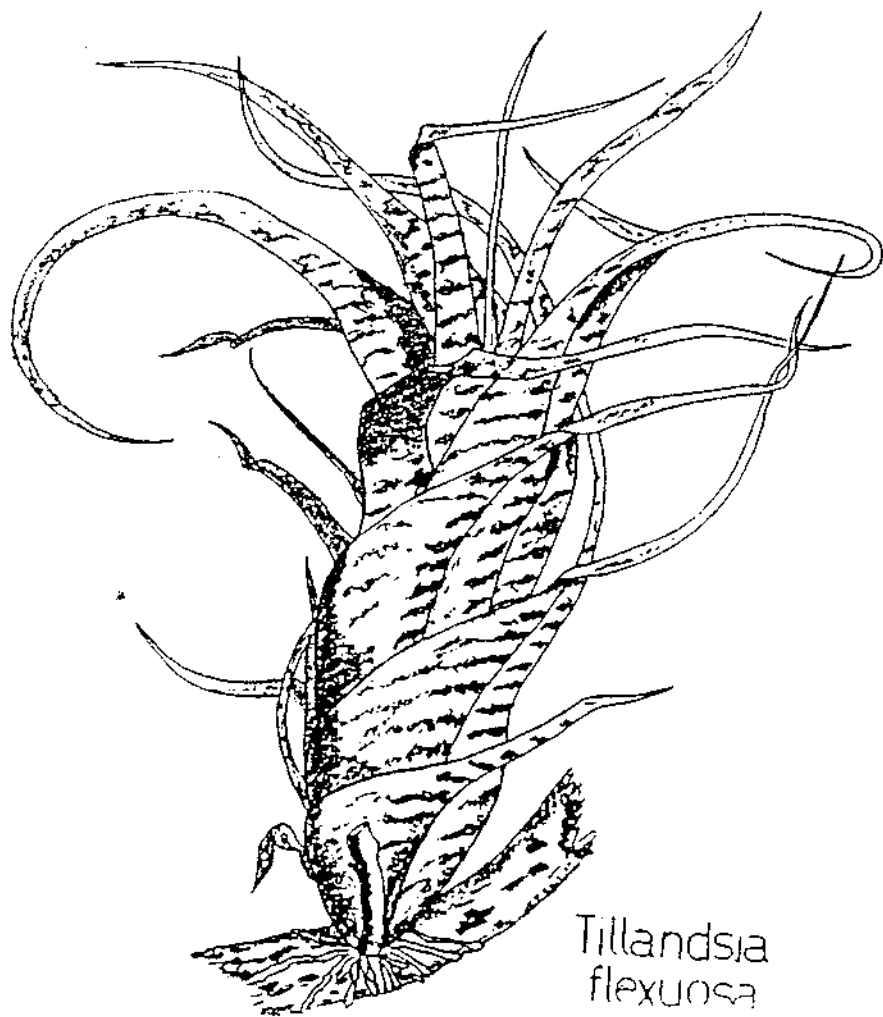


# Bromeliaceae

Postal Address P.O. Box 565  
Fortitude Valley Qld. 4006

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MARCH - APRIL, 1988



*Tillandsia*  
*flexuosa*

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 Street, Fortitude Valley, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

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PATRON:	Mr. H. Caulfield	
PRESIDENT:	Mr. R. Paulsen	2970415
SECRETARY:	Mrs. M. Marshall	
TREASURER:	Mr. G. Stewart	2779965
EDITOR:	Mr. L. Butt	8483515

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PROGRAMME

17th MARCH: General Meeting  
 Beginners - Growing Tillandsias by R. Reilly  
 MINI SHOW - Vrieseas & Guzmanias  
 2 Classes, Novice & Advanced

7th APRIL: Set up Display at State Library in Cultural Centre

8th APRIL: Official Opening of State Library

10th APRIL: p.m. Pull down Display at State Library

9th APRIL: Bus Trip to Nambour Garden Expo

21st APRIL: General Meeting  
 Beginners - Winter Care of Vrieseas & Guzmanias  
 by O. Trevor  
 Video Show by Mr. Berry on Maxi Crop & Fertilizers  
 Slides - Bromeliads of South East Brazil

EDITORIAL

We are now moving into a new phase of our Society, and I sincerely hope it is for the better.

It seems the whole club and society world in Australia has now got the 'incorporated' bug. One thing I advise you all to do, is to carefully read your new Constitution and get familiar with its contents.

This current year, our aim is to update the Bromeliaceae, and despite opinions that we may not be able to afford to do so, this seems quite strange. Charity begins always at home, and if we are now in a position to give of our finances to worthwhile causes here and in other countries, we definitely should be able to improve our little newsletter.

With this in mind, please send us line drawings of bromeliads if you are clever with such things. Also, we need a few jottings of your growing experiences with our favourite plants.

Len Butt

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FRANK CRAIGHEAD'S WILD PINES

Dr. Craighead, entomologist and botanist, has written several books on the Florida Everglades, not the least of which is his air-plant book. Here is an extraction from that book regarding your query on *Tillandsia vircinata*.....

'This is a small compact species, four to eight inches (10cm to 20cm) tall, and about the same in width, growing in the open sunshine, and consequently is beautifully coloured with all shades from blue green to blue bronze or red. The plant body is short, bulbous at the base (i.e. urn shaped) with minute grey scurfy trichome scales. The leaves are thick, strongly contorted, slender, pointed and quill-like. The flower spike is short and arches, the end becoming pendant. Pinkish in colour undivided with strongly appressed bracts and few flowers. The petal colour is lavender (flowers occur through the Australian summer period).

cont.

This lovely species adorns dead snags and branches of shrubs and trees growing in the open in all sites of Southern Florida.

Many individual plants cluster together!

(From a letter sent to Len Butt by Victoria Padilla, 1963)

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#### HOW CRYPTANTHUS CAN SURVIVE DURING COLD WEATHER

The plant house can be covered with a solar plastic to keep the warmth in. By putting a covering of paper over the plants, it will protect the species from frost-bite. Sheets of coolite will insulate the plant house.

When the potting mix is made up with coolite particles, the roots of the Cryptanthus will grow into the coolite particles and the leaf mould will generate a certain amount of heat.

When making up leaf mould which consists of grass clippings, leaves and twigs, put the leafmould into a wool bale or large bag or large bin, and force it down with your feet and hands, and then put a handful of vegetables and fruit peelings into the middle of the mulch to start off the bacteria to decompose it to leaf mould, then wet it down to start off the heat generation. Every week, rewet it down until it decomposes.

Happy growing.

Doug Reilly

---

Mr. M.J. from Arana Hills asks -

- Q. For years I have had a large form of *Aechmea* with very similar flowers and habit to *Aechmea gamosepala*. Please tell me what it is (specimen supplied).
- A. According to Richters "Bromeliaceen" your plant is *Aechmea cylindrata*.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR BEGINNERS

There are many factors which enter into the successful growing of bromeliads, and as each grower has a different interpretation of the written word, it is a case of experiment until you work out a set of circumstances that suit you and your plants.

The following hints may help you to grow beautiful and healthy plants -

1. It does not matter what you grow your plants in, as long as water will flow through it and leave a moist but not soggy mix. Shredded pine bark chips, leaf mould with small twigs left in, sharp river sand and crushed charcoal in equal parts, make a good general purpose mix. Well rotted cow or poultry manure can be added, but leave out the manure for Vrieseas and Guzmanias. Preference here is for fibre, such as coconut fibre or tree fern fibre with charcoal added (Cymbidium orchid compost also, with charcoal added).
2. In warm weather, thoroughly water your plants and see that they drain quickly, as bromeliads do not like wet feet. Allow to dry out to just moist conditions before watering in winter. If the climate is very cold your plants will go semi-dormant and only need light misting on the odd warm morning (if you have a hot-house, water as usual).
3. Ventilation is most important. It is essential in winter, as it is in summer, that is when rot can begin in the tanks of the plants. If this does happen, spray plants, bench, and under the bench with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength fungicide.
4. Only feed your plants when the weather is warm, using fertiliser at  $\frac{1}{2}$  recommended strength about every 4 weeks.
5. Bromeliads grow best if given as much light as they can take without burning. The soft green leaves of Vrieseas need more shade. There are some such plants as Dyckias that need full sun to enable them to flower.
6. Most bromeliads are best grown in a minimum temperature of 4.5°C (about 40°F). Humidity and water are needed if temperature rises. Learn to understand the needs of your bromeliads, they will reward you.

BROMELIAD SOCIETYBALANCE SHEETACCUMULATED MEMBERS FUNDS 1987

		\$
Balance brought forward 1.1.87		27818.73
Capital Purchases for Year -		
Cupboard	292.18	
Display Equipment (watering wand)	32.38	
Raffle Equipment	19.95	
Library Equipment (binders, etc.)	<u>315.59</u>	660.10
Sale of Capital Equipment -		
Trailer	(600.00)	
Loss on Sale of Trailer	<u>(220.12)</u>	(820.12)
Purchase of Stock for Resale -		
Conference Proceedings	695.90	
Name Badges	<u>39.00</u>	734.90
Adjust Value of Stock on Hand -		
Books	(598.18)	
Tea Towels	(57.75)	
Sales Stickers	(132.45)	
Society Badges	<u>(51.50)</u>	(839.88)
Adjust Advances -		
Secretary	25.00	
Treasurer	25.00	
Trade Table	<u>400.00</u>	450.00
Adjust Equity in Combined Show		246.66
Excess Expenditure/Income	(470.37)	(470.37)
		<u>27780.02</u>
LESS Depreciation Adjustment		(331.50)
		<u>27448.52</u>
LESS Subscriptions in Advance		(102.00)
		<u><u>\$27346.52</u></u>

I hereby certify that this Balance Sheet represents a true and correct record of the financial affairs of the Bromeliad Society of Queensland as at 31.12.87

TREASURER .....

GREG STEWARD

PRESIDENT .....

ROBERT PAULSEN

AUDITOR .....

JOHN WILKINS, A.A.S.A.

OF QUEENSLAND

as at 31.12.87

<u>ASSETS 1987</u>		\$
Typewriter # 1	191.91	
# 2	<u>182.25</u>	+ 374.16
Cupboard # 1		+ 92.54
Recorder		+ 38.02
Projector # 1		+ 29.45
Display Equipment		+ 420.22
Pool Pump		+ 23.98
P.A. System		+ 237.00
Gestetner		+ 348.98
Raffle Equipment		+ 78.41
Calculator		+ 69.66
B.S.I. Slides		+ 185.57
Projector # 2		+ 1322.00
Pot Saucers (Competition Equipment)		+ 95.04
Cupboard # 2		292.18
Display Equipment (watering wand)		32.38
Raffle Equipment		19.95
Library		1115.59
Goods for Resale -		
Books	1589.86	
Sales Stickers	866.69	
Society Badges	551.36	
Name Badges	46.50	
Conference Proceedings	<u>695.90</u>	3750.31
Term Deposits -		
Society Funds	15000.00	
Mt. Coot-tha Gardens Project	<u>2000.00</u>	17000.00
N.A.B. Account -		
as at 31.12.87	513.50	
Petty Cash (Banked in Error)	<u>(29.76)</u>	
	483.74	
LESS Subscriptions in Advance	<u>(102.00)</u>	381.74
Advances -		
Secretary	50.00	
Treasurer	50.00	
Trade Table	<u>400.00</u>	500.00
Share Equity in Combined Show		1270.84
		<u>27678.02</u>
LESS Depreciation on items marked + (10% of \$3315.03)		(331.50)
		<u>\$27346.52</u>

HISTORY OF THE EARLY BROMELIANS IV - NICK KEMP

Alfred Ames Kemp was nicknamed Nick by friends many years ago because of a fiendly joke about NICK and NORA, heroes of the 'Thin Man' movies. The name stuck and for most of us Nick Kemp was the only name we knew him by.

Nick served in the army before, and during, World War II as a Lieutenant and Acting Captain in a training battalion, and also served in New Guinea. Nick was an early member of the Bromeliad Society of Australia.

I met him about 1960, and when the first meeting occurred in the Grasselli's Moorooka shop, Nick Kemp became another of the early Bromelians.

He was in charge of coal at Tennyson Power Station when I first met him, and even then was a very keen bromeliad collector at his Coopers Plains home. Corresponding with Norma Cook of the N.Z. Society and also Mr. Schaefer of Adelaide, Nick's early collection contained many species quite new to us then.

Just after the Society formed, Nick became friendly with Grace Goode of Alexandra Headlands, and it was from him I learned of Grace's method of growing bromeliads in tree stumps, and her earliest experiments with pollinating her plants.

When we first put together our first R.N.A. display, and for the next few years, he was one of the 'live wire' helpers in our Shows and Field Days.

Nick's collection at Coopers Plains was kept in a very large bush-house, literally from fence to fence and serviced by several doors like a horse stable.

For recreation, Nick Kemp, being a keen surf fisherman, sponsored me and I joined the Moreton Island Fishing Club with him. We spent many happy years fishing for Taylor along Moreton's beaches until Nick suffered a bad stroke in 1976 and had to give away his fishing hobby.



## NICK KEMP (cont)

Mainly because of this terrible set-back, Nick finally had to leave his work, and also at last he drifted from the Bromeliad Society of Queensland.

We often saw him briefly at R.N.A. shows, and once, when the New Zealand club was visiting, he was at Joan Imray's place, almost as cheery as ever.

Much of Nick's collection was sold to the Norm Catlan nurseries, and then we learned he had died of a heart attack in January, 1986.

Always remembered as a fine collector of bromeliads, Nick was involved in this scientific study right up until he had to sell his collection.

Grace Goode always said she named *Neoregelia Beelzebub* for Nick, because of his bright devilry.



*Tillandsia  
circinata*

FIELD DAYS

The following Field Days have been arranged, and all members are invited to attend -

MARCH 12th: Rolly & Evelyn and Douglas Reilly,  
13 Kyogle St.,  
MARSDEN. Ph: 2007549  
Commencing at 2.00 p.m.

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MAY, 14th: Don & Phyllis Hobbs,  
2 Blake St.,  
CLEVELAND Ph: 2864156  
Commencing at 2.00 p.m.

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OCTOBER, 8th: Ethel Braun,  
512 Brookfield Rd.,  
BROOKFIELD Ph: 3741046  
Commencing at 2.00 p.m.

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Please come along and make these events a success for all. Afternoon tea will be provided, but please bring your own chairs.

In the event of rain, please contact the host/hostess to confirm the Field Day still being held.

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BUS TRIP

A Bus Trip is being organised for the 9th April to the Nambour Garden Expo.

The bus will leave the Uniting Church Hall (our regular Meeting Hall) at 8.00 a.m. on Saturday, 9th, and will also pick up outside Super-K at Chermside, also at other places if necessary.

The cost of the Bus Trip will be \$5.00 per head.

As soon as possible, please see the Secretary, Marjorie Marshall, with your name, money, and point of joining the trip.

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Mr. E.B. of Ingham:

Q. I have an *Aechmea Hal Ellis*, but have heard it named *A. Mondamin*. Which is correct?

A. According to the latest hybridist checklist, *A. Hal Ellis* is *A. Royal Wine* x *A. coelestis*. Various clones of this are 'Pink Beads', 'Mauve Beads', 'Mondamin' and 'Beads of Coral'. It is a Grace Goode hybrid.

Mrs. Endine of Cairns:

Q. I have used several recommended sprays to eradicate pin-spot scale. Nothing works. I know I cannot put white oil with any spray, so is there a substitute.

A. Yes, an agricultural detergent water softener mixed with your spray will soften up the edges of the female scale allowing the spray to work.

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QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

The official opening of the Queensland Council of Garden Clubs Bi-Centennial Project, the glasshouse at the Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, will take place at 11.00 a.m. on March 18th, at the Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens.

The Bromeliad Society of Queensland contributed to the building of this glasshouse, and all members are invited to attend the opening.

The Q.C.G.C. Bi-Centennial Festival of Flowers Flower Show will be held at the Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens auditorium on the 19th March from 11.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. and 20th March from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

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FOR SALE: A few bromeliads at \$1.00 each.  
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COOPERS PLAINS.

---

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