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Book Review

Palmeras poco Utilizadas de America Tropical. Organización Mundial de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación, CATIE—FAO, Turrialba, Costa Rica. 1983. 168 pp. No price listed.

This summary of the proceedings of a consultative meeting held in Turrialba will be of the greatest interest to economic botanists and tropical agronomists. Its several parts cover a broad spectrum of palm projects and problems: Present Investigation and Development of Poorly Known Palms; Introduction; Reports by Species (in nine genera); Reports of Countries (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru, Venezuela); Report on Cultivation of Fibre Species; General Recommendations; and Appendices (including twelve shorter articles on a variety of topics concerning economic palms of the New World).

The new difficult to find data presented in this book are very extensive. The volume may well serve as a model for similar treatments of economically important families.

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