Cathaya argyrophylla cones

Following Chris Callaghan’s update on Cathaya in cultivation published in the 2008 yearbook, DICK VAN HOEY SMITH sent the following photos.

On 1 October 2000 on a visit to Iseli’s Nursery, on the west coast of the United States, during a tour of the Dutch Conifer Society I had the great honour of receiving from our President the Award of Merit for the Development in the Field of Conifers. In addition to the award the manager of Iseli’s gave me the cones (above) of Cathaya argyrophylla. They had come from one of the hundreds of young seedlings growing in the nursery that were about 60cm tall. Why this one specimen had fruited so early was a mystery!