonomy, although most experts agree that its origins were in the western Pacific near the present Philippine Islands. You will not see anything on many other palm diseases best illustrated in biology texts since no philatelic elements exist that illustrate phytoplasmas, fungi, and other disease organisms. **ALL palms in the exhibit are coconut palms unless otherwise identified.**

**Treatment:** The Plan is comprehensive and flows logically for the theme. All major aspects of the theme are covered and are balanced in relation to their significance to the theme - as are some obscure ones to show depth.

**Innovation:** This is the only multi-frame exhibit on a single species of palm. Other national and international exhibits on palms were synoptic and treated many species.

**Philatelic & General Knowledge, Personal Study & Research:** Philatelic knowledge is demonstrated by the use of a wide variety of appropriate philatelic items and brief associated text that directly relates to the thematic point under consideration throughout the exhibit and down to the page level. Philatelic text is concise and explains aspects not immediately obvious to a knowledgeable reader. Technical jargon is minimized but not reduced to the least common denominator. Several concise and important philatelic studies are included. The exhibitor has been

**Condition & Rarity:** Condition is fine or better throughout the exhibit. Rarity is demonstrated by the inclusion of uncommon or esoteric items, e.g., Samoan Davis post covers and German Samoa provisional cancel, the Fiji Cake Fair local stamp and postal stationery, Turkish advertising telegram, covers from the Spanish Marianas and Caroline Islands, mail from small islands and cargo ships in the copra trade, a KGS KOMET m/s cancel on card, a variety of PTPO or PTO postal stationery, Zeppelin mail, ship mail, wreck and crash mail, and original artwork. Important or easy to miss items are highlighted by a small coconut palm.



**Presentation:** As nice as a palm-lined tropical beach.

**References:** Wikipedia for a quick overview.

<http://cocos.arenaceae.com>

THIS EXHIBIT. MOST ARE SOMEWHAT TECHNICAL. BUT YOU ARE NOT GOING TO READ ANY OF THEM ANYHOW.