

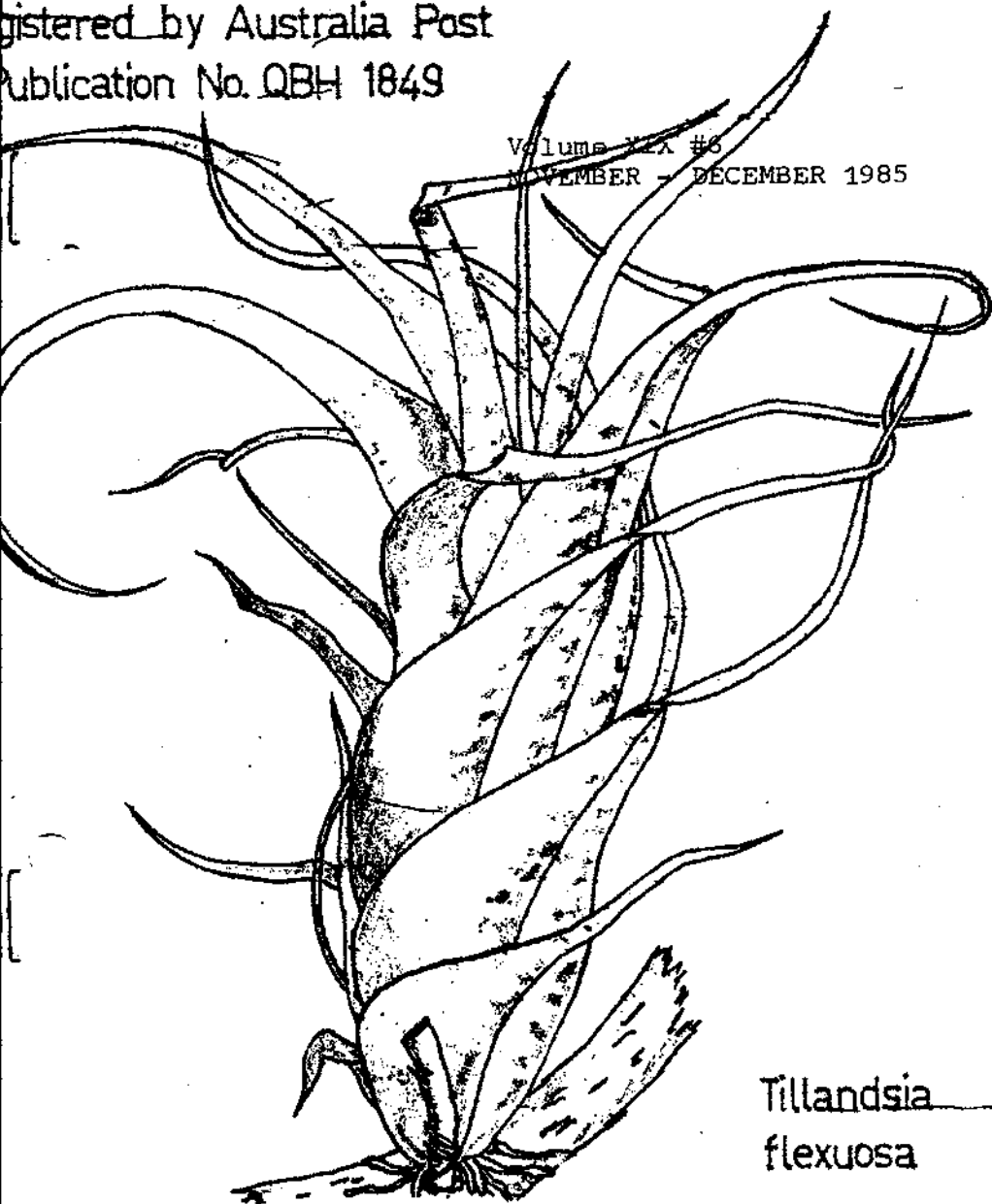
Bromeliaceae

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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1985



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

EDITORIAL:-

As the year draws to a close it is natural to look back at the year that has been. Our conference, held during Easter was certainly the high light of 1985 for our Society, but as no one can live in the past, the future has to be planned so as to make 1986 one in which members will gain more knowledge about growing bromeliads and also hope for some members satisfaction in helping to administrate the Society's affairs.

At the mention of becoming a committee member or even holding a non-committee position most people cringe and commence shaking the head from side to side in protest. Some folk because of family or work commitments are unable to participate, but there is a certain percentage of members who are reluctant to hold a position because of the uncertainty of what is required of them.

All non-committee positions involve only a small amount of time each meeting either prior to or while it is in progress; such as being hostess or host. This job only calls for a lady or gent to greet members and visitors as they arrive and note their presence in the attendance book. The hall organiser arranges the seating and the tables for the plant sales and display. This is one job where most men are willing to lend a hand and make light work of it. The position on the

EDITORIAL (cont.)

display tables requires some one to arrange the plants and also to place numbers in front of those entered in the popular vote. They are then required to count the votes to obtain the winners. The position of plant sales, librarian and supper organizer also require very little time. But one can be assured that all assistance will be given to those who take one of these positions and is unsure of what to do.

Positions on the management committee are always harder to fill unfortunately. A little extra time is required to give to the Society but possibly it is the uncertainty of not knowing what the job entails that makes people hesitate to become involved. But once again any assistance will always be given just for the asking.

I do urge all members to take a little time during the Xmas - New Year break to think about taking one of these positions to help make the Society function even better next year.

Remember nothing is mine - they don't exist = the club is yours.

L Wilton

PROGRAMME

- | | |
|------------|---|
| NOV. 21st. | Xmas Break-up Party
Cent Auction |
| DEC. | No general meeting. |
| JAN. | General Meeting
Beginners Class - Potting mixes,
Tools & implements for potting.
Cultural Clinic - Panel to discuss
problems. |
| FEB. | Annual General Meeting. |
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FEES:- Fees are due and payable by 1st. January 1986. Members are reminded that those in arrears at the start of the A.G.M. are deemed unfinancial and surrender all membership priveleges. The total amount of subscriptions received does not cover the administration costs of the Society. The balance comes from such activities as the raffles and plant sales. Fees have not increased for the next year and continued support of members for these activities will help keep fees as low as possible. The fees for 1986 are :-

Single - \$5.00 per person
Family - \$8.00 per family.

XMAS PARTY

As the cent auction at last years Xmas Party was so popular it has been decided to hold another at this years break-up. The plants to be auctioned are of a high quality and not readily available from the trade table. So there is a good chance of obtaining something different for your collection. Members are not required to bring a plant for the auction or a plate for the repast which will follow. The cost of catering will be met by the Society. However, ALL members are asked to bring along a few plants for the display to be designed for the stage.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

SEPTEMBER: 64 members and 7 visitors attended the September meeting. The treasurer reported a cash balance of \$7296-37. New members Shirley Roach, Jeff Byrne and Owen Betts were welcomed with acclamation.

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

The president announced that this was the last night that Bert Wilson would be the pot sales steward and to buy up big as there probably would not be any pot and accessory facilities from now on. Bert was thanked by thunderous applause for his efforts over the years. He was also presented with a small gift. George Lawson moved a motion that next year a donation of U.S. \$100-00 be made to the Selby Gardens. Greg Stewart spoke on the show at Indooroopilly with \$200 being raised for charity.

SECRETARY'S NOTES (cont.)

It was also decided to participate in the combined show next year at Mt. Coot-tha during the Queens Birthday weekend.

POPULAR VOTE:-

ADVANCED:	Neoregelia Meyendorffii	Gwen Gleeson
	& Tillandsia cacticola	Rolly Reilly
NOVICE:	Guzmania X Cherry	Thelma Muller

SHOW & TELL:- Norm Catlan brought along a large quantity of his variegated Aechmea recurvata var benrathii and showed how they had coloured up with less fertilizer being applied this year.

COMMENTARY:- Joan Imray gave a well informed commentary on the display table.

PROGRAMME:- John Higgins showed some beautiful slides of bromeliads without telling members where they were taken. After much guessing quite a few members were surprised to learn that they had been taken during a stroll through the Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens.

OCTOBER:- There were 58 members and 4 visitors present with the following new members being welcomed, Naomi Rieg & the Bowscott family. The treasurer reported a cash balance of \$1736-94.

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

John Higgins reminded members that a study group existed and met every fourth Friday night of the month at the home of Len & Olive Trevor. Sel Gleeson spoke from the floor on forming a day time society group so some of the older members can meet. This is to be thought about during the Xmas break and readdressed early next year.

POPULAR VOTE:-

ADVANCED:-	Neoregelia Meyendorffii	Gwen Gleeson
	albo-marginata	
NOVICE:-	Aechmea luddemania 'Mend'	Mrs. Grice.

COMMENTARY:- Jonh Wilkins gave a commentary on a very well stocked display table.

PROGRAMME:- A selection of slides from a Costa Rican collecting trip was shown. These slides were part of a 4 set programme which was purchased from B.S.I.. Other selections from these slide programmes will be shown throughout the next year.

SHOW & TELL:- Greg Stewart brought in a very rare Tillandsia somnians to show. The plant is unusual in the fact that it has a 5 ft. flower spike with vegetative pups coming off all of the way along the stem.

VALE

It is with much regret that we note the passing of one of our country members Mrs. Lathouros. Our deepest sympathies go to Tony and family.

ORTHOPHYTUM VAGANS

Vagans = wandering, a reference to the vine like habit of the plant. This plant can be grown with green foliage if kept shaded with plenty of water and fertilizer or it can be grown with brick red leaves if water and nitrogenous fertilizers are restricted.

The best planting I have seen consisted of a multiple planting in a large shallow pot with the plant grown in bright light. The mature leaves were a bright brick red and the new leaves pale yellow green.

O. vagans propagates readily by taking an old cane, removing the leaves and layering the bare stem under about 25mm of potting mixture leaving the roots and growing point attached. Offsets form readily on the layered section. I have had no success sectioning the old stem even though there were plenty of good buds. The sections just dried up or rotted before the offsets developed.

This is quite a hardy species and has some potential for landscaping outdoors if given a position which provides some protection from the worst of our summer sun.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

February 1986 is the start of the twentieth year of the Society's operation with the twentieth birthday falling at the end of January 1987.

The committee is investigating projects and programmes to commemorate the occasion. Suggestions to hand include a spring show, public workshop on bromeliads and a banquet. members are invited to submit additional ideas or comments for consideration.

MINI SHOW

It was gratifying to see the number of plants entered in the October mini-show. Neoregelias were by far the more popular and certainly over shadowed the Vriesias

The winners were:-

CLASS 1.

1st.	Neo Red of Rio	Pat Foster
2nd.	Neo. Oessers Petite	Yvonne Boorman
3rd.	Neo. Perfecta	Sel Gleeson

CLASS 2.

2nd.	V. platynema	Jan Harms
3rd.	V. Fosteriana	Jan Harms

This show was for novice competitors only. Congratulations to all winners and also to all who competed to provide a beautiful show which was enjoyed by all present.

Since once again the time's returned
 For New Years resolutions
 I vow to leave no stone unturned
 For pests - and execution!!