

Bromeliaceae

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Aechmea lamarchei.

THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

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 St., Fortitude Valley, at 7.30 p.m.

PATRON:	Mr. H. Caulfield	
PRESIDENT:	Mr. M. D'Dea	3992669
SECRETARY:	Mr. G. Stewart	2779965
TREASURER:	Mrs. R. Higgins	2002561
EDITOR:	Mr. P. Paroz	2651547

PROGRAMME

NOVEMBER, 17th - Christmas Party
 DECEMBER - No General Meeting
 JANUARY, 1st - Subscriptions due
 JANUARY, 19th - General Meeting
 FEBRUARY, 16th - Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are due and payable on the 1st January.

Fees for 1984 will be -

\$ 5.00	Single Membership
\$ 8.00	Family Membership

EDITORIAL

A couple of incidents over the last few weeks reminded me again of the importance of nomenclature and correct identity to our horticultural interests. John Conran reminded me that Tillandsia circinnata was found to be incorrectly named, and according to the rules the plant should now be T. paucifolia. This renaming of plants is often cited by non-believers as the reason why horticulturists do not need to worry about botanical nomenclature. In this case, the reason for the change was that the type specimen (the original plant named) proved to be T. streptophylla; and according to the Rules, the name had to be changed to the oldest correctly recorded one.

We are talking about man's attempt to place living evolving things into neat pigeon-holes and nature is not always that co-operative. In addition, opinion as to the importance of distinguishing features changes from time to time, and we have the confrontation of the 'lumpers' vs the 'splitters'.

Correct nomenclature has several dimensions, The Rules themselves are a specialty and should be left for the specialists. Similarly, plant identification is a task for specialists, but there is no doubt that dedicated horticulturists can make a contribution as shown by the B.S.Q. Identification Study Group. Success for the amateurs of this group is not always correct identification, but often the elimination of incorrect names.

Another aspect is the form that the names should take; and Mrs. Ferris has compiled an extensive list of the rules. Application of some of the rules is still a job for the specialists but all growers have a responsibility to ensure that names are correctly transferred from generation to generation. Hybridizers have a special responsibility in this area.

The advantage of correct nomenclature is consistency, and the confidence this brings when trading or exchanging plants.

Better a less than perfect system that everyone uses than each with his own common name.

NOTICE OF MOTION

"That the following guidelines be incorporated into the By-Laws of the Society.

Moved: J. Wilkins
Seconded: J. Higgins

GUIDELINS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

1. Continuous membership of, and active service to, the Society for a minimum of twenty (20) years, covering several facets of the Society's activities.
2. Total number of Life Members not to exceed two (2) % of total number of financial members, taken on membership as at 30th June of the preceding year, where family membership will count as two (2).
3. Voting by the Committee to be by secret ballot, with the President abstaining in order to act as Scrutineer. Vote must be carried by a simple majority of the elected Committee to accept the nominee.
4. With the prior approval of the Nominee, the Committee's recommendation of Life Membership to be submitted to the members only at the A.G.M., and to become part of the Agenda of the A.G.M. Voting to be by financial members only and be by secret ballot.
5. A suitable badge and Citation to be presented at the earliest opportunity.

This motion will be discussed at the January general meeting.

I have grown these broms for years,
And now they have brought me to tears,
For they are pupping all over,
Like wild growing clover,
Being gobbled by broms is my fear.

R. Wilson

PLANT IDENTIFICATION

Recently Olwen Ferris set out to resolve the *Neoregelia violacea/compacta/wurdackii* problem and set specimens of her plant to the Bromeliad Identification Centre. Harry Luther, the director of B.I.C. made the following comments - "B.I.C. 0217 *Neoregelia compacta* (MEZ) L.B. Smith. *Neoregelia wurdackii* is a very spiny plant with a compound inflorescence, related to *Neo. eleutheropetala*. It may not even as yet be in cultivation. There is no species *Neo. Violacea*."

For the full description of the plant, refer to *Flora Neotropica, Bromelioideae*, p. 1553.

NOTE: The original description does not mention the strong stoloniferous habit of the plant or the intense red colour in the centre of the plant at flowering. This latter situation may be due to a loss of colour when the specimen was dried! Petal colour is listed as red while the local plant has blue to white petals.

O. Ferris

Thank you Olwen for sorting out this long standing problem.

Ed.

LET'S BE CORRECT

Compiles by Olwen Ferris

The correct procedure, when writing about bromeliads is somewhat confusing to most of us.

When reporting about a display containing various bromeliad genera, such as *aechmea*, *billbergia*, *neoregelia* etc., the small initial letter is used. A capital letter is used for the genera when writing about a specific plant. A large *Neoregelia carolinae* dominated the display.

Each bromeliad species has a two word scientific name. The first word is the genus with the index letter capitalised and when writing about it, the print is italicised or underlined. The second word is the

species name and this is usually informative. This is written in small print and italicised or underlined, e.g. Noeregelia carolinae and Aechmea caudata.

Each plant is known by the genera it belongs to and its species name. Some species also have slight variants and these are given variety names. Variety is shortened to var. and the species name and that of the variety are always written in small letters and underlined. We have the capital letter for the genus and small letters for the species and variety when writing Noeregelia carolinae var. tricolor.

Form names are used following the word forma, with a latin descriptive word. It is never capitalised and always underlined, e.g. Cryptanthus zonatus forma fusca, Canistrum lindenii forma exiguum and Tillandsia fasciculata var. densispica forma alba.

Intergeneric hybrids can be written with the names of the two parents connected by the multiplication sign X. It can also be a combination of the two parents genera and here the generic name is preceded by the multiplication sign X. Example: X Nidumea Loeseneri.

The seed parent is listed first: Nidularium billbergioides X Aechmea calyculata. This was a hybrid made by Hummel in 1911 and has been registered as X Nidumea Loeseneri. While species have a small initial letter, hybrids and cultivars have a capital letter to their name and these names are in modern language (after 1st January, 1959, hybrids and cultivars to be in modern language and not latinised). Example: Aechmea miniata var. discolor X Aechmea victoriana var. discolor, a hybrid made by Foster in 1947, and registered at Aechmea Royal Wine. (It may be of interest to note that in the late 1960's I sent two forms known as Ae. Royal Wine to the U.S. for identification and the answer was "two of the many forms of Aechmea Royal Wine" so we are lucky that only two of the many seedlings of Ae. Royal Wine found their way to Australia).

All progeny of a particular cross are given a collective or grex name. Examples: Noeregelia Sheer Joy, a hybrid made by Grace Goode and registered in 1977. Selected clones have been given cultivar names and when writing about them, the grex or flock name can be written in two

different ways. The hybrid name in (parenthesis) followed by the cultivar name in single 'quotes' or the letter g. for grex, after the hybrid name, followed by the cultivar name in single 'quotes', e.g. Neoregelia (Sheer Joy) 'Purple Plate' or Neoregelia Sheer Joy g. 'Red Plate'.

To be continued

SPECIAL RAFFLE

The special raffle of the diamond ring and tillandsia was drawn at the September meeting with results as follows -

First Prize:	G. Lawson	Mitchelton
Second Prize:	J. Bethel	South Johnstone
Third Prize:	K. Kebby	Innisfail

The latter two winners are members of the Cairns Study Group

Proceeds of this raffle will go towards the cost of staging Bromeliads III. Our sincere thanks to all those members and other Societies who assisted by selling tickets.

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COMBINED SHOW 1983 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The B.S.Q./Q.S.S. Combined Show held on the weekend of 2nd & 3rd July, was once again a great success, having a near record patronage of 2522. The display, though smaller, was a credit to the organizers: the competition tables were well presented making judging a difficult task: the sales area as always was extremely popular: and the caterers did a magnificent job providing for all the stewards and the public.

The success of this Combined Show always rests in the hands of the Stewards, and I thank every one of them for their very able assistance.

The financial statement from the Combined Show is included in this issue. As this Show continues to be successful, I recommend that the two Societies co-operate once again and present another Show in 1984.

A.V. Prigg

CLONES AND CLONES

Many of our members marvel at the beautiful bromeliads presented at our monthly meeting nights and also at the combined show at Mt. Coot-tha in June.

The outcome of this adoration is that your mind is made up for you that you would like a plant exactly like one you see whether or not it be one of the species or one of the newer hybrids or variegated plants. Usually a mental or written note is made of the name of the plant and this carried around with you in your travels to nurseries or private collectors, hoping one day to be able to purchase a seedling or a set of the particular plant in question.

Once you manage to purchase the plant, most enthusiasts try to find out from the grower who owned the beautiful plant who first started this rabid search, the way to grow this plant, i.e. conditions, watering & fertilising. You follow all instructions to the letter for months and months, but, to your despair and great damage to your nervous anxiety, you find your plant is not looking anything like the plant you first admired. Hurried consultations then occur with other growers about what you may have done wrong and you get heaps of advice (usually conflicting) and you throw yourself back into the fray again. Eventually you decide to slash your wrists as you decide you can't grow bromelia properly and there is no future for you in the Society. Don't laugh, I've been through it all.

The problem dear friends, is not with yourself or your growing techniques, although human error does have a little to do with it, but with the clone of the particular plant or offset purchased. Unless you can purchase a similarly marked offset off the original plant you first saw, you have no guarantee whatsoever that any plant purchased of similar botanical naming will be of the same form and markings. This is a genetic fact of life and unless you can purchase cloned plants (not readily available), you have to be satisfied with what you have. Of course different members have different tastes in plant shape and design, and an alternative clone may give just as much pleasure as the beautiful plant which first caught your eye.

Basically, what I am trying to say is, don't always blame your growing method for not getting the end result that you think you should be getting.

G. Stewart

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BAROOKA PLANT SPECTACULAR Held at Indooroopilly High School, 8th & 9th October.

We all arrived at the assembly hall on the Friday night but I'm afraid we were a little lost at what was going on. The unfortunate part was that the organisers with the West Brisbane Orchid Society were a little lost too.

We finally managed to undo the knots and get our display up and I think Paul Clarke (Show Organiser) and other members would agree that it was probably one of the best small displays that we have ever put up. The tree was left out with the plants being tiered higher up at the back than our normal displays. We finally got our act together with the setting up of the pond and it looked very attractive, being flanked by numerous neoregelias and vrieseas in flower.

It is a pity we didn't get larger public attendance over the weekend as the bromeliads are probably at their best this time of the year. We gave Barooka Special School \$115.00 commission for our plant sales over the weekend and, although it was only a small contribution, we later learnt they had made enough overall to receive a grant to buy their proposed bus.

To all those people who helped Paul and myself over the weekend, Thank You.

G. Stewart

XMAS PARTY - November, 1983

Although the Committee spends \$300.00 on special plants for the Continuous Raffle, it is the donations from the members which make this event such a spectacular success. Your generosity will make it so again this year.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

SEPTEMBER MEETING -

The President opened a meeting attended by 64 members and 14 visitors. The most important discussion of the night was whether or not fees should go up as the Committee had recommended that they rise to \$8.00 for family and \$5.00 for a single member. This proposal followed a study by the Treasurer into the general running costs of the Society, which was \$4.60 per head per annum.

The Treasurer was given approval to purchase \$300.00 worth of plants for the continuous raffle at the Xmas breakup so you near country members, try and make it down.

The Library charging system is to change, with no charge on any book taken out in the first month, 20% for the first month over due, and then 50% per month there-after.

Two new members were welcomed into the Society - M. Miles and P. O'Keefe.

The popular vote was won by John Sax with Neoregelia Tricolor 'Perfecta' in the advanced and Mrs. Gleeson took out the novice with a Vriesea hieroglyphica. Judges choice also went to the plant owned by John Sax.

Greg Stewart gave the commentary on a pleasingly well stocked bench so members, please keep this up.

The big event of the night was the drawing of our Special Raffle of the beautiful diamond ring, the proceeds of which will go towards Bromeliads III.

Peter Paroz gave members a very informative talk on the variances of Tillandsia bulbosa and he had various specimens clumps to illustrate the talk. I don't think members realised there were so many forms of this particular plant until Peter pointed them out. Thank you Peter.

OCTOBER MEETING -

We had a large attendance of 70 members and 10 visitors.

The subject of raising the subscriptions for 1984 was brought up again and it was carried by the General Meeting that the following fees will apply for 1984 -

\$ 8.00	Family Membership
\$ 5.00	Single Membership

Would country members please note.

Committee submitted their recommendations for Life Membership to the General Meeting and it was decided to print these recommendations in 'Bromeliaceae' for your general perusal and discussion on whether or not they should be included in the Constitution By-Laws (refer page 4)

The five new Combined Show Committee Members were elected and they are: Lorraine Wilton, Greg Stewart, Beverley Fraser, Austin Prigg and Vic Carlson. If any members have any ideas for improving the running of the Combined Show in any way, approach one of these delegates so the idea, if feasible, can be taken to Combined Show Committee.

POPULAR VOTE -

NOVICE	Mrs. Gleeson	Neoregelia meyerendorffii 'albomarginata'
ADVANCED	Oliver Trevor	Vriesea Belgian Hybrid
JUDGES CHOICE	John Sax	Neoregelia Dr. Oesser Hybrid

John Wilkins gave a very good commentary on what once again was a very well stocked show table. Keep it up into 1984 members.

Norm Catlan was the speaker for the night on the way he grows his wonderful cryptanthus. I don't know if Norm knows it or not but he has uncanny ability to transmit his message to all members on growing conditions, mediums and fertilising. Thanks Norm for a great talk

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET COMBINED SHOW 1983.INCOME

Balance from 1982	1039.39
Door Takings	1261.00
B.S.Q. Sales Commission	2812.55
Q.S.S. Sales Commission	762.04
Catering Profit	319.46
Plant Sales Stickers	93.70
Bank/Investment Interest	138.93
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	6427.07

EXPENDITURE

Advertising	147.12
Equipment Rental	277.58
Insurance (General/Cash/Public Liability)	193.00
Hall Rental	193.00
Cleaning	50.00
Judges Honorariums	60.00
Competition Prizes (Medallions/Ribbons)	74.90
Printing. (Presentation)	6.00
Stationery/Postage/Transport etc	49.92
Stowards Meals/Official Morning Tea	48.13
Bank Charges (Fod. Tax)	2.30
Cash Shortages	.69
B.S.Q. Sales Commission	2812.55
Q.S.S. Sales Commission	762.04
B.S.Q. Share of Profits	300.00
Q.S.S. Share of Profits	300.00
Balance to Date	1149.84
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	6427.07

ASSETS

Cash Book Balance - Cash/Investment	1149.84
Stores & Equipment - Stowards Ribbons/Sales Tags/ Signs	139.00
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	1288.84

AUDITED: J. Wilkins