

The Drifting Seed

September 1, 1997

Vol. 3, No. 2

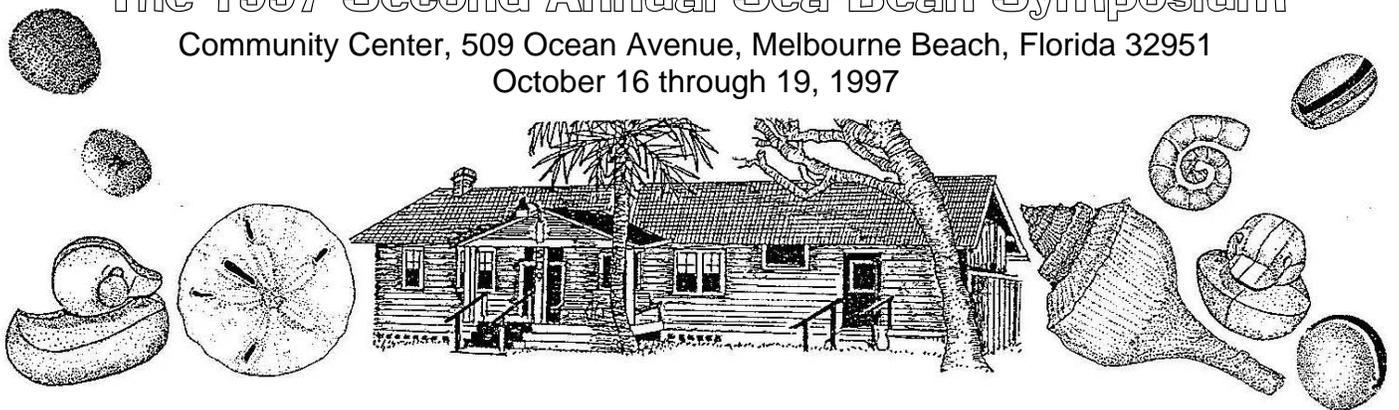
THE DRIFTING SEED

A semiannual *Newsletter* covering seeds and fruits dispersed by tropical currents and the people who collect and study them.

Dr. Charles R. (Bob) Gunn, Contributing Editor
Cathie Katz, Editor and Publisher
Sue Bradley, Business Manager
John V. Dennis, Dr., Columnist
Pete Zies, Columnist

The 1997 Second Annual Sea-Bean Symposium

Community Center, 509 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, Florida 32951
October 16 through 19, 1997



The last two pages of this issue include a schedule of events and travel information for the symposium.

Dr. Charles R. (Bob) Gunn
120 White Squirrel Lane
Brevard, NC 28712 US
704-883-9719
e-mail: Mucuna@juno.com

Cathie Katz
P.O. Box 510366
Melbourne Beach, Florida 32951 USA
e-mail: seabean@castlegate.net

From Your Editors

From Bob: The upcoming meeting has brought into clear focus our need to make a definitive plan to revise our drift disseminule book. I believe that this is one of the most important, if not the most important, item for our upcoming meeting. I urge everyone to think about what our other goals should be, what type of organization we should have, and how we should achieve these goals within reasonable time and money.

I have been working on two translations for inclusion in future issues of our *Newsletter*. The first is a journal article originally translated by Eeda Sissener Dennis. This is a familiar name: She is John Dennis' sister-in-law. Johan Ernst Gunnerus, Bishop of Trondhiem (1718-1773), wrote about stranded tropical drift disseminules found on beaches of Norway and its environs. I have poured over this translation and the original journal article, and feel confident that we will reproduce an accurate translation. My problem: I have yet to finish the Literature Cited – some are so old that the National Agricultural Library is having trouble obtaining the references, and some of Gunnerus' references are rather obscure.

The first translation has been problem enough, but the second one has really given me fits. Thanks to **Curtis Ebbesmeyer**, who provided one translation and USDA/ARS Public Law 480, which funded another translation, I now believe I have an accurate translation of Chapter 13: Drift material in the Gulf stream of the north Atlantic Ocean, Pages 409-432, by T.E. Gumprecht in his *book Zeitschrift fur Allgemeine Erkunde*, 1854. My problem is again the Literature Cited and the need to verify some of Gumprecht's thoughts. Joe Kirkbride has been very helpful in obtaining the cited literature for both translations.

From Cathie: The enthusiastic mail that we've been receiving from all over the world has confirmed for us the need for a network like ours of beachcombers, botanists, naturalists and scientists. We've already heard from people in Canada, Africa, North Carolina, Georgia, Washington, Virginia, Maryland (and more) who will attend the 1997 Sea-Bean Symposium, all contributing information about things that drift in the ocean.

Since the last issue of *The Drifting Seed* was mailed, sea-bean activity on the Space Coast went like this: in early spring, a few sea hearts, hamburger beans, sea purses, and nickernuts were found in the wrack, but they were probably leftover from the winter. The mundane seeds, like golf ball beans, country almonds, and coconuts drifted onshore in small quantities but eventually they stopped too. At the end of May, strong winds blew hard (gusts over 50 knots) from the east. Typically, these forceful easterly winds bring loads of drift material to our shore. However, I found NO beans in the seaweed that washed up along the Space Coast. The wind as a factor of sea-bean activity may not be as relevant as previously thought.

...In June, more gusty winds brought more sargassum to the beach – but still no sea-beans. Sargassum is Florida's most common ocean weed to create the bulk of our thick wrack line of beach debris. In mid-June, several species of untypical (and colorful) seaweeds washed onto Cape Canaveral and Cocoa Beach. Then, a few days later, the same seaweed species floated onto Melbourne Beach, which is 30 miles south. I've since learned that, in addition to the strong northbound Gulf Stream, small ancillary currents *travel southward*, bringing drift material that may have passed us by initially.

...No sea-beans in July were reported, but I found lots of interesting sea life such as spirula, sea squirts, sponges, and anemones. Also, thousands of slipper shells piled up along the shore.

...In August, beach-debris activity stopped, as predicted, with mild tides and calm seas. So ... we're counting on the October sea-bean armada to return on schedule when we meet for the 1997 Sea-Bean Symposium.

I was hoping that our out-of-state visitors would witness the hatching of our sea turtle nests in October, but I've recently learned from **Gerry Heyes, President of the Sea Turtle Preservation Society** that 1997 has been a low-count year (typical of odd-numbered years). Sea turtle nesting started earlier than normal this year because unusually warm water moved to our coast in early spring. Nesting is predicted to end earlier than normal also. Maybe statistics from Gerry about temperature, currents, and winds will provide us with clues about our sea-beans' erratic behavior. Do common influences exist between sea turtle activity and drift seeds? How important is the Sargasso Sea's circuit to the debris we find on the beach each fall? Is sea-bean activity in Europe and Africa as seasonal as in Florida? What are their seasons? ... I think these questions and more will be answered at the Symposium, so I hope to see you all there!

FEATURED ARTICLES

Tropical drift disseminules from the coast of the Netherlands: The human factor

By

Gerhard C. Cadée

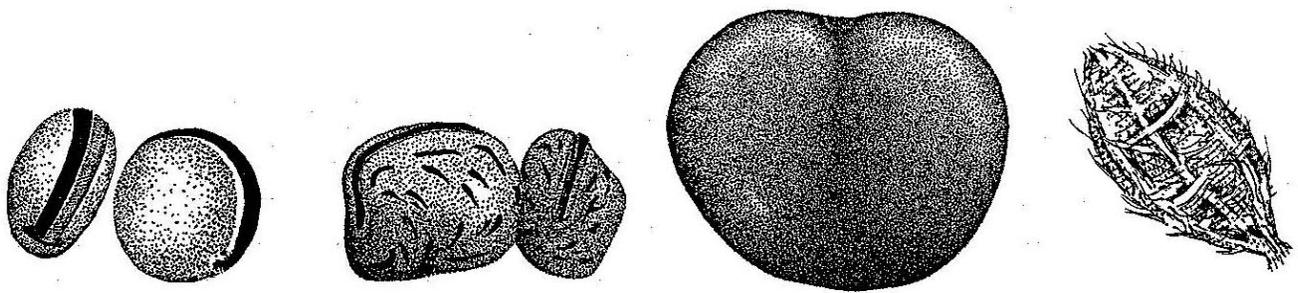
Netherlands Institute of Sea Research

PO Box 59, 1790 AB Den Burg, Texel, The Netherlands

Cadée@NIOZ.NL

The Gulf Stream does not bring as many tropical drift disseminules to the Dutch North Sea coast as it does to the coasts of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Norway (Gunn & Dennis, 1976; Nelson, 1983). Nevertheless, sometimes tropical disseminules are reported from the Dutch coast. The first record was around 1960 (Leenhouts, 1968), even though the coast is frequently visited by beachcombers, many of whom are members of the **Strandwerkgemeenschap**. They publish **the Het Zeepaard** (*The Seahorse*), in which I have published a number of papers on recent observations of Dutch drift disseminules. Most of my papers (copies available) are in Dutch with only English summaries, but two review papers are in English (Cadée, 1988; 1996).

I have seen specimens of *Mucuna* spp., *Dioclea reflexa*, *Entada gigas*, and *Terminalia catappa* from the Dutch coast. Nelson's (1990) list of peregrine (true, long-distance drifter) species from the United Kingdom coast is much longer. Among his 24 species are such well-known drifters as *Caesalpinia bonduc*, *Merremia discoidesperma*, *Astrocaryum*, and *Erythrina*. Non of these have been encountered on our coast.



Shown above: ***Mucuna* spp.** ***Dioclea reflexa*** ***Entada gigas*** ***Terminalia catappa***

Besides these Gulf Stream disseminules, other tropical disseminules have been found on Dutch beaches, which are derived from human activities (refuse *sensu* Nelson, 1990). Examples are the Mango (*Mangifera indica*) seeds, Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*), Brazilnut (*Bertholettia excelsa*), and Peanut (*Arachis hypogea*). But problems are created by *Cerbera odollam* and *Nypa fruticans* which also are found on our beaches (Cadée, 1995, 1996). These are well-known drift disseminules in southeast Asia; however, there is no current system that can bring them from Asia to the Dutch coast. They could have been souvenirs and possibly thrown overboard on approaching the Dutch coast.

Sometimes tropical disseminules are found on our coast which cannot drift, viz., *Phytelephas* and *Hypaene* (Cadée, 1986). These palm endocarps have a white endosperm that is very hard and used as vegetable-ivory for the manufacture of buttons or small ersatz-ivory carvings and were shipped to Europe. I have identified another palm endocarp from our coast as *Attalea* (Cadée, 1988). They were also used for the manufacture of buttons and ersatz wood carvings. All of these may have come from ships going to Hamburg, once a center for processing, but wrecked along the Dutch coast. Nelson (1990) has seen these non-drifting palm endocarps from the United Kingdom coast and mentioned their use for the manufacture of charcoal for gas-masks during the First World War.

**Tropical drift disseminules from the coast of the Netherlands:
The human factor (continued)
by Gerhard C. Cadée**

One of the problems for the collector of tropical drift disseminules from European coasts is that drift disseminules such as *Entada gigas* are sold in souvenir shops all along the coast (Nelson, 1990). Moreover, at least in the Netherlands, some drift disseminules are used in flower decorations together with immortelles and evergreens for the Christmas trade. Up to now, I found *Entada gigas*, *Barringtonia asiatica*, *Swietenia* and a (non-drifting) *Mucuna*-like seed used in this way. After using, they may be discarded and thus contribute to the debris on our coast. It is estimated that some fifty percent of the rubbish on our beaches is thrown overboard from ships! Indeed, I have collected a *Swietenia* from our coast. Nelson (1990) suggested *Entada* seeds collected from the North Sea coast of the United Kingdom are refuse. Only those from the west and east coasts are peregrine drifters. I believe that some of the recent reports of *Entada* from the Dutch coast may also be refuse. Let this be a warning for all of us: Not all drift disseminules from the European coasts are automatically genuine ocean drifters. They may be human refuse, nevertheless, trying to identify refuse drift disseminules also may offer an interesting challenge!

Literature Cited

Cadée, G.C., 1986. Ivoornoten van het Nederlandse strand. *Het Zeepaard* 46: 12-18.

Cadée, G.C., 1988. *Attalea funifera* Mart. and a review of other tropical seeds from the Dutch coast. *Porcupine Newsletter* 4: 51-54, 69.

Cadée, G.C., 1995. Spoelen op Texel meer tropische zaden aan dan elders in Nederland? *Nieuwe vondsten. Het Zeepaard* 55: 7-17.

Cadée, G.C., 1996. Tropical drift seeds from the Dutch coast in a wider perspective, palaeontological implications. *N. Jb. Geol. Palaeont. Abh.* 202: 183-190.

Gunn, C.R. & J.V. Dennis, 1976. *World guide to tropical drift seeds and fruits.* New York Times Book Co., New York. 240pp.

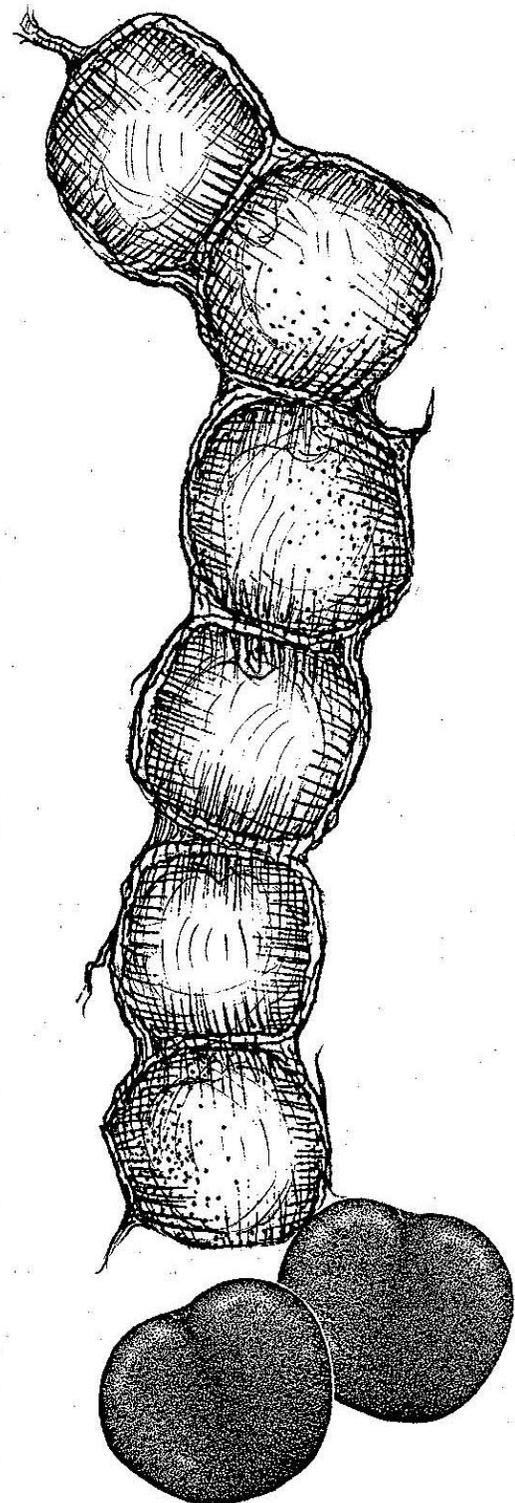
Leenhouts, P.W., 1968. Tropische zaden op de Nederlandse kust. *Gorteria* 4: 95-98.

Nelson, E.C., 1983. Tropical drift fruit and seeds on coasts in the British Isles and western Europe II. History (1560 – c.1860) and folklore. *Scottish Naturalist* 1983: 11-63.

Nelson, E.C., 1990. Exotic drift fruits and seeds from the coasts of Britain and adjacent islands. *Jour. Royal Inst. Cornwall (NS)* 10: 147-177.

[Note from Bob: Benthem Jutting (1977) recorded the finding in 1976 of a large number of *Entada gigas* seeds on a beach at Domburg, Zeeland. P.W. Leenhouts opined that the seeds were probably part of a boat shipment to a pharmaceutical company. W.S.S. van Benthem Jutting, 1977, *Zaden van Entada gigas* (L.) Fawcett et Rendle op het strand bij Domburg. *Gorteria* 8(8): 156-157.]

[Note from Cathie: One of the first drift seeds I found was a sea heart (*Entada*) in Zandvoort (on the Dutch North Sea) in 1956 while I was visiting my grandmother. The only explanation I received about the strange seed was, "It brings good luck." (And it did. It led me to Annapolis in 1993 to meet Dr. Gunn and eventually the other Drifters.)]



African Drift Disseminules: I
by Xander van der Burgt
Wageningen Agricultural University
Department of Plant Taxonomy
P.O. Box 8010
6700ED Wageningen, The Netherlands

I have read that you are working on the new edition of *The World Guide to Tropical Drift Seeds and Fruits*, and I wondered if you are interested in information about drift disseminules from West and Central Africa. The Department of Plant Taxonomy, Wageningen Agricultural University has specialized in the flora of Africa, and its herbarium contains one of the largest collections of African Plants. The staff should be able to determine the names of most drift disseminules.

We have two collections of drift disseminules from African beaches, one from South American beaches, and a loan from the Rijksherbarium, Leiden:

Cameroun, Kribi: Collected by J.J. Bos, Nov. 1969; 77 species; 55% determined to at least genus level.

Gamon, Gambia: Collected by X.M. van der Burgt, Jan.-April 1994; 44 species; 70% determined.

Ecuador, Puerto Lopez: Collected X.M. van der Burgt, Oct. 1995; 14 species; 80% determined.

Indonesia, Pulau-Pulau, Maisel, Mai, Lucipara islands: Collected by Prud'homme van Reine, Sept. 1984; about 30 species but few named. (The loan from the Rijksherbarium.)

Furthermore, I hope to receive many more drift seeds from Gabon very soon, because I have made arrangements with somebody from the herbarium in Libreville to regularly collect drift material from a beach in Gabon. Almost all drift material from the beaches of Gabon seems to originate from nearby rivers, but of course a few seeds may come from other African countries, or even from other continents. Disseminules of some African endemic plants seem to float well and many drift to other continents, and should perhaps be mentioned in the book, e.g., *Ongokea gore*, *Coula edulis* (Oleaceae), *Panda oleosa* (Pandaceae), etc.

I would be happy to provide you with data about the above mentioned collections for the new edition. Some of our staff members regularly travel to the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroun, and Gabon, and also to other countries in West and Central Africa. They may be willing to make collections of drift seeds, especially if these collections will be used for scientific purposes.

[Eds. Note: Xander is one of our newest Readers, and he plans to fill in a major gap, Africa, in our worldwide study of drift disseminules, We welcome him and his efforts to bring more important data to us from tropical Africa. He has color photographs of the collections listed above, and he will be preparing an article for our May 1998 *Newsletter*. See *The Drifting Seed*, 2(1): 3-5, 1996 for an article about John Muir of South Africa.]

[Note from Cathie: I received a package of drift seeds collected from the coast of Kenya (Malindi and Mombassa) earlier this year from marine biologist Wangari Kiragu. Wangari had the seeds identified at the University of Nairobi. The package included *Entada gigas*, *Mucuna*, *Combretum exalatum*, *Terminalia*, *Hyphaene compressa*, *Caesalpinia* (one dark brown and one gray), *Rytigania*, *Ficus*, *Gigasphon*, and a few unidentified seeds. Cathie will have these on display at the Symposium in October.]

Florida Drift Seeds
by Peter Zies
613 Rodney Drive
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
Fax: 407-330-9303

Melbourne Beach, on Florida's east coast, is about 30 miles south of Cape Canaveral. For several years I have beachcombed from Sebastian Inlet north to Cape Canaveral, and for the past year I have kept careful notes on a single stretch of beach near Melbourne Beach. These notes provide up-to-date details about the beach we will all meet on soon.

Drift disseminules have been recorded by Arendt (1955), Godfrey (1966), Gunn (1968), Dennis and Gunn (1972), and Gunn and Dennis (1976). The earliest article described only a handful of seeds, and each subsequent publication listed more disseminules, culminating with 79 seeds and fruits illustrated by Pam Paradine from southeast Florida beaches in Gunn and Dennis. Currently, the number of different drift disseminules found on Central Florida East Coast beaches is at least 20% larger. Approximately 100 species have been found, and they may be divided into these five groups with examples:

CONTINENTAL INLAND SPECIES: black walnut nuts (*Juglans nigra*), hickory nuts (*Carya* spp.), oak acorns (*Quercus* spp.), pecan nuts (*Carya illinoensis*), pine cones (*Pinus* spp.), which all often float down rivers into the Gulf of Mexico or onto the Atlantic Coast beaches.

CONTINENTAL COASTAL SPECIES: Encompassing both beach and dune species: beach-bean seeds (*canavalia rosea*), black-mangrove fruits (*Avicennia germinans*), railroad-vine seeds (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*), red mangrove seedlings or rarely fruits (*Rhizophora mangle*), sea-grape fruits (*Coccoloba uvifera*), and white-mangrove fruits (*Laguncularia racemosa*).

HUMAN REFUSE SPECIES: mango seeds (*Magnifera indica*), peach pits (*Prunus persica*), and peanut pods (*Arachis hypogea*).

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SPECIES: blister-pod endocarps (*Sacoglottis amazonica*), hamburger-bean seeds (*Mucuna* spp.), sea heart seeds (*Entada gigas*), sea purse seeds (*Dioclea reflexa*), and sleeve palm fruits and seeds (*Manicaria saccifera*).

ORIGIN UNKNOWN SPECIES: nypa fruits (*Nypa fruticans*) and screw pine fruits (*Pandanus tectorius*).

The number of species that will be found while beachcombing varies. On poor days, no wrack deposits are left by the tides and no seeds may be located. On good days, huge piles of seaweed blanket the beach, and dozens of different species may be found in large numbers. The precise factors responsible for these variations have not been established, but the majority of the evidence support the wind as the significant factor.

Graphs showing the numbers of four "indicator" seeds found over the past 11 months, demonstrate a strong correlation between increased seed numbers and high winds. Some of these high wind events are unpredictable, such as hurricanes and non-seasonal storms, but the most productive period for beachcombing is traditionally the seasonally stormy period between early October and the end of December. During this period, winter "Nor-Easters" regularly blow for days at a time, and seaweed deposits are copious. Conversely, spring through autumn are poor for beachcombing, unless an unexpected storm event occurs.

Overlaying this observation is the annual disseminules production cycle of many species. The red, black and white mangrove fruits and seedlings flood our beaches at one time, while the sleeve palms and blister-pods show up en masse at another time. Both occur within "Sea-Bean Season" between October and January.

Florida Drift Seed Guide by Peter Zies (continued)

Another limiting factor on the number of seeds to be found is the presence of other beachwalkers. Although our tourist numbers are much less than those at Daytona Beach or Fort Lauderdale, a steady stream of beachwalkers may be found on most sections of our Central Florida Beaches. Some are looking for shells or other items, but they willingly gather the eye-catching seeds they happen to find. Some local gift shops sell loose seeds or necklaces made from seeds gathered locally. With this in mind, early morning beach searches become a MUST if “first pick” of the wrack is desired.

A cautionary note is that there are risks attendant to beachcombing. A large human presence means that trash is a problem. Human-made items from latex balloon fragments to entire freezers are common. Tar blobs are also plentiful, and the popular perception is that these are human by-products. But most may be the result of natural “seeps” from deposits in the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere, rather than commercial oil spills. A study done in the early 1900’s of Melbourne Beach showed tar deposits to be as much of a problem then as they are now (Kemp, 1919).

Despite these concerns, our Florida beaches are hard to beat. The 100 species found here rival the most exotic tropical locations.

Literature Cited

Arendt, Helen, 1955 A wandering beachcomber returns. *The Florida Naturalist* 28(3):67-73

Dennis, John and Charles Gunn. 1972. Sea beans. *The Florida Naturalist* 45(1):11-34.

Godfrey, George. 1966. The sea heart. *Sea Frontiers* 12(1):55-57

Gunn, Charles. 1968. Stranded seeds and fruits from the southeastern shore of Florida. *Garden Journal*, March/April: 43-54.

Gunn, Charles and John Dennis. 1976. *World guide to tropical drift seeds and fruits*. 240 pp. The New York Times Book Co., New York.

Kemp, J.F. 1919. Observations of a Florida sea beach with reference to oil geology. *Economic Geology* 14(4): unknown.

Shown here is Paula Boys from Palm Bay, Florida, one of our newest and most enthusiastic Drifters. In this photo Paula is holding her first hamburger bean which she found in Indialantic, Florida.



Seagoing Black Walnut Endocarps

By

Curtis C. Ebbesmeyer

6306 21st Avenue N.E.

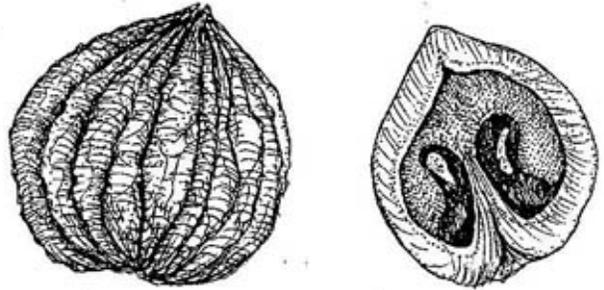
Seattle, Washington 98115

Black walnut (*Juglans nigra* L.) endocarps (nuts) washed ashore along the Washington state coast during March 1997, as reported by beachcombers David McCroskey and Alan Rammer. Last winter's heavy rains probably washed more than the usual amount of black walnut endocarps into creeks and rivers and into the Pacific Ocean. As the rains started the Davidson Current, a 50-mile wide swath of water perhaps 200 feet deep, began flowing at 1-2 miles per hour northward from the vicinity of the Golden Gate, San Francisco, California, sweeping with it floating objects and dispersing them along the coast from California, Oregon, Washington, Vancouver Island, to Queen Charlotte Islands. John Dennis, Sr. has floated a few black walnut endocarps in a tank for 4 to 5 years, but most sank much sooner. But long range flotation does not mean that the seed within the endocarp will germinate. The endocarp is made up of two halves and the seal between them is not water tight. No viable seeds have ever been beachcombed, and no endocarps have been beachcombed outside of North America.

Black walnut endocarps are extremely hard and may be cut and polished and assembled into jewelry or mobiles. As a student project, paint a few hundred endocarps with a non-toxic red paint with your name and address, and toss them into the ocean.

Please send me reports about beachcombed black walnuts and how you used them.

Other beachcombed walnut collections: John Dennis, Dr. has collected the English walnut (*Juglans regia* L.) in California, and he also collected black walnut endocarps along the Delaware beaches after high water in the Delaware River flushed many endocarps from local rivers into the Atlantic Ocean.



NEWS AND NOTES FROM READERS

Thanks to all the readers who sent contributions to help produce this newsletter. Special thanks to **Bob Brown** of The Strawberry Mansion in Melbourne and **Kevin Steiger** of Kaneohe, Hawaii for their very generous contributions.

Kenn Arning of Seattle Washington returned from Africa with four sea hearts he collected on the coast of Nosy Be in Madagascar. Are they a different species from the *Entada* that we find in the States? Perhaps they are *Entada rheedii*? They will be on view at the 1997 Sea-Bean Symposium.

Thomas Nicholls of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida wrote the he and his granddaughter **Laura Ann Howell** collect and identify sea-beans in Ft. Lauderdale, Naples, and the Keys. Tom saw several sea-bean toys made by the Cuna Indians in the San Blas Islands, off the coast of Panama.

A special thanks to **Melbourne Beach Town Historian Frank Thomas** who generously gave Cathie Katz the recently discovered book, *Observations on a Florida Sea Beach with Reference to Oil Geology* (written by J.F. Kemp in 1919). This book was cited by Pete Zies in his "Florida Drift Seeds" article in this issue.

Schedule of Events for The 1997 Second Annual Sea-Bean Symposium

The Community Center, 509 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, Florida • October 16-19, 1997

To uphold beachcombing tradition, the following schedule is VERY INFORMAL AND FLEXIBLE. Also, be aware that October is still HURRICANE SEASON in Florida. This is great for sea-beans, but can be dangerous for beachwalkers. If any of our beachcombing activities are cancelled because of severe weather, we'll meet in the Community Center or follow evacuation procedures.

Drift seed collections and beachcombing experts will be on hand at the Community Center Friday through Sunday to help identify sea-beans. Other hard-to-identify beach treasures such as shell egg cases, mermaid's purses, lava bomblets, etc) will be on display and identified by Cathie Katz. As time permits, Cathie will demonstrate sea-bean polishing in rock tumblers. Also on display will be sprouted sea-beans.

Thursday, October 16 (full moon)

(The Community Center is NOT available to us on Thursday, so this day's schedule is very loose.)

- All day:** Open beachcombing/casual get-together. As visitors drift in, we will gather at Ocean Avenue Park (end of Ocean Avenue at the beach). Many of us will be meeting for the first time, so Cathie Katz, Sue Bradley, Pete Zies, and other Drifters will be available to introduce each other (If weather is forbidding on this day, we'll meet at The Sharrock Shores Resort Meeting Room.)
- 5:30 to 7pm:** Dinner at the Corner Restaurant (two blocks east of the Community Center at the corner of A1A and Ocean Avenue; very casual: shorts and flip flops).
- After dinner:** Free time or guided walk (4 blocks) by Cathie Katz and Jim Angy (Florida wildlife expert) between Melbourne Beach Pier (Indian River Lagoon) and beach to familiarize visitors with the barrier island, shore birds, dolphins, etc, and possibly sea turtle hatchlings.

Friday, October 17

- 8am to noon:** Early morning beachwalking (contest warm-up). Meet at Ocean Avenue Park. Pete Zies and John Dennis will be available to answer questions. **AND/OR:** Meet at the Community Center to set up displays and get acquainted. Cathie, Sue, and Janice Scott will be available at the Community Center to answer questions and greet visitors.
- Noon to 1pm:** Collector's Spotlights (John Dennis, Ruth Smith, Curtis Ebbesmeyer, Pete Zies, David Williams) followed by open discussion and sea-bean identification.
- 5 to 6pm:** Dinner
- 7:30 to 9pm:** Panel introductions and KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Charles R. (Bob) Gunn (Tropical Drift Disseminules of Southeast Florida and the famous Coco-de-Mer).
- End of Day 2:** Late night beachwalk for the night owls.

Saturday, October 18

- 8am to 10am:** 1997 BEAN-A-THON. Pete Zies will provide guidelines at Ocean Avenue Park.
- 10am to noon:** Display and record BEAN-A-THON results at the Community Center.
- Noon to 1pm:** Lunch
- 1:30 to 4pm:** Collectors' Spotlights (Ruth Smith, Curtis Ebbesmeyer, Pete Zies, David Williams, Frank Seymour) followed by open discussion and bean identification.
- 5 to 6:30pm:** Dinner
- 7 to 7:30pm:** BEAN-A-THON Awards
- 7:30 to 9pm:** ASK THE EXPERTS: Panel with John Dennis and Bob Gunn (co-authors of *The World Guide to Tropical Drift Seeds and Fruits*) as feature speakers, then audience questions.
- End of Day 3:** Late night beachwalk for the night owls.

Sunday, October 19

- 8 to 10am:** Beachwalk / breakfast / final display viewing.
- 10:30am to noon:** Drifters' business meeting, including World Guide Book Revision discussion.
- Noon to 1:30pm:** Lunch
- Unfinished business – End of Symposium**



Travel Information to Symposium in Melbourne Beach, Florida

Anyone interested in receiving hotel brochures and maps for the symposium area, send Cathie Katz a stamped and self-addressed envelope (include 64¢ postage) (overseas readers, include \$2 for postage).

Melbourne International Airport is about 4 miles to Melbourne Beach; Orlando International Airport is about 74 miles to Melbourne Beach

Easy directions from either Melbourne or Orlando airport to Melbourne Beach Community Center:

- Take U.S. Hwy 192 east to Melbourne.
- After you cross the bridge, turn right at the first light (Riverside Drive).
- Stay on Riverside Drive for 1.7 miles. (Riverside Drive becomes Ocean Avenue after the bend.) You'll see the Community Center on the right.

A picture of the Community Center is on the first page of this newsletter.

The Town of Melbourne Beach has no hotels, but listed below are some of the closest lodgings:

Sharrock Shores Resort (407-723-3355) (Reservations: 1-800-820-1441)

1441 S. Miramar Ave (A1A)

Indialantic, FL 32903

(0.8 mile north of Melbourne Beach) 3-stories, on the beach, pool, kitchenettes, close to shops and food.

Suites are \$60-80 without discount.

The Sharrock Shores is our host hotel and they have offered at 15% discount for The Drifters.

Quality Suites (407-723-4222)

1665 North A1A

Indialantic, FL 32903

(3.1 miles north of Melbourne Beach)

This is a **LARGE oceanfront hotel** (208 rooms)

About \$100/room

Windemere Inn By The Sea (Bed &

Breakfast) (407-728-9334) (Reservations: 1-800-224-6853)

815 South Miramar Ave (A1A)

Indialantic, FL 32903

(1.3 miles north of Melbourne Beach)

Rooms are \$65-120

1997 Sea-Bean Symposium T-shirts will be available for \$15 (shown to the right). All proceeds will be used to help pay for printing and mailing *The Drifting Seed*. If anyone would like to order a specific size (or would like one by mail), please write or e-mail Cathie Katz to let her know how many and what sizes you want by September 5; otherwise, the T-shirts will sell first-come-first-get at the Symposium.

T-shirts are white, short-sleeved, 100% cotton. Sizes are medium, large and X-large (XX-large and XXX-large are \$2 extra) For mail orders, add \$2 for postage. Checks payable to Atlantic Press.



Dr. Gunn's drift seed collection is at the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 10am to 4pm at 2201 Michigan Avenue, Cocoa (407-632-1839).