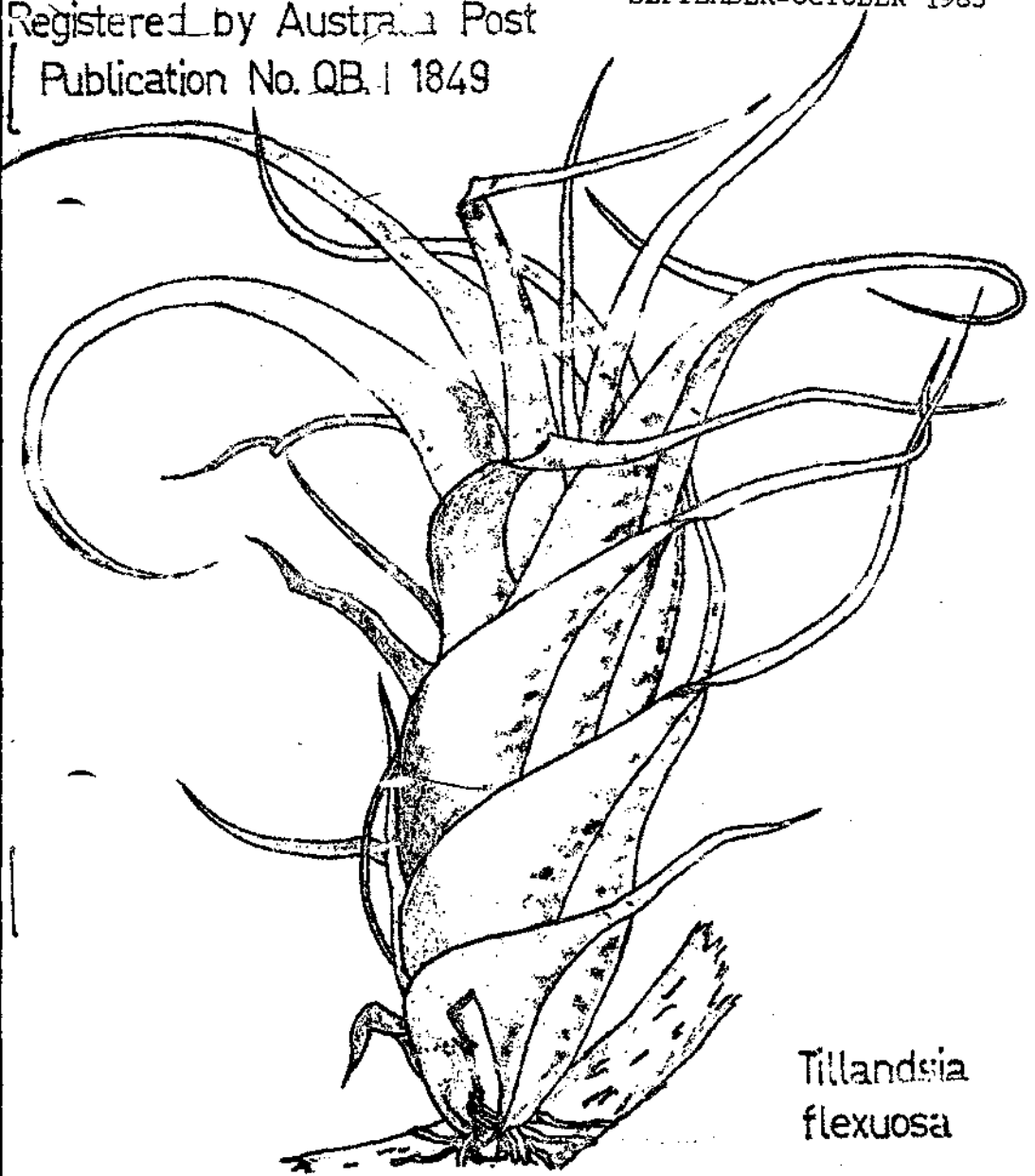


T. G. Taylor

Bromeliaceae

Volume IX # 5
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1985

Registered by Australia Post
Publication No. QB.1 1849



*Tillandsia
flexuosa*

Postal address; P.O. Box 565
Fortitude Valley
AUSTRALIA 4006

General Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month except December, at the Uniting Church Hall, Warner Street, Fortitude Valley, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

PATRON:	Mr. H. Caulfield	
PRESIDENT:	Mr. Len Trevor	2261350(work)
SECRETARY:	Mr. Greg Stewart	2779965
TREASURER:	Mrs. Ruth Higgins	2002561
EDITOR:	Mrs. Lorraine Wilton	3901226

PROGRAMME:

SEPT. 19th.	General Meeting Beginners Class - Vrieseas & Guzmanias	Gwen Gleeson
OCT. 17th.	General Meeting Mini Show - Neoregelias & Vrieseas (novice competition only) Slides - Tillandsias Beginners Class - Tillandsias	Rolly Reilly
NOV. 21st.	Xmas Break Up & Cent Auction.	

MINI SHOW

A mini competitive show featuring Neoregelias and Vrieseas will be held at the October General Meeting. This competition will be for NOVICE exhibitors only. i.e. any one who has not won first place in any class, at either a Combined Show or a previous mini show. Plants should be in show bench condition and in non-decorative pots.

EDITORIAL :-

As we all know, weather conditions play a large role in growing Bromeliads and quite often is the cause of tip burning among a collection.

This past winter has been exceptionally cold and when examining my plants, it's interesting to find which plants can withstand the cold with no signs of damage, while others growing in exactly the same position have many burnt leaves and have a distinct distressed look.

Frosts are uncommon in the area in which I live but this year we did have a few mornings when the ground was white with frost. Tillandsias in my bush suffered severe leaf burning while Neoregelias growing under trees in the garden in an exposed area showed no effects from the cold whatsoever.

The westerly winds are also a cause of concern. Should I mist the Tillandsias more frequently to counteract the drying effect that they have or will the cold water on the leaves cause more burning?

We all strive to grow our plants better but knowing how to handle weather conditions is half the battle.

L. Wilton

OMISSION

The trophy donated by Grace Goode for the Cryptanthus class at this years Combined Show was won by L. & T. Muller with a very well grown Cryptanthus X Ruby.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

JULY:- 56 members and 4 visitors were present. The treasurer reported a cash balance of \$4398-87 and also stated that the committee had decided to purchase a slide program from B.S.I. for approximately \$160. The treasurer also asked for approval to spend \$400 to purchase plants for our Christmas Cent Auction. The following new members were welcomed by acclamation:-
Allan & Narelle Freeman.

cont.

SECRETARY'S NOTES (cont.)

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

Members were told about the mini-show to be held in October for Vrieseas & Neoregelias for novice competition only. A donation of \$25 from Ian Sunderland will be used for prizes for this show. George Lawson moved a motion that the purchase of two lapel microphones be investigated and if feasible to be purchased.

POPULAR VOTE:

ADVANCED:	T. ionantha	R. Reilly
NOVICE :	Aechmea allenii	T. Muller
Judges Choice ;	T. bulbosa	G. Webley

Olive Trevor and John Higgins gave a very concise and botanically informed commentary. John also spoke on a natural -ised Annanas cosmosus from Mt. Bartle Frere N.Q.. Greg Stewart spoke on some of the pit-falls of importing plants from overseas.

AUGUST:- There were 46 members and 3 visitors present with the following new members being welcomed; Mrs. Clarice Noble and the Piccinich Family. The treasurer reported a cash balance of \$7025-63 and moved that a sum of \$6000 be invested on term deposit.

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

The president appealed to members to submit articles for 'BROMELIACEAE' as the editor finds it difficult to fill the newsletter. The president also gave a big thank you to Keith Jordan who was manning our display at the R.N.A. while the meeting was in progress. John Higgins spoke at length on the R.N.A. and the problems which we are having with staffing the display for the 10 days during the show period. There were also several other aspects lacking membership involvement. There was wide ranging discussion from the floor about the pros and cons of the R.N.A.. Sel Gleeson spoke about more involvement in shopping centre displays. An appeal was made for a new show organiser by Paul Clarke.

cont.

SECRETARY'S NOTES (cont.)

The president asked for a replacement for Trader Bert to sell pots etc. as Bert is unable to continue this service for much longer. No volunteers as of yet.

POPULAR VOTE:

ADVANCED:	T. didistichia	R.Reilly
NOVICE:	T. deapeana	Paul Clarke

Peter Paroz gave a well informed commentary on a very well stocked table, especially a lot of new and beautiful Tillandsias which of course Peter specializes in.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND AND QUEENSLAND SUCCULENT
SOCIETY COMBINED SHOW

1985 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The eighth annual show was staged at the Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens auditorium on the 8th and 9th of June 1985.

We were happy to be able to welcome back the Curator of the Gardens, Mr. Ross Mackinnon, to officiate at our opening ceremony and to present the trophies.

The excellent weather and near-record attendance combined to give us a very successful show. The impressive Botanic Gardens display and the centre display certainly gave the public plenty to look at, and the arrangers of these displays are to be congratulated.

Despite fears that the Q.S.S. contribution might have been affected by the absence of one or two major growers, succulent competition tables were crowded with high quality plants. It was unfortunate that bromeliads offered for competition were relatively few; possibly the high standard of plants frightened off some of the competition!

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEETBROMELIAD AND SUCCULENT SOCIETIES OF QUEBECRECEIPTS

BALANCE FROM 1982	43.81
RETURN OF INVESTMENT	1400.00
DOOR TAKINGS	1092.82
B.S.Q. SALES COMMISSION	2705.50
Q.S.S. SALES COMMISSION	720.30
CATERING REPORT	236.68
CASH OVERS- SALES AREA	128.52
BANK/INVESTMENT INTEREST	135.72
RETURN OF EXCESS PETTY CASH	40.39
	<hr/>
	6503.74
	<hr/>

ASSETS

CASH BOOK BALANCE - CASH ON HAND	103.37
INVESTMENT	1600.00
STORES & EQUIPMENT - METAL SIGNS	100.00
	<hr/>
	1803.37
	<hr/>

BALANCE FOR 1985ENGLAND AND COMBINED SHOW ACCOUNTEXPENDITURE

ADVERTISING	113.40
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	332.92
INSURANCE (GENERAL/CASH/PUBLIC LIAB.)	197.00
HALL RENTAL	263.50
PETTY CASH (CLEANING/STATIONARY & INCIDENTALS)	200.00
COMPETITION PRIZES (MEDALLIONS/TROPHIES)	64.40
PRINTING (PRESENTATION)	11.50
REPAINT SIGNS	120.00
STEWARDS MEALS/OFFICIAL MORNING TEA	57.13
BANK CHARGES (FED TAX)	3.20
B.S.Q. SALES COMMISSION	2705.50
Q.S.S. SALES COMMISSION	720.30
INVESTMENT DEPOSIT C.T.B.	1600.00
CASH SHORTAGES	11.52
BALANCE TO DATE	103.37
	<hr/>
	5603.74
	<hr/>

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE CORRECT AND SHOW THE TRUE FINANCIAL STATE OF THE COMBINED SOCIETIES' AFFAIRS. THERE ARE NO KNOWN OUTSTANDING DEBTORS OR CREDITORS.

CHAIRMAN - L. DUELL

TREASURER - G. STEWART

AUDITOR - G. LAWSON

signed 16/7/85 .

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - COMBINED SHOW (cont. from p.5)

I am therefore prompted to point out that the greatest benefit from club membership is only obtained through the fullest participation, so have a go, you shrinking violets, I'm sure there are plants out there we'd all love to see!

It was pleasing to see a number of newer members taking an active part in the show, however it was somewhat disappointing to note the rush of stewards on duty on the Saturday morning, while the remainder of the weekend was carried by a much smaller staff. I am asking, a year in advance for you to allocate half a day to promote your hobby; stewarding at the show holds many rewards, and mere enthusiasm is your main qualification.

The abundant thanks of myself and many others go out to our devoted and hard-working tea-ladies - the service they perform for their fellow-members is invaluable, as well as contributing to the financial success of the show.

The new control area for the Tillandsias/Lithops sales has proved its worth, and I think will be likely to figure permanently. A recurrent feature of the plant sales aspect is that a large number of stickers carried incomplete data or were not written with waterproof ink. If your sales returns are down please bear the above in mind.

All members of both societies should be aware of the dedication and effort shown by their delegates to the Combined Show Committee, and I extend my personal thanks to each committee member. My thanks also to each and every person who made his/her time and services available in whatever capacity - I think you'll agree that besides guaranteeing the show's success, by your participation you have gained at least as much as you put in.

signed LAURIE DUELL

RANDOM OBSERVATIONS

One of the satisfactions of growing plants is to watch plants growing, observing the response to changing conditions and changing seasons. The following comments result from my observations over the last few months.

T. pseudobaileyii and T. bulbosa were spiking as expected but seemed to be lacking in colour so I moved both plants outside to a spot where they got full winter sun (July) for about six hours per day. This had the desired effect and spike and leaf colour improved. Extended exposure (6 weeks) has caused some bleaching of the most exposed leaves. Whether this is due solely to the sunlight or a combination of light and low humidity is yet to be resolved.

A triple headed T. Emilie (Cyanea X lindenii) caught my wife's eye and was moved inside for the duration. It was rather neglected for a while after it ceased flowering and was left in the house for a few extra weeks before moving it outside. At last look some colour had returned to the bracts and more flowers were starting to emerge ?? Another puzzle for next year.

Aechmea bracteata. Although this species is rather large and spiny, I find its grotesque bottle shape fascinating and the pink colour of this clone adds to the appeal. The old plant had passed its prime and I moved the offset out into the sun to bring up the leaf colour - a little too quickly - the colour came up but so did the sunburned patch. The next offset -----0

Having admired the editors Vr. flammea growing on a cork mounting, I decided to try my hand at this type of culture. The first attempt was a minor disaster but the second one, planted on a large tillandsia tree, was more successful. The plant grew very compact with good colour, flowering as a single plant (a lesson here perhaps !) and is now establishing a healthy offset.

RANDOM OBSERVATIONS (cont.)

I have always grown T. streptophylla lush and in retrospect too shady and with too much water to allow the full beauty of this species to develop. I recently fixed an advanced offset onto the tillandsia tree where it gets dappled full sun and less water. The plant has already taken on a more contorted leaf shape and the new growth a delicate pink flush. Will it stand a Brisbane summer in this exposed situation - more questions than answers for the moment.

The clump of T. recurvata which I put on the tree some months ago has acclimatized well and grown into a typical silvery ball about 80 mm in diameter. I expect it to last a couple of seasons more before the clump gets too large and starts to deteriorate.

Peter Paroz

EXHIBITION DISPLAY

The look of wonderment on the faces of the viewing public as they stood at the fence to admire our Bromeliad display at the recent exhibition gave Joe and I a feeling of great satisfaction. We felt very proud to be the stewards on duty that first Saturday afternoon as the people congratulated us on a wonderful display. It created a great deal of interest and a continuous stream of questions came from the rows of admirers, quite often, standing four deep, patiently waiting to have their query answered.

"Are the flowers real?" "Where do they come from?" "How do they grow?" What is the name of this one and that one and where can we buy them etc. etc." "How to pronounce Bromeliad?" was a question frequently asked.

As well as people living locally, we spoke to people from Ayr, Rockhampton, Mackay, Bundaberg, Maryborough, Gympie, Nambour, the Sunshine Coast and Goldcoasts, Ipswich, Toowoomba and the towns in between and from the Downs. Northern N.S. Wales, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide were also represented.

EXHIBITION DISPLAY (cont.)

The display itself I felt was excellent and a credit to the members who supplied the plants, some of them rare and all beautiful. The allotted space was abundantly filled with bromeliads of different types ranging from the humble *Billbergias* *Ae. gamosepala* and *T. Usneoides* to the more exotic hybrids of *Vrieseas*, *Guzmanias*, *Aechmeas* etc; many of them in flower.

In the background the tree has lost it's lanky look and is well laden with flowering *Billbergias*, supplemented by a good variety of exotic *Tillandsias*, some with beautiful flowers. These always intrigue the people.

Noticeable this year were some large *Guzmanias* including 'Cherry', while the small flowering ones really complemented the pool.

The *Ananas nanus* NEVER fails to draw attention while the large predominantly cream striped *cosmosus* formed a background feature together with large forms of darker leafed *Vrieseas*.

A display would not be complete without *Neoregelias* and it was interesting to note the difference in form and colour of plants grown under different conditions by individual growers. Some *Neoregelias* were quite large and varied in colour while others were smaller and more compact.

Contrast of colour was achieved in the *Vriesea* section by the rich green leaves and brilliant red flower spikes. In front there was a nest of *Cryptanthus* and *Aechmea orlandiana* 'Ensign'.

After four hours we came away with a sense of having rendered the community a service by helping them to know a little about Bromeliads and also adding to our own knowledge.

Jean Dunlop