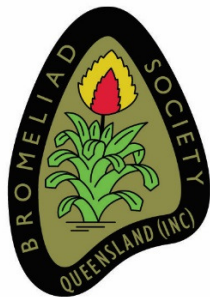


Bromeliaceae



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The Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc.

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MONTHLY MEETINGS of the Society are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month except for December, at the Uniting Hall, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm, Brisbane, commencing 7:30 pm. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** is held immediately before the March Meeting

Front Cover: Edmundoa 'Rosea' painting

Rear Cover: *Tillandsia funckiana*

By: Steve Molnar

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The Autumn Show – 2018

by Rob Murray

As usual, before we knew it planning was under way for the Autumn Show. The venue once again was the Genesis College at Bray Park.



John Williamson, the show convenor, started early chasing up sellers and making sure that everyone was reminded frequently of the event. Joy Constantino and Tom Isaac made sure that the world was kept informed through social media. John's overall plan was to make this a hugely successful event even though several of our regular sellers were not available to attend.

Friday arrived, and it was set up time.

Sellers were ready to go but unfortunately there was a short delay as the facility was still being used. John carefully organised for some of the tables to be strategically positioned so that once the courts were clear, it was all systems go.

An enthusiastic group of sellers became engrossed in table layout. John had issued an edict that no plants were to be set up until all tables were in place – just a little incentive to get the work done.

During the afternoon, the tables were progressively covered in plants making for a wonderful selection of plants for sale. At the same time, entries for the judged competition were passing through scrutiny of the Chief Steward, Fred Thomson, and his team. Amanda Meads was also setting up the display with a group of trusty helpers. There were also some smaller displays from growers.



Judged Competition

Despite a late start, the judges, under the watchful eye of our Judges' Chair, Narelle Aizlewood, made their way through over 120 plants. At 8.00pm, the Show Champion was decided meaning that the competition plants had all been judged. The following are the major results from the show.

Award	Plant	Owner
Champion	<i>Tillandsia ehlersiana</i>	Ron Jell
Reserve Champion	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Fellowship of the Rings'	Mal and Michelle Cameron
Best Bromelioideae	<i>Quesnelia</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Len Waite
Best Tillandsioideae	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Gandalf'	Mal Cameron
Best Pitcairnioideae	<i>Dyckia delicata</i>	Barbara McCune
Best Species	<i>Orthophytum gurkenii</i>	Len Waite
Best Cryptanthus	<i>Cryptanthus</i> 'Primrose'	Pam Butler



Ron Jell and his winning plant with Patron Olive Trevor and President Barry Kable

Doors Open

On Saturday morning, the queue of dedicated buyers quickly increased in size waiting for the starter's gun at 8.00am. Nearly one hundred people were ready to rumble as the doors were opened. Our usual greeting team of Bev and Ruth were in place with Lesley waiting in the wings to sell raffle tickets for the amazing prizes. This year, our proceeds from the raffle went to The Friends of the Botanical Gardens.



Boxes were quickly collected, and the buying commenced. Before long, the queue had shifted from outside the door to the cash registers. Eager collectors had surveyed the tables, collected their precious purchases and were ready to depart. Of course, they had to part with some hard-earned money to secure their prized plants – Neoregelias, Vrieseas, Tillandsias, Alcantareas and an assortment of other tropical beauties.

Saturday was one of our most successful Autumn Show days with plants walking out the doors faster than sellers could get them on the tables. Sunday saw a mini-repeat of the previous day with quite a lot more plants magically disappearing from the tables. Sellers were happy because they didn't have too many plants to take home and of course, the buyers were more than happy with their plants.

Overall, the weekend was a huge success. It could not have been so successful without that mighty band of volunteers who dedicate their time to the weekend – THANK YOU. See you all again for the next show.





Photographic Competition from Autumn Show : (Clockwise from Top L)
 1st Bevan Tatnell (*Alcantarea imperialis*)
 2nd Michelle Cameron (*Neoregelia*. 'Cats Pyjamas')
 3rd Michelle Cameron (*Vriesea* 'Arctic White Diamond')
 Highly Commended Michelle Cameron (*Aechmea blanchetiana*)
 Highly Commended Narelle Aizlewood (*Ochagavia carnea*)

Pitcairnia

by Barbara Murray

The Pitcairnioideae subfamily is considered the most primitive of all the Bromeliaceae. *Pitcairnia* were first classified in the genus *Pepinia* then when the genus *Pepinia* was determined to be an invalid genus, *Pitcairnia* was elevated to genus status and absorbed *Pepinia*.

The *Pitcairnia* genus was named by Charles Louis L'Héritier de Brutelle, a French aristocrat and amateur botanist, in 1788, in honour of William Pitcairn, an English physician and botanist (1711-1791). Neotropical Bromeliaceae (Wanderley, Sellaro & Moreira) describes *Pitcairnia* as having *leaves fasciculate or in a dense spiral along the stem, mostly polystichous* (arranged in two or more rows); *petals usually slightly zygomorphic* (having only one plane of symmetry; bilaterally symmetrical) *and convergent over the stamens*. The first reference to a *Pitcairnia* in an American garden for decorative purposes was that of *Pitcairnia corallina* in Santa Barbara in 1880. The earliest recorded species was *Pitcairnia latifolia* which was listed in 1895 as 'having been in the Garden for some time'.

Pitcairnia is one of the largest genus belonging to the Pitcairnioideae subfamily, with 407 different species recognized (TaxonList 14.06.2018). They are second only to *Tillandsia* for the number of species within a genus. *Pitcairnia* have a wide distribution and are typically found in Mexico, the West Indies, Central America and the South American highlands ranging primarily within Brazil, Columbia and Peru.

ODDITY

Pitcairnia boasts of having the only bromeliad growing outside of the Americas – *Pitcairnia feliciana* – growing on rocks and cliffs in French Guinea Western Africa and first discovered and collected by a French botanist Henri Jacques-Felix in 1937.

CHARACTERISTICS

Pitcairnia are found in mountain summits, mountains exposed with vegetation, forests and grasslands. Their natural habitat ranges from humid rain forests to arid highlands. Many *Pitcairnia* prefer moderate temperatures ranging around 27 degrees C. and can be found in mesophytic (average rainfall and temperature) habitats. Some can handle a bit of frost if protection is provided, but it is better to try and avoid this possibility.



Pitcairnia feliciana photo by P Bak
in Die Bromelie 1/2007

Most species prefer environments such as humid rainforests, growing well in dappled shade. Others can also be found in more arid highlands and xerophytic (dry) habitats. They like to grow in high light spaces.

Pitcairnia are primarily terrestrial (growing in the ground) or saxicolous (growing attached to rocks and known as lithophytes). There are a few species that can also be found growing semi epiphytically (climbing on tree trunks), with a rare number growing as epiphytes in trees. Like most of the Pitcairnioideae family, *Pitcairnia* generally lack a tank (phytotelma), depending on either soil, humus between the fissures in rocks or leaf mould in the crotch of trees, for the absorption of water and nutrients through their roots. They prefer moist protected areas or slopes where there is usually running water available. The plants typically form clumps by growing underground rhizomes.



Pitcairnia tabuliformis

Pitcairnia leaves are varied in size and shape. They are usually green – ranging from light greens to deep olive greens. Most are characterized by elongated, soft, flexible, drooping leaves resembling grass. There are some exceptions such as *Pitcairnia tabuliformis*, discovered in Mexico in 1860, with an unusual shape of about 20 green leaves forming a flat rosette with flowers protruding from the centre of this rosette; and *Pitcairnia burle-marxii* which is a small, caulescent plant with a distinct stem and wide discolor leaves and an upright unbranched inflorescence.

Pitcairnia 'Streaker' is registered as a sport of *Pitcairnia echinata* collected in Venezuela and is the only *Pitcairnia* with variegated leaves. There are some *Pitcairnia* which have maroon coloured leaves, others may have grey leaves, some have a silvery scurf or scale. Some leaves have a few spines along the margins, whilst others remain spineless. The sharper spines grow closer to the base of the plant.

Pitcairnia growing in xerophytic areas have caducous (deciduous) leaves. *Pitcairnia heterophylla* native from Mexico to Colombia and Peru was discovered in Mexico and introduced into horticulture in 1838 and has this water conservation mechanism. This plant is deciduous, dropping its leaves at the beginning of the dry season, leaving short brown spikes, then remaining dormant during winter, the dry season in its natural habitat. This helps the plant conserve moisture. Care needs to be taken to ensure it is not overwatered when in this state.

Inflorescences vary – *Pitcairnia* often send up tall, brightly coloured flower scapes of red, orange, green, yellow and purple, which rise high above the leaves, others have inflorescences which do not rise above the top of the leaves. *Pitcairnia corallina* is an example of a unique flowering habit in that its inflorescence of bright red flowers rises slightly above the ground and then proceeds parallel with the ground for long distances as though crawling out from its dense foliage. This species is native to Colombia and Peru and has been in cultivation since the 1850's. Some have simple unbranched spikes, others are branched, some are pendant. Some inflorescences are very showy, others are quite plain. Usually they are long lasting, setting blooms in early summer that can last through autumn.



Top: *P burle-marxii*;
Left: *P heterophylla*
Above: *Pitcairnia* 'Streaker'

The flower stapes usually produce thin tube-shaped flowers that project at right angles from the stalks. Petals are usually red or orange, sometimes yellow or salmon, occasionally tinged with black. White, violet or blue flowers are rarely seen. Petals may be from 2.5cm to 15cm in length. While an inflorescence may be producing flowers each day, the individual flower rarely lasts more than one day.

The flowers are laden with nectar, which is a rich mixture of sugars (glucose, fructose and sucrose) and various insects such as flies, and bees, moths, small bats and hummingbirds pollinate the plants in their natural habitat.

The fruit is usually a capsule with many narrow seeds. The capsule splits in three parts to reveal numerous small, light, dry seeds possessing wings (alate) and/or tails (caudate) to be dispersed by wind (anemochory) and gravity, but the seed cannot be dispersed far by the winds as they are not as effective as the plumose Tillandsioideae seeds which are transported long distances on air, nor are they contained in berry-like fruits to tempt birds or other animals to carry them inadvertently for replanting.

Pitcairnia is easily propagated from seed or by detaching a piece of underground rhizome about a third the size of the parents with roots attached. Some plants form bulbous like growths that can be harvested to provide new plants. *Pitcairnia* will produce offshoots or pups. The pups can be removed and planted separately when about a third the size of the parent or allowed to grow in clumps attached to the mother plant.

If you desire to let the plant grow in clumps, choose a slightly larger pot that will allow the plant to clump. A single rhizome can multiply into a large plant in one season. Repot regularly to allow the plant room to grow or separate and repot the plants once they become too pot bound. Use a well-draining potting mix that has continuous release fertiliser added in. *Pitcairnia* like lots of food. A weak dose of soluble fertiliser can be applied to the soil weekly.

Remember that they absorb the food through their roots so foliar feeding is not beneficial. During low temperatures and shorter days reduce the fertiliser as some *Pitcairnia* become dormant. Water three times a week in summer. During winter, watering can be reduced to twice weekly but watch out for low humidity as this dries out the plant too much. Ensure the water is draining out of the bottom of the pot, then let the potting mix become almost dry between watering. During dry periods a



Above: *Pitcairnia corallina*
Below: *Pitcairnia xanthocalyx* flower



saucer under the pot ensures the soil does not completely dry out. Using plastic pots rather than clay pots is also an aid in maintaining moist conditions for the soil. Depending on the species they prefer to be kept moist but not soggy. *Pitcairnia* can be susceptible to root rot when the potting medium remains too wet. If the plant looks pot bound, check the roots and if required separate the plants by using a spade to cut the plant into halves or quarters before repotting as the plants are difficult to separate. For smaller plants a knife can be used. Purchase potting soil formulated specifically for bromeliads or mix your own using half regular potting mix and half perlite or sand. Indoor plant mix is also suitable.

Pitcairnia can be excellent bedding plants in temperate climates, clumping to provide dense screens and borders, looking like ornamental grasses when not in bloom and then displaying a stunning inflorescence for a long time. Plant them in well-draining soil and shaded areas, avoiding the direct afternoon sun. They may be prone to disease or mealybug infestation if dead leaves are not removed and air circulation is restricted. *Pitcairnia* also make excellent indoor plants but require regular misting when grown indoors.

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BROMELIACEAE JULY 1970

To the members

Getting out this journal is no picnic. If we print jokes, people say we are silly. If we don't then we are too serious. If we clip things from other magazines, we are too lazy to write them ourselves. If we don't, we are too fond of our own stuff. If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate true genius. If we do print them, the Journal is full of junk.

Now, as like as not, someone will say we swiped this from some other magazine.

We did!

So, let's have your problems, no matter how small and some other member can learn from the answer.

BROMELIACEAE 2018

Nothing has changed!!!

The Unruly Pitcairnia

by Chet Blackburn

Journal of The Bromeliad Society, 1997, volume 47(1), pp24-25. Chet Blackburn, who was the Journal's editor at the time, takes a light-hearted, but insightful, look at some of the peculiarities of the Pitcairnia/Pepinia genera.

Every family has a horse thief somewhere in its past. In fact, for many families, horse thieves make up one or more branches of the family tree. In my family, they probably make up the whole damned canopy, but the point is that no family is without the occasional outsider who refuses to conform to the traditions held by the rest of its members – an outlaw who refuses to behave like every other member of the family.

And so it is with bromeliads. The recalcitrant member of this otherwise stable family is the genus Pitcairnia. Pitcairnia, and its unruly brother genus Pepinia, do not follow the rules that 'everyone knows' apply to bromeliads. This in spite of the fact that Pitcairnia is one of the first bromeliad genera to evolve.

Prove it you say? Let's just cite some examples:

- Maple trees are deciduous, grapevines are deciduous, tulips are deciduous, but 'everyone knows' that bromeliads are not deciduous. Someone needs to explain that to the small group of pitcairnia which annually shed their leaves to get through the dry season.
- 'Everyone knows' that a bromeliad leaf consists of a blade and a sheath. No one looks at a bromeliad expecting to see a leaf with a petiole. Yet some of the pitcairnia can't even seem to get this simple morphological adaptation right.
- The family Bromeliaceae is restricted to the western hemisphere - every member of the family but one species is found there. Care to guess which genus includes the solitary outcast?
- 'Everyone knows' that one of the main characteristics for sorting out the three subfamilies of bromeliaceae are the presence or absence of spines on the foliage. The subfamilies Bromelioideae and Pitcairnioideae have them, Tillandsioideae does not. Leave it to Pitcairnia to disrupt this comfortable scheme by some of its members having both types of leaves – spiny and spineless – on the same plant. Some even have spines at the bases of the leaf but none along the blades.
- 'Everyone knows' that bromeliads do not like to be overwatered or grow in soggy soil. Yet there are pitcairnia growing in the wild in what can only be described as sopping wet conditions.

Bromeliads, like orchids, are the subjects of rampant if not random hybridizing.

Hybridizers can't seem to pass a pair of blooming bromeliads without wondering what the offspring between them would look like. For example, there are only about 40 species of Cryptanthus, but there are close to a thousand hybrids and cultivars listed, the differences between some of them so small that 'subtle' would be too strong a word to use in describing them.

There are less than 100 Neoregelia species described, but there are 100 pages of hybrids and cultivars (about 21 plants per page) listed in Don Beadle's Preliminary Listing of All Known Cultivar and Grex Names for the Bromeliaceae.

Therefore, you would expect a huge genus like Pitcairnia, second only to Tillandsia in the number of species in the bromeliad family, to have been hybridized and cultivated to high heaven, wouldn't you? Beadle lists eleven hybrids and no cultivars.

Another compulsion of hybridizers is the creation of bigenerics. There are a lot of horticultural Doctor Franksteins among hybridizers who are bent on creating new life forms, even if some of them do turn out to be monsters. Navia is the genus closest to Pitcairnia, hence it is the most likely candidate for bigeneric dallying, but have you ever heard of an xNavcairnia? If even the hybridizers ignore a genus, you know it must be a disreputable one.

That bromeliad growers will collect almost anything is apparent by the fact that some of those bigenerics remain in collections. Why in the world would anyone want to grow a xNeomea 'Nebula' for example? Still, as indiscriminate as we bromeliad collectors often are, do you know anyone who has as many as six of the 320 or so species of Pitcairnia in their collection.

Not only are pitcairnias a primitive bunch, but as shown above, they are also an unruly one. For the sake of simplicity, in this discussion no distinction is made between the genera Pepinia and Pitcairnia. They both were formerly included as subgenera of Pitcairnia, but recently Pepinia has been elevated to the status of genus. However, I might add, that in his introduction to The Alphabetical List of Bromeliad Binominals, Harry Luther remarks, 'Nomenclatural problems continue to plague the resurrected genus Pepinia. A number of taxa that appear to belong in Pepinia have never been formally transferred from Pitcairnia.'

Why doesn't that surprise me?

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From Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society Brom-Link Mar-Apr 2018

Bigeneric bromeliad refers to a hybrid between bromeliads of two different genera. The term intergeneric refers to the next step when 3 or more different genera are involved.

Most hybrids are between bromeliads within the same genera (e.g. *Vriesea* x *Vriesea* or *Neoregelia* x *Neoregelia*). In some cases, growers are able to cross different genera as well. Most of these crosses are not likely to happen in nature, but experienced horticulturists have discovered techniques for propagating these unique hybrids. These hybrids, called bigenerics or intergenerics, are indicated with an x in front of the new genera name to distinguish them from standard, botanically described genera names (e.g. x*Neomea*).

Geoff Lawn, in an article posted by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, states the following:

'Bromeliad bigenerics are virtually unknown in the wild because fertility barriers, different blooming times and geographical range prevent most species in different genera from cross-breeding by specialised pollinators. Even in large cultivated mixed collections where breeders can try many combinations, there are no readily available records on the success/failure ratio of attempts, probably because hybridists work mainly in isolation and we tend to hear only of the progeny which survived and were not culled. Certainly, pollen storage assists with otherwise non-simultaneous flowering parents but the biggest obstacle to success appears to be genetically incompatible partners. The potential parents' genes simply don't mix, at least not with current plant breeding technology'.

To date (March 2018), the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry lists approximately 580 different bigenerics within 41 genera and 73 bigeneric groups. To be expected, every bigeneric has been produced from two genera within one sub-family, never Bromelioideae crossed with Tillandsioideae or Pitcairnioideae (or combination thereof.) Their biological differences are just too great and cause rejection.

It is often quoted that all bigenerics turn out sterile ('mules' - i.e. they can't be reproduced from seed), which may be true in most cases. However, the first intergeneric has just been registered by Geoff Lawn: x*Hohenquesmea* 'Valley Hoodoo' which is x*Quesmea* 'Nifty Nev' x *Hohenbergia rosea* therefore *Quesnelia* x *Aechmea* x *Hohenbergia*. These are all in the subfamily Bromelioideae. The hybridiser is Aaron Smythe from QLD.



Sincoraea navioides



Neoregelia 'Blushing Bride'



x Sincoregelia 'Lisanne Kiehl'

x*Sincoregelia* 'Lisanne Kiehl' is shown left with its parents – *Sincoria navioides* (a species) and *Neoregelia* 'Blushing Bride'



Sincoraea navioides



Neoregelia meyendorffii

x*Sincoregelia* 'Galactic Warrior' is shown right with its parents – *Sincoria navioides* and *Neoregelia Meyendorffii*



xSincoregelia 'Galactic Warrior'

Initially, the majority of bigenerics were primary crosses (i.e. species x species) and those parents which are least alike tended to produce the most distinctive offspring.

Dominant and recessive characteristics play a role in individual crossings, with some progeny intermediate between both parents, while other hybrids appear more like their seed parent or pollen parent, at least at species level.

The genetics with bigenerics are more complex with hybrid x hybrid or hybrid x species pairings, producing a mixed range of siblings even from the same seed batch.

We have both gained and lost bigeneric genera through botanical reclassification of their parent genera or individual species within. For example, *xpitinia* (*Pitcairnia* x *Pepinia*) no



Aechmea serrata (above R) and *Ananus comosus* (lower R) are the parents of *xAnamea* 'Raspberry Ice' (Left)

longer exists because most botanists agreed that all *Pepinia* species be transferred back to *Pitcairnia*.

xNidumea 'Beacon' became *xAechopsis* 'Beacon' when one of its parents, *Nidularium burchellii*, became *Canistropsis burchellii*. Some coined bigeneric genera names have had to be standardised (alternate first and last syllable of both genera names combined). For example, the combination *Nidularium* x *Neoregelia*, now *xNiduregelia*, used to be called *xNeolarium*. With the addition of recent new genera in the Pitcairnioideae and Bromelioideae subfamilies, there have been further losses and additions to bigeneric names.



Androlepis skinneri x *Aechmea distichantha* = *xAndrolaechmea* 'O'Rourke'

Spiders, Scale or Beneficial Mites

This article is reprinted from the Far North Coast Bromeliad Study Group NSW January 2018 Newsletter

In August 2017 Geoff Lawn was asked by a grower in Western Australia (WA): 'I was wondering if you have ever come across a possible pest that almost looks like scale but isn't scale?' I know that sounds strange so will explain in more detail. They are perfectly round, pure white things approximately 1.5 - 2mm in size that feel and almost looks like spider web. I have noticed an abundance of really small spiders that are so small that you wouldn't notice them unless looking for them. They have a small cream/white patch on the abdomen and seem to be always near these white spots.

I did come across an article (below) that says it is a predatory mite and the photo and text of the article sound exactly like what I have.

Whatever it is, it doesn't seem to feed on the plants or do any damage at all and they can even be found on the edge of pots. They feel flat, but when the spiders hatch out they get a slightly raised area and a pin hole sized opening where they have emerged. I have noticed they are more prolific in the warmer months.

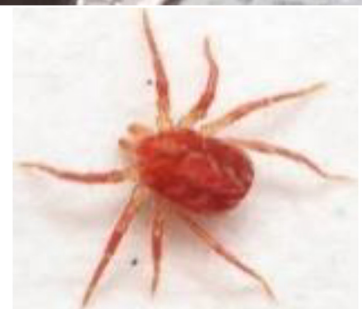
Like I say: no damage to plants - just doesn't look nice. I did a trial spray with Confidor and while no more spots turned up in that section the sacs still hatched. They also just wipe off easily or hose off but seem to get into awkward places.

The following is the article sent:

Weekend Gardener, issue 179, 2005, Auckland New Zealand

Q: Some of my Bromeliads have what look like scale on them, but it's only on the upper surface of the leaves.

A: The spots on your sample certainly did resemble scale, but as they were only on the upper surface and there was no sign of young scales, I had them checked out at HortResearch. It turns out they are the empty egg sacs of a predatory mite, probably a species of *Anystis*, which are known as whirligig mites. They are a good bug to have in the garden as they hunt down and eat some mites which are plant pests.



If you scrape off the empty egg sacs you'll find there is a pale spot underneath where light hasn't been getting through to the leaf surface, given time that should colour up as chlorophyll returns and photosynthesis becomes active again.

Geoff Lawn: 'I hadn't seen this white rounded egg sac around Perth until four months ago when there were a few sacs on several *Neoregelia* 'Hannibal Lector' I bought from a late WA Bromeliad Society. member's estate. I recognised them from when I visited the Olive Branch Nursery (Brisbane) four years ago and again recently just after the Sunnybroms Conference at Caloundra. I did ask Olive about them, but she thought they were harmless egg sacs (which they are) from some insect.

They are easily brushed away or picked off (possibly by birds too if in the open) and never leave a permanent mark (in my experience). I have only ever seen it on *Neoregelias*, never on pots and as you say, more in the warmer months. The sacs are never clumped but rather well-spaced and I never saw any more than about six sacs per plant, usually easily visible, but there again, I wasn't about to inspect every leaf axil of maybe 50,000 *Neoregelias*!

Confidor is systemic so wouldn't kill the pupae in sacs which are not at the sap-sucking stage -- if they have such a phase (sounds unlikely).

I googled *Anystis* and it seems they predate on other mite species. I saw also a reference that they were introduced to WA from France way back to biologically control agricultural/pastoral mite pests.

Your photo and the article from the New Zealand garden magazine opened my eyes but I'm glad we have nothing to seriously worry about.'

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So I want to Show My Bromeliads!

by Rob Murray

Inside the mind of a judge

Each year The Bromeliad Society of Queensland has two shows as part of their Bromeliad Bonanza (Autumn and Spring). I've attended a few now and watch as people bring in plants for the shows, place them on the benches, wait while the judges cast their eyes over them and then rush up to see how they scored. Sometimes, there are smiles of joy while others seem to be not so happy – that's life.

No matter whether you show orchids, macramé, dogs or bromeliads, judges make decisions based on information that has been determined as most appropriate for the item being judged. Usually this is provided in a set of guidance notes or a 'Judge's Handbook'. They are also individuals and so they might differ in their views on plants. Usually, considerable training and experience is required prior to being awarded the badge of honour and title of 'Judge'.

To help me understand what is required when benching plants, I thought I'd attempt to explain a few things that might be of use to others in the society. To help me understand this, I stole my wife's copy of the Bromeliad Society International's tome- *The Handbook for Judges, Affiliates and Exhibitors (Revised August 2012)*. It is a wonderful source of knowledge and worth obtaining a copy if you want to show your plants seriously. There is also a copy in the library.

What about me?

I don't grow bromeliads, I build shade houses, I shovel potting mix, I carry pots and I love to look at the beautiful plants. I must be nuts. Of course, I do spend some money buying the odd plant but most of the time I am the financier – 'Do you have any money so I can buy that plant?'

Where do I start?

There are many places where We could start but I thought that perhaps understanding what the judges are looking for would be a good place. I will put pen to paper and write a couple more of these jottings to assist in understanding this complex process as time progresses.

Our judges use the Bromeliad Society International Ribbon Award based judging which uses a process where plants are awarded 100 points as they are placed on the tables for judging. Throughout the judging process points are deducted as imperfections are found or other issues discovered.

Worth noting at this point is that there are multiple categories, divisions, sections and classes within the show and most are judged using slight variations of the criteria. So, for this discussion, I thought it best to limit discussion at this stage to the HORTICULTURAL Category and about two DIVISIONS (Single and Multiple) and two SECTIONS (Blooming and Foliage).

To help understand this, let's look at the definitions of each.

Single Plant

This is defined as 'One mature or near mature bromeliad in a single pot (or mounted); may include only immature pups too small for removal from the mother plant'.

This is relatively straight forward and basically says a single plant in a pot or mounted. That shouldn't be too hard to establish. Notes for judges indicate that the plants for Individual Specimen Bromeliads are shown terrestrially in utilitarian, unobtrusive pots. In most cases, a black pot. Pups should only exist if they are so small that their removal might jeopardize their survival.

Multiple

The definition indicates 'Any single pot containing two or more mature or near mature bromeliads (with or without pups). All plants must be naturally interconnected'.



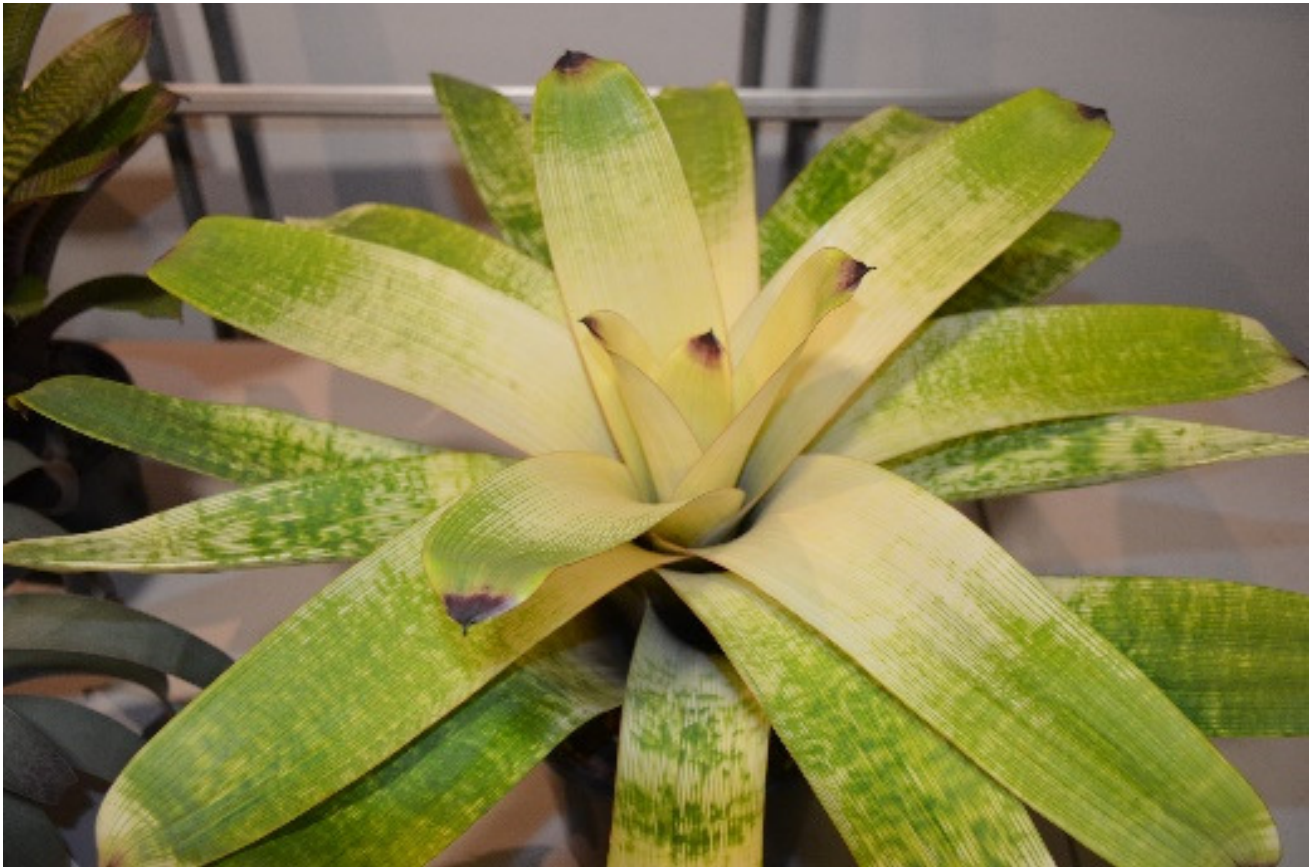
Again, this is relatively straight forward. The key point to note here is that the plants must be mature or near mature and must be naturally interconnected. A plant originally planted in the centre of a pot may not reproduce in a neat symmetrical manner so undue emphasis is not placed on this. Old stumps should be covered through the skilful use of top dressing.

Blooming Plant

A 'Blooming Plant' is defined as 'any bromeliad judged not only for its foliage, but also for its inflorescence, which includes all floral parts, such as flowers, rachis, bracts, and/or berries. Flowers do not have to be open but should show evidence that at least one was open or will open soon.'

Foliage Plant

A 'Foliage Plant' is defined as 'bromeliads to be judged for their foliage.'



A plant with a very immature inflorescence (e.g. a *Neoregelia* with a small button in the bottom of the cup) may be entered in this section provided the formation of the inflorescence has caused no intensification of the plant's normal colouration or change in its confirmation'.

Hmmm! This is starting to get tough. Wonder what they want to do next? Well, there are a number of other points for consideration but I thought I'd jump straight to judging the plant. We can talk about preparation and presentation in another paper.

So Where are the 100 Points?

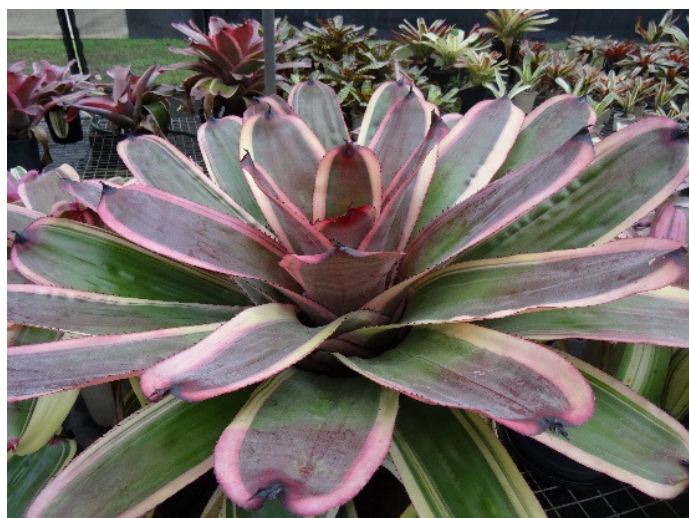
When judging Individual Specimen Bromeliads or Multiples in either the Blooming or Foliage Sections, an allocation of points for selected criteria is used. Judges are required to look at a number of Categories as explained below.

Categories in Point Scale	Maximum Points Allocated	
	Blooming Plants	Foliage Plants
Cultural perfection	30	30
Conformation of plant(s) including inflorescence	20	30
Colour and marking of plant(s) excluding inflorescence	20	30
Inflorescence: size, quality, quantity, colour	20	-
Maturity of plant(s)	10	10
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>

Sounds simple but what does all this mean? (**NOTE:** *Just a reminder that there are different point allocations for other DIVISIONS such as Decorative Containers and Artistic Arrangements.*)

Here is a summary of the meaning of each of the Categories.

Cultural Perfection



As the category suggests, judges focus on the effort, knowledge and ability of the grower to present a culturally perfect plant. A healthy plant at the peak of its maturity will shine because it has been grown in the proper environment.

Judges look at the plant's *condition* – the physical appearance of your plant. Ideally, a compact growth that is free of disease meets the requirements. Judges need to understand the growth of the plant as not all are perfectly round, but they should be

symmetrical as balance and harmony of their parts is the key.

Points would be deducted for brown tips, marred foliage, sunburn, cold damaged leaves, leaves that have folded up or channelled because of a lack of water or humidity as well as any insect or disease damage.

Trimming of leaves is permissible BUT there are limits. It generally depends on the number of leaves a plant should have. Holes in foliage, bruises and creased leaves are penalised proportionally to the degree of damage and how much it detracts from the plant.

The age of a plant is part of the cultural perfection assessment. Some plants mature faster than others. I feel for the Tillandsia growers who generally have to wait for years to get a good plant to show. Plants that mature quickly should be penalised more severely for cultural defects than those that have taken more time and care to reach maturity.

Points will also be deducted if the plant is not centred in the pot, there is a lack of proportion between plant and pot as well as a compatibility of colour and texture. The pot, plant, mix or mount must be scrupulously clean or points will disappear. You are allowed to top dress the pot. The judging instructions state that leaf shine or any other grease **MUST NOT** be used.

Scale is often found in collections and so the instructions to judges reflect that if the judge discerns that there might be scale and there are only a few suspicious flecks, the plant can be judged with the deduction of some points. Live scale, present in large amounts will be removed and disqualified.

Conformation of Plant including Inflorescence

This simply means that the plant should be typical for its genus, species variety or cultivar. Shape and character should reflect the type of plant when compared with the 'ideal' plant. Looking at the plant from above and the side allows symmetry and silhouette to be checked. Trimming can alter the plants appearance and so its conformation is affected and penalties are also deducted in this category.

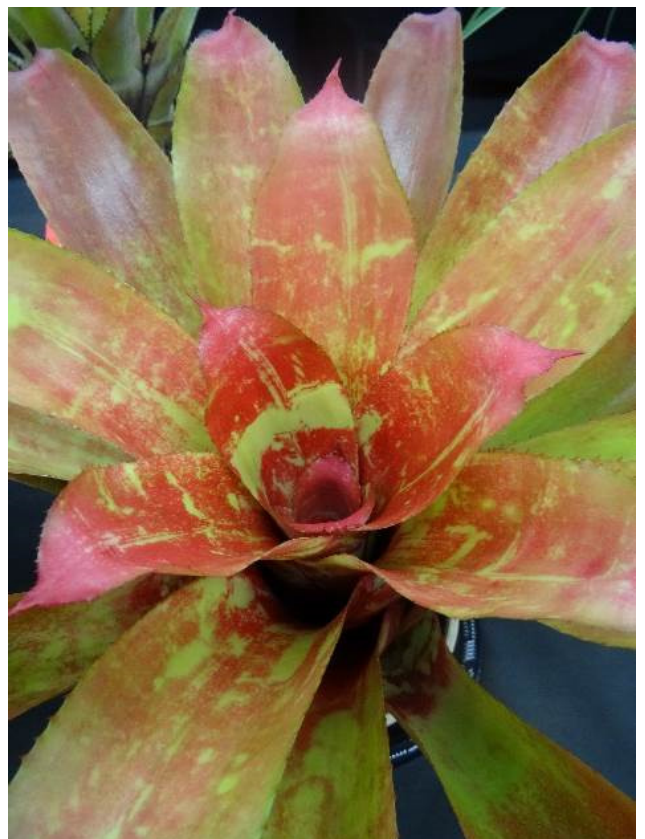
Colour and Marking of Plant excluding Inflorescence

Judges are looking for plants where the colour is true for a particular variety. While looking at marking in relation to the amount, distribution, design and clarity, consideration is also given to bleaching or fading of colour. It is up to the grower to get the best results through careful experimentation of light control.

Better clones will provide better colour. The handbook refers to colour as 'clear, fresh, pure, brilliant and attractive'. This means that it should never be murky, clouded, dingy, dull or dreary.

Plants will be penalised for colour instability, colour breaks, changes of colour and textural dimpling and pitting from dehydration, burning or water spots as well as blemishes due to mechanical injury, insects and disease.

Variegated plants should have the colour present in more or less equal amounts on each



leaf and the colour should be consistent i.e. if white or cream then not murky yellow green. With variegation, those identified as 'albo-marginated' should display this variegation consistently.

Inflorescence



The judges are looking for a bloom that is 'true for its species, variety or cultivar'. An inflorescence that is fresh, graceful and of maximal size with clear colour indicating that it is at its peak is the desired standard. Judges are looking at the entire floral stalk or stem, rhachis, involucre and floral bracts, flower parts, such as sepals, petal stamen, pistils. Berries may also exist.

It is permissible to remove spent blooms or bracts to enhance the plant. Any pollen which has fallen on leaves should also be removed.

For some plants, flowers do not have to be open as they might be night time flowering. The flower is only part of the total inflorescence.

A plant with berries should be entered in this section but should not be penalised as much for fading that may have occurred.

The attitude of the rhachis should be characteristic for the species and not immature or undersized.

Maturity of Plant

This does not necessarily refer to the fact that the plant is blooming. Something else may have caused the bloom. The key is that plant size should be optimal but not grossly overgrown. Bigger is not necessarily best – quality and optimal size should be rewarded.

When looking at size, judges should consider penalising plants that are leggy, lanky and floppy specimens that have been grown in less than optimal light.

What Next?

Now we've a sample of what judges are looking for, we can go about preparing our plants for the show. I'll put together some notes for exhibitors that might help bring your plants to 'show ready' status and talk about the various awards that are given – a challenge for most.

It is an ongoing issue as to the naming of plants within a species which show some variation from others in the species. Nurseries and collectors tend to add descriptive terms such as Orange, Giant, Pink etc. That is useful to collectors at point of purchase particularly with the genus *Tillandsia* where offsets and seedlings demonstrate few of the characteristics of the mature plant and the flowering.

Technically, any variant having a consistent form, demonstrably different, available in sufficient numbers, and details of the plant available to publish should be given a cultivar name. By way of example a cultivar could end up with the name *Tillandsia* 'Freddy's Joy'. The link back to the species can be traced in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR) where photos to identify the cultivar together with physical measurements and origin are recorded. Personally, I believe the cultivar should continue to run as *Tillandsia xyz* 'Freddy's Joy' but that is solely a personal view and this airing may generate correspondence to the Editor. (*Incidentally correspondence is welcomed and would show the magazine is being read thoughtfully*). My rationale is that a collector could be sold on the idea of something new in 'Freddy's Joy' but then finds it is a cultivar of *T. xyz* when he/she thinks they have enough *xyz* examples. The use of *T. funckiana* in this argument is a bit weak as the forms pretty clearly look like *T. funckiana* as even 'Blind Freddy' could see -but that's not the case for many other species.

The following notes come from the BCR and explain the Registrar's position on naming cultivars. You will notice the concept of a group is introduced so we have such things as *T. ionantha* Group, *N. carolinae* Group, etc.

CULTIVAR GROUP replaces the concept of *Grex* and covers all plants that look similar irrespective of parentage. As an example, in the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry 1998 there are listed cultivars of *Neoregelia carolinae* but we will be going further than that and include hybrids that have a look of *Neoregelia carolinae* about them to form a cultivar group. Because better known species names are fairly static and are defined we intend to use them as much as possible thus *Carolinae* group or *Concentrica* Group etc. As this develops it will mean that enquiries can be made on look-alike cultivars via this cultivar group code. It may even develop that different genera will have different solutions, but each must be simple and easy to understand.

SPORT is a visible asexual mutation. A **SPORT** is acceptable as a **CULTIVAR** provided it is reasonably stable. Although rare in most **CULTIVARS** it generally arises in the form of variegation. It is also liable to change. Therefore, we will want to know the identity of the plant whose offset produced the mutation. There is a much closer relationship between a plant and its sport relative than in a *grex* relationship and this link will be shown in the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry.

CHOOSING CULTIVARS TO BE NAMED

The most important decision you must make before attempting to register a cultivar is to satisfy yourself that the cultivar is truly unique and recognizable. Cultivars should be

grown through several cycles of pupping and blooming to ensure that they are stable and reproduce consistently. Another reason for having the period of testing is so that you have more than one plant in existence. It would not be in the interests of Registration if there were only just the one plant and nothing to propagate asexually when this dies.

‘Recognizable’ should mean that the cultivar has unique characteristics which allow it to be identified or recognised without a tag, especially by someone other than yourself. This decision is yours to make and your best judgment is required to prevent the registration of large numbers of essentially identical plants under different cultivar names. For instance, if you make a hybrid grex consisting of a variety of clones or cultivars, selecting and registering only the truly unique clone or clones is the most appropriate way to proceed. The next appropriate thing to do is to destroy the balance of the grex.

Tillandsia ionantha is notorious for having lots of variants many of which have registered cultivar names. The *Tillandsia ionantha* cultivar list can be found on the Bromeliad Society of Australia (BSA) website www.bromeliad.org.au in the *T ionantha* entry and also under ‘What’s New’ on their Home page. The Bromeliad Cultivar Register also has the table.

Gender Balance as an Issue

While an obvious honour lies in having a plant named after one that assures immortality, after death, the immortality is disproportionately gender skewed. There is no doubt, historically women have not had the same opportunities as men, and this is also true in the research, discovery and naming of plants including Tillandsias. For centuries, western men were supported in expeditions to exotic lands to discover, collect and name new plants. Consequently, a disparate number of Tillandsias are named after men.

It is well known in art that male artists are most often referred to by their surname, while in texts women artists retain their first name. There is a point in an established artist’s career where the surname can stand as a brand. Picasso, Matisse, Braque, Dali, Ernst, Pollock are examples enough. However, there was a tendency for women artists like Hannah Höch, Méret Oppenheim, Suzanne Valadon, Georgia O’Keeffe to have their first name retained.

Interestingly this also emerges in the naming of Tillandsias where there are many examples of Tillandsias named after the surnames of men - *T. andreana*, *T. baileyi*, *T. bartramii*, *T. bergeri*, *T. butzii*, *T. duratii*, *T. gardneri*, *T. gilliesii*, *T. harrisii*, *T. hammeri* etc. While Tillandsias named after women simply use their first name - *T. dorotheae*, *T. edithae*, *T. elizabethae*. *T. albertiana* appears to be one of the few species that applies a male first name.

Tillandsia funckiana and Tillandsia andreana by John Olsen

I started thinking about the forms of *T. funckiana* and this led me into the murky world of cultivar naming or not naming. I then produced some notes included above. Then, interestingly, research about *T. funckiana* showed there have long been recognised forms of *T. funckiana* and indeed early taxonomists lumped it with *T. andreana*. The flowers of both are similar but as the pair of photos below show, there is a notable difference in morphology – i.e. *funckiana* is a caulescent plant with the leaf bases tight against the stem and *andreana* has leaves spreading from its base and flowers included in the leaves. The stamens are clearly exerted in *T. funckiana* and within the petals in *T. andreana*.



The following is extracted from the BSI Journal

***Tillandsia andreana* and *Tillandsia funckiana* compared** Text by Werner Rauh in *J. Brom. Soc.* 39(3): 111-118. 1989

Two of the most beautiful and attractive small tillandsias, much favoured by amateurs and Tillandsia collectors, are Tillandsia andreana E. Morren ex Andre and T. funckiana Baker. The former was described by E. Morren and pictured in Andre's Bromeliaceae andreanae (Paris, 1889), plate XXIX B. The latter was published by J. G. Baker in his Handbook of the Bromeliaceae (London, 1889), page 196. In spite of these facts, L.B. Smith and R.J. Downs recognize only one species, namely T. andreana and regard T. funckiana as synonymous with it. Francisco Oliva follows with his beautiful book, Bromeliaceae of Venezuela (Caracas, 1987) and describes only T. andreana.

On the other hand, the well-known but prematurely deceased German tillandsia collector, Alfred Blass stated that Tillandsia andreana and T. funckiana are two different and distinct species. He published a note to that effect in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society 27(4): 160-2. 1977 but it seems that his note has been forgotten. Accordingly, we have decided to demonstrate once more the difference between the two species on the basis of material collected in Colombia in the type locality and in Venezuela in the dry valley of the Rio Chama near Merida and at Las Trincheras on the way to Puerto Cabello.

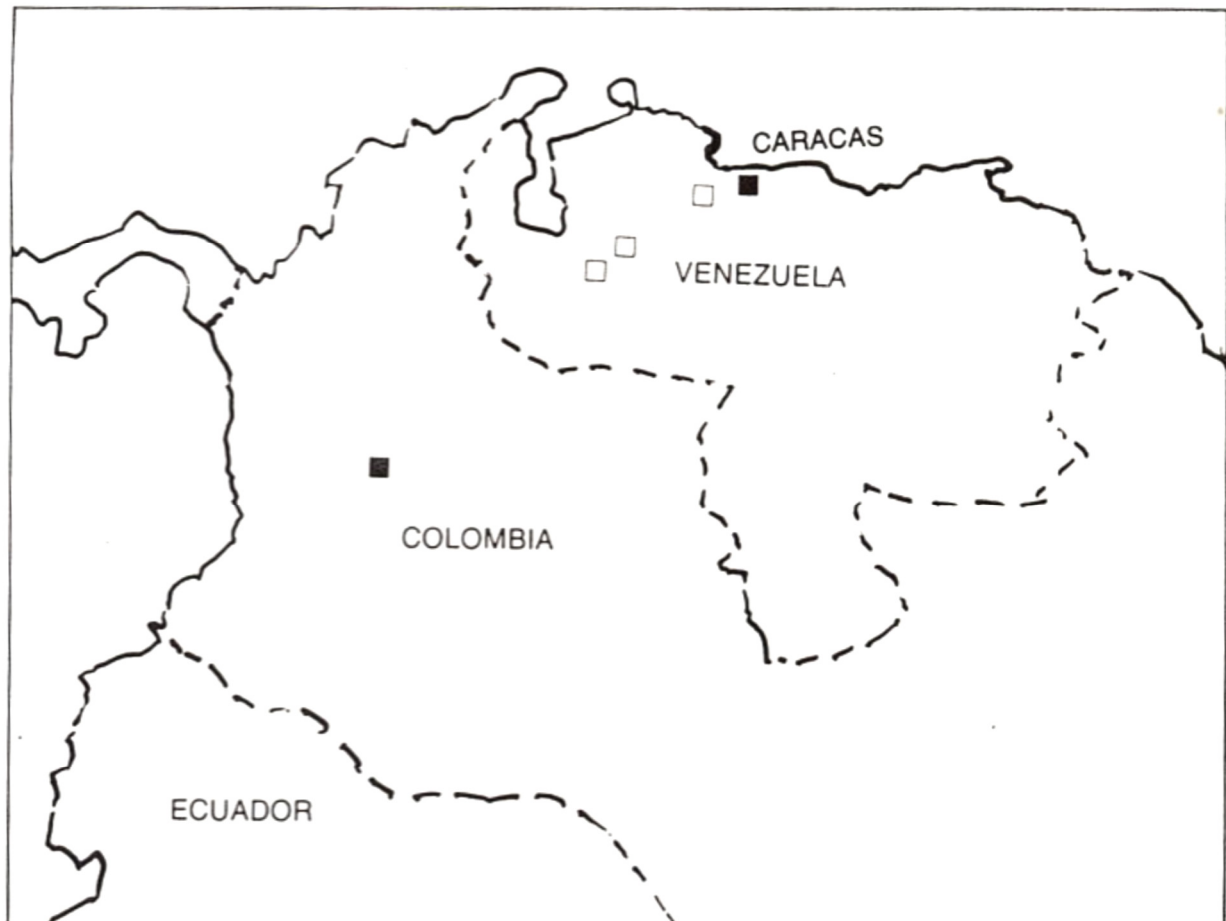


Fig. 7

Geographic distribution map of *Tillandsia andreana* ■ and *Tillandsia funckiana* □.

Tillandsia andreana is self-fertile. Andre himself, who discovered this beautiful species, did not see these plants in flower but only when they were in fruit.

T. funckiana grows mostly on dry rock walls in the valley of the Rio Chama, near Merida, exposed to full sun. Enrique Graf, Caracas, found only one specimen growing as an epiphyte on trees in the region of Barinas. It is characterized by thick stems and silver-gray, spreading to recurved leaves.

Trincheras is a very isolated locality about 600 km by air from Merida on the way to Puerto Cabello, Prov. Carabobo, near the Caribbean Sea where it was first found in 1938 by Alston, no 5716. Enrique Graf recollected the plant in the same locality and he reports that the locality, also dry rocks, is full of snakes. He has never seen so many snakes in Venezuela as in Las Trincheras.

In contrast with *Tillandsia andreana*, *T. funckiana* is self-sterile and when in cultivation produces fruits only with pollination by specimens of different clones. The flowers, typical hummingbird (colibri) flowers, last several days.

We conclude that *Tillandsia funckiana* and *T. andreana* are two different and distinct species belonging to two different subgenera: *T. andreana* to the subgenus *Anoplophytum* (stamens included with plicate filaments; style slender, longer than the ovary); *T. funckiana* to the subgenus *Tillandsia* (stamens and style long exserted, filaments straight).

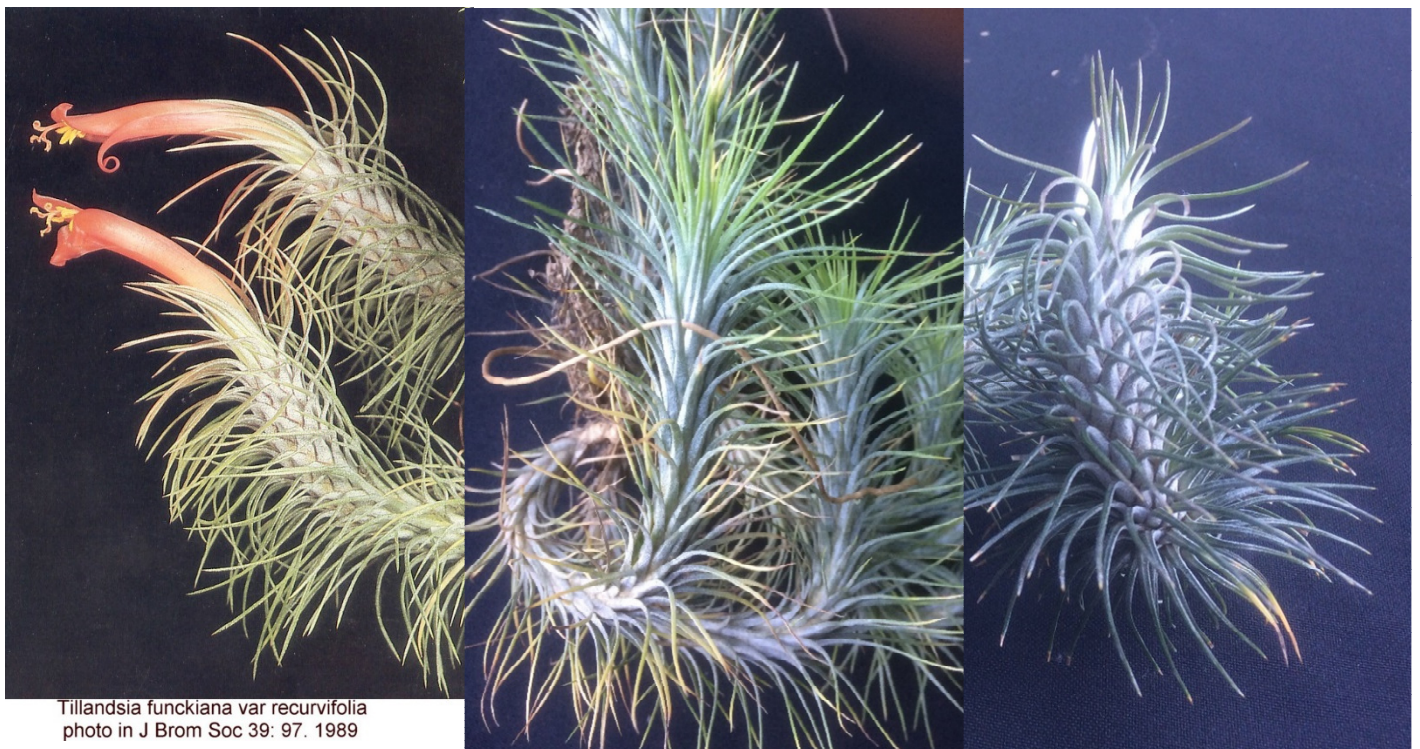
While *Tillandsia andreana* is very uniform and not variable concerning its habit and its growth form, *T. funckiana* is a very variable species. In the Heidelberg Botanical Garden, we cultivate forms with long and short leaves, forms with silver-gray leaf blades (densely lepidote) and some with green blades (with fewer scales) with thin and thicker stems (fig. 12). But these are only forms and not worth being described as distinct varieties; they all grow on rocks in the provinces of Merida and Carabobo.

There is one form, of which the locality is not known, that differs from all the other forms of *T. funckiana* by the strongly recurved leaves. It was named '*recurvifolia*' by A. Blass.

So there is only the one variety of *T. funckiana* recorded in the Taxon List – *T. funckiana* var. *recurvifolia*. Rauh saw considerable variation in *T. funckiana*, but he did not consider these to warrant description as distinct varieties. To date only one registration of a cultivar has occurred in the BCR – *T. 'Domingo's Funckiana'* which has yellow leaves and petals at flowering. (Photo right by Jerry Domingo from BCR)



BELOW: L: *T. funckiana* var. *recurvifolia*. from Rauh's BSI article; Middle: in Australia as *T. funckiana* var. *recurvifolia* and R: a larger, and more tightly recurved form usually labelled *T. funckiana* var. *recurvifolia* Large.



There are many other varieties in Australia running under a plethora of 'Nurseryman Names'. Ones in my collection are named as shown in the table.

Label	Photo	Notes
<i>Marron</i>	Top L	Similar to var. recurvifolia but with grey undersides to each leaf and red on the top surface. Forms a tight cylinder of leaf bases against the stem
<i>Brom_L #51</i>	Top centre	Erect green. Grown from seed obtained from Brom-L seedbank. Identical to <i>Euro 2011</i> (imported by Peter Tristram from Europe in 2011)
<i>Grey Leaf</i>	Top R	Silver grey leaf base with red tips at flowering
<i>Large Silver</i>	Lower L	Silver/grey leaves which are longer and looser on the stem
<i>Small Red</i>	Lower Centre	As implied – a small form with perennially red leaf tips and forming a tight cylinder along the stem. Red undersides to leaves.
<i>Stricta form</i>	Lower R	Erect leaves and red tints





It has taken us some time to accept that *Edmundoa* is a special sort of the old *Canistrum*. I try to think of them as having hairy flowers! I had always thought that *Edmundoa ambigua* had red primary bracts even though this is not mentioned in the description but recent photos on Florapix has shown these can be green. This started me pondering why we had *Edmundoa lindenii* var *rosea*.

In the 1980's we had the following Key to Varieties and Forms of ***Canistrum lindenii***

1. Primary and outer bracts yellowish white to nearly white, sometimes faintly green at apex; inflorescence 100-500-flowered. var ***lindenii***.
2. Inflorescence sunk in the center of the rosette or raised only slightly var ***lindenii*** forma ***lindenii***.
2. Inflorescence raised 20 cm or more above the center of the rosette. var ***lindenii*** forma ***elatum***.
1. Primary and outer bracts coloured green or rose; inflorescence 50-90-flowered.
3. Primary and outer bracts green. var ***viride***.
4. Inflorescence raised 20 cm or more above the center of the rosette. var ***viride*** forma ***magnum***.
4. Inflorescence sunk in the centre of the rosette or raised only slightly. var ***viride*** forma ***parvum***.
3. Primary and outer bracts rose to bright red. var ***roseum***.
5. Inflorescence raised 15 cm or more above the centre of the rosette. var ***roseum*** forma ***procerum***.
5. Inflorescence sunk in the centre of the rosette or raised only slightly. var ***roseum*** forma ***humile***.

Then in 1997 we had *Edmundoa lindenii* (Regel) Leme, var. *lindenii Canistrum* – Brom Atl. Forest 46-51. 1997 where all the varieties disappeared except for var. *rosea* This is what Leme had to say at the time.

After examining numerous E. lindenii plants in the wild, Reitz (1950, 1952) arranged this material in varieties and forms, separating the type variety with its yellowish, whitish or greenish tipped bracts from the variety viride with its entirely green bracts. He subdivided these varieties into forms based on the length of the floral scape (inflorescence sunken or raised). He used the same criterion to establish forms for the variety rosea, and also mentioned the smaller number of flowers in this variety when compared to the type variety.

Reitz's criteria were discarded here because, though very logical from an horticultural point of view, they are decidedly artificial. The color gradation of the involucre and primary bracts, from yellowish to whitish to green, falls within a very narrow range of chromatic variation, so much so that some specimens even have a combination of these colors (yellowish or whitish with a greenish apex). Furthermore, in the post flowering stage, the yellowish-whitish bracts may become greenish toward the apex (pers. obs.). The continued use of this criterion would encourage the establishment of numerous, biologically inconsistent varieties. For this reason, the variety viride with its entirely green bracts was considered to be a mere color variation of the type variety and was therefore placed in synonymy.



The creation of forms based on scape length was also seen as artificial. I observed that specimens with a well-developed scape, that raised the inflorescence well above the rosette, became more compact and produced much shorter scapes when grown in cultivation, under a uniform, more intense light regime. The inflorescence was no longer perched above the rosette in these plants. Obviously, the variability that so strongly influenced Reitz is seen in the wild. But given the overall variation pattern of the species, this criterion becomes inconsistent and artificial, and segregates plants nomenclaturally that are practically identical. The taxonomic forms based on this criterion are placed in synonymy. The number of flowers also varies according to the stoutness of the plant and is discarded here.

Despite his reasoning Elton Leme still accepted var. *rosea* for its red primary bracts. We now see *Edmundoa lindenii* var. *rosea* (E. Morren) Leme: Considered a synonym of the type variety - Reflora (cont.upd.) *Lista de Espécies da Flora do Brasil*. Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. <http://floradobrasil.jbrj.gov.br/> (Retrieved 28.3. 2018).

In 1997 Leme also reported, 'In Rio Grande do Sul, var. *lindenii* and var. *rosea* are sympatric and may be found in the same area (J. C. da Silva, *pers. Comm*). The reason I am saying this is that Peter Tristram of New South Wales, Australia received seed called *Edmundoa lindenii* from Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden which had red primary bracts on flowering. Has this instability in colour of primary bracts been noted by other seed raisers? Or has the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Gardens dropped the use of 'var. *rosea*'?

What has happened to all those varieties/forms mentioned by Reitz. Are they still being grown? What names are on the labels? There seems to be no record in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register other than the variegated *E.* 'Alvim Seidel' and 'Brazil'.

If var. *rosea* is treated with *Edmundoa lindenii* what will growers call the one with the red primary bracts. The ICNCP rules frowns on the use of colour as a single word and we could go back to the Lectotype where Comte de Germiny is involved and call it *Edmundoa* 'Germiny' but somehow, I cannot see this being noted by horticulturists. I can see *Edmundoa* 'Rosea' being accepted and acted upon, and that will be my course of action.

We have Flora do Brasil 2020 ignoring the existence of sub-species of *Edmundoa lindenii* and The World Checklist of selected Plant Families by Kew Gardens preferring the genus name *Canistrum* to *Edmundoa* which makes you wonder where we go next. While the botanists dither, at least having 'Rosea' in the BCR will give you a reference point.



New Registrations

Photos and Notes extracted from The BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Register

Right: ***Tillandsia*** 'Glitter Star' P. Pacharapong.

Mature open, compact rosette to 55cm. diameter x 45cm. high. Multi-layered, overflowing, arching bronze green scurfed leaves, which turn dark purplish red during blooming stage. The long leaves taper to a point and if closely observed in sunlight display glazed, speckled, glittering dust. The semi-recessed crowned, branched inflorescence is 10cm. tall, surrounded by scarlet leaves and has crimson red pointed bracts and long purple flowers tipped white.



R: ***Vriesea*** "Apple Cider" M & M Cameron Qld. Mature, open rosette to 60cm. diameter x 50cm. high. On the obverse, cream-based leaves with fine green longitudinal lines, moss-green, ripple-like cross-banding, large sepia red tips and a cream centre, plus more solid green outer leaf markings. The reverse foliage is heavily flushed deep pink plus all the other markings as on top. (Photo M Cameron)



L: ***Neoregelia*** 'TJ Imperial' T. Atkinson, Qld. Mature open rosette to 50cm. diameter. In strong light, broad, stiff, bronze green leaves margined hot pink and with dense, black, saw-teeth edges.



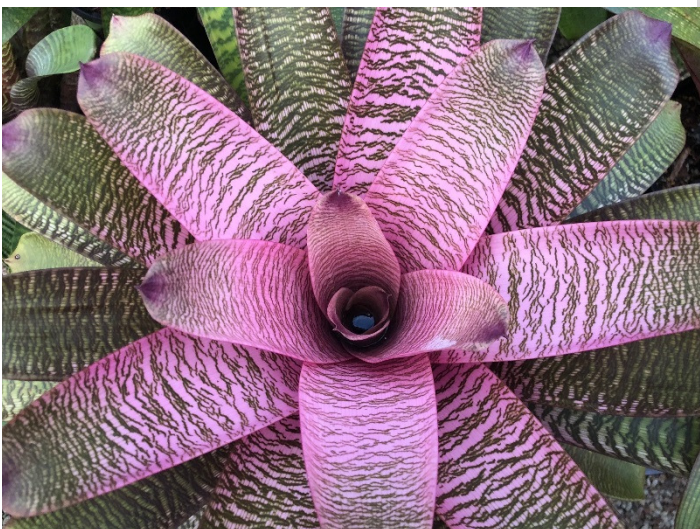


L: ***Tillandsia* 'Dylan'** C Larson. Mature, large rosette to 70cm. diameter x 70cm. high in flower. Foliage height 45cm. Wide, stiff scurfed, grey-green basal leaf sheaths, the curved blades tapering to a point. Erect or leaning varied, branched inflorescence of predominantly light amber yellow adpressed bracts edged red and graduating to green tips or vermillion red bracts phasing to lime green tips, the longest branch being 30cm., plus mauve tubular flowers. Assumed to have been imported to Australia around the early 1990's from either Mexico or the USA. Named after Dylan Larson, the registrant's son. Photo (C Larson)

R: ***Billbergia* 'Flower Power'** V Przetocki, WA. (Photo V Przetocki)

Mature, tubular rosette to 68 cm. tall x 30cm. diameter, leaves flaring at the top. About 10 mid-green leaves (to 8cm. wide) are lightly cross-banded silver on the foliage reverse.

The 40 cm. long pendent spike is white farinose with powdery white ovaries. The inflorescence has flared shell-pink scape bracts, short blue sepals, tightly coiled dark greenish blue flowers with metallic purple ends, purple filaments and stigma.



L: ***Vriesea* 'Blushing Princess'** M & M Cameron Qld. Mature, open rosette to 60cm. diameter x 40cm. high. Cream-based leaves flushing shell pink on inner growth and olive green, filagree thread-like cross-banding with outer foliage more solid green. (Photo M Cameron)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

Monthly Meetings commence with plant sales from 6:45pm.

Information/Practical sessions at 7pm.

Presentations then commence at 7:30 PM.

AGM is held prior to March meeting.

Meetings are held at Uniting Church, Merthyr Road, New Farm on third Thursday each month except December.

July	19 July
August	16 August
September Meeting	20 September
October meeting	18 October
November Meeting	15 November

Tillandsia Study group	July, Sept, Nov, dates tba
Spring Show	3-4 November at Belmont Shooting Centre, Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont
Christmas Party	6 December – venue tba

Plant of the month List for 2018-2019

July	Intergenerics
August	Spring flowering Tillandsia
September	Billbergia
October	Guzmania
November	Neoregelia, Nidularium
2019 (to be confirmed January 2019)	
January	Aechmea
February	Tillandsia
April	Dyckia, Hechtia, Orthophytum
May	Alcantarea
June	Vriesea

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Note: Each member may enter up to 3 plants in each class at a Mini Show and up to 3 plants for Popular Vote.

Jan - **MINI SHOW**

Class 1 – Bromelioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & Hybrids
(Acanthostachys, Ananas, Androlepis, Araecoccus, Bromelia, Canistropsis, Canistrum, Edmundoa, Fascicularia, Hohenbergia, Hohenbergiopsis, Neoglaziovia, Nidularium, Ochagavia, Orthophytum, Portea, Quesnelia, Ursulaea, Wittrockia)

Class 2 – Guzmania species & hybrids

Class 3 – Pitcairnia species & hybrids

Class 4 - any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

Feb & Mar **POPULAR VOTE** – any genus species & hybrids + novelty bromeliad display

April -**MINI SHOW**

Class 1 – Bromelioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids
(Acanthostachys, Ananas, Androlepis, Araecoccus, Bromelia, Canistropsis, Canistrum, Edmundoa, Fascicularia, Hohenbergia, Hohenbergiopsis, Neoglaziovia, Nidularium, Ochagavia, Orthophytum, Portea, Quesnelia, Ursulaea, Wittrockia)

Class 2 – Guzmania species & hybrids

Class 3 – Pitcairnia species & hybrids

Class 4 - any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

May & June **POPULAR VOTE** – any genus species & hybrids + novelty bromeliad display

July - **MINI SHOW**

Class 1 – Billbergia

Class 2 – Tillandsioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids
(Alcantarea, Catopsis, Mezobromelia, Racinaea, Werauhia)

Class 3 – Neoregelia up to 200mm diameter when mature, species & hybrids

Class 4 - any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

Aug & Sept **POPULAR VOTE** – any genus species & hybrids + novelty bromeliad display

October - **MINI SHOW**

Class 1 – Neoregelia over 200mm diameter when mature, species & hybrids

Class 2 – Tillandsia species & hybrids

Class 3 – Pitcairnioideae not listed elsewhere in Schedule, species & hybrids
(Brocchinioideae, Lindmanioideae, Hechtia, Puya, Navioideae, Deuterocohnia, Encholirium, Fosterella)

Class 4 - any other flowering bromeliad species & hybrids

November - **POPULAR VOTE**– any genus species & hybrids + novelty bromeliad display



Tillandsia funckiana