

has whiter undersides than any other trachy besides *T. princeps*, but Lorek does not consider it a determining factor. The whitish underside is a variable trait and can be found, more or less, in all species of the genus.

Trachycarpus takil, also in India, is the next reniform-seed trachy to the west of *T. ukhrulensis*, and to its east is *T. oreophilus* in Thailand, with Myanmar in-between. Because Myanmar's borders are virtually inaccessible it is unconfirmed, but Spanner suspects that *T. oreophilus* may grow across that country reaching over to *T. ukhrulensis* on the Indian side, making it more likely to be two climatic variations of one species.^[47] Lorek explained that

between Thailand and the area of Myanmar near Manipur, there is a great plain—a huge, hot tropical barrier where trachys would not grow.^[38] He has given plenty of distinctions to qualify *T. ukhrulensis* as an accepted species. However, many of those traits are variable in both species. More field work, an impartial party comparing the two, is needed. Or, if stands of the missing link between *T. ukhrulensis* and *T. oreophilus* are found across Myanmar, then lumping will be justified.



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

Figs. 8-13: *Trachycarpus ukhrulensis* in habitat, in the Naga Hills area of Manipur State, the most remote northeastern corner of India.

Figs. 8: According to Lorek, a large number of the trees in habitat have this turtle-back pattern. Photo by M. Lorek.

Figs. 9, 10 (immature flower) & 12 (top of trunk showing legules): Photos by M. Lorek.

Figs. 11 & 13: Photos by Keshow Chandra Pradhan, who found, described and named this species with M. Lorek.



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13