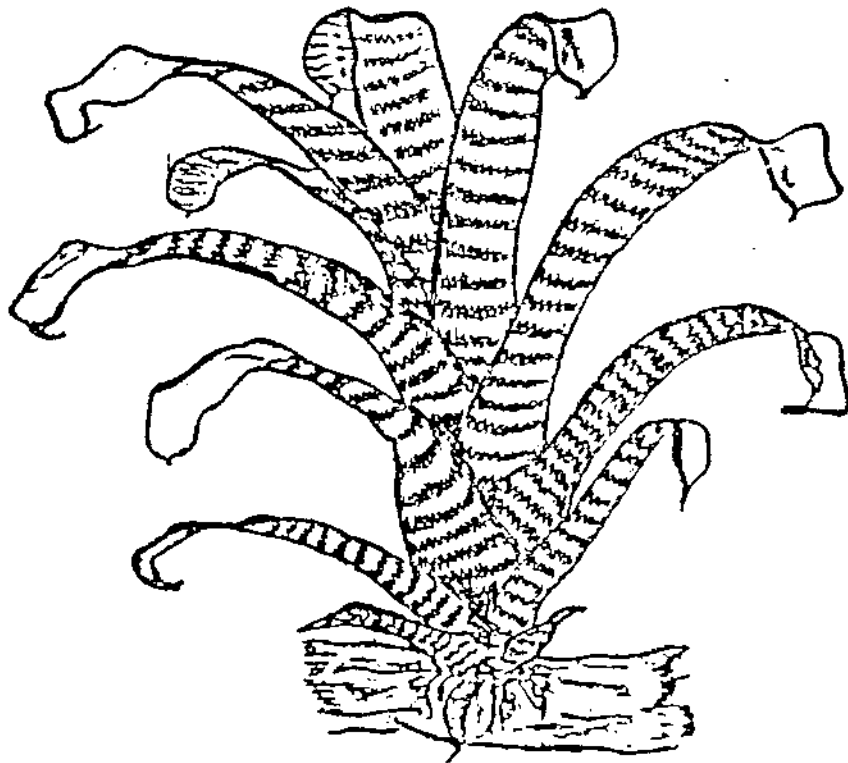


Bromeliaceae

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MARCH-APRIL, 1989



Vriesea splendens

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

Postal Address: P.O. BOX 565,
FORTITUDE VALLEY
AUSTRALIA Q 4006

General meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month except December, at the Uniting Church Hall, 52 Merthyr Road, NEW FARM, commencing at 7.30 pm.

-oOo-

PATRON: Mr. H. Caulfield
PRESIDENT: Mr. J. Higgins Ph. 800 2561
SECRETARY: Mr. G. Stewart Ph. 277 9965
TREASURER: Position not filled
EDITOR: Mr. L. Butt Ph. 848 3515
COMMITTEE: Mrs. P. Hobbs, Mrs. P. O'Dea, Mr. L. Butt,
Mr. D. Hobbs, Mr. M. O'Dea.

PROGRAMME

General Meeting - March 16th, 1989

Plant Workshop by Mr. J. Higgins

Plant Commentary by Mr. Greg Stewart

General Meeting April 20th, 1989

A slide programme is being arranged.

EDITORIAL This month a number of matters come to hand which must be discussed. Primarily, in a week or so, the Bromeliad Conference is being held in Melbourne. It is to be hoped that a fair representation of our members will be there.

These conferences are generally very friendly gatherings. A place where only the joy of growing bromeliads is remembered. Most people who go look forward to the next one with some eagerness.

One big event that happened last year, was the publication of the book *Growing Bromeliads*. It is hoped that all our members obtain this, as the book is worthwhile.

Don't forget that the big combined show is on again on 10 - 11th June weekend. Now is the time to get that plant or plants in readiness.

For the sales tables, stickers are available only from our monthly meetings at 3¢ each - \$1.80 for a pack of 50.

Your Committee wishes to remind you also that we are missing a collection of slide transparencies, and also a photo album of bromeliads. Both are the property of your Society.

At the February meeting we had a fair attendance, considering this was the Annual General Meeting.

Patricia O'Dea gave a short but lively commentary on the tabled plants and Len Butt added to this with a brief discussion on the genus *Billbergia*. This latter will be added to at a later date.

The wheels toward our society becoming incorporated are still turning successfully.

Bob Paulsen, our President, thanked all concerned for the great help he had received while in the office of President and remarked on the successes we have had during 1988 regarding bus trips and our two weekend display shows. One last June with the Succulent Society and one in October with the R.H.S. of Qld.

At this juncture I must add that I am standing down as Editor, but will always contribute to 'Bromeliaceae'. The updating I had wished for, colour cover, or more contributions did not eventuate, so I guess I must leave this for future editors to strive for.

There will be a bus trip to Buchanan's nursery at Wardell N.S.W. and this will be a one day trip. Interested parties please attend our March meeting, as this will be a trip not to be missed!

-oOo-

Inaugural Co-Founder and first Treasurer of the Bromeliad Society of Queensland, Mrs. Mary Grasselli, of Holmes Street, Moorooka, departed this life 24th February, 1989; always remembered as a fine Bromelian.

-oOo-

TILLANDSIA MIMA is one of those huge Tillandsias that never seem to come to flower but fortunately mine decided to do the right thing in March last year.

The plant is about one metre across with hard leathery grey leaves. The many branched spike is about 1½ metres high with a pink hue to the upper bracts. The flower petals are a dark violet colour and quite attractive.

The strange thing about this tillandsia is that it started flowering in March 1988 and is still flowering. The plant was self pollinating and numerous seed pods set. The earlier pods started to burst and were picked which is very unusual in the fact the plant was still in flower at the time which I have never encountered before with any of my tillandsias.

The seed was put down and strong germination occurred within one week. There are no pups at all showing on the plant and I have a suspicion that this plant won't throw offsets. In the majority of cases large tillandsias which readily set seed without outside pollination do not throw offsets. I saw a report that someone down south had got offsets off *T. Mima* and if that plant is correctly identified there may be a variance in the species. I am confident

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

The Balance Sheet as at 31.12.88

<u>ASSETS 1988</u>		\$
Typewriter #1	172.72	
#2	<u>164.03</u>	+ 336.75
Cupboard #1	83.29	
#2	<u>292.18</u>	+ 375.47
Display Equipment		+ 432.16
P.A. System		+ 213.30
Gestetner		+ 314.09
Calculator		+ 46.46
B.S.I. Slides		+ 148.46
Projector		<u>+ 1189.80</u>
		3056.49
Library		1452.59
Goods for Resale		
- Books	4145.56	
- Sales Stickers	680.34	
- Society Badges	547.61	
- Name Badges	46.50	
- Conference Proc.	<u>695.90</u>	6115.91
N.A.B. Account		
- as at 31.12.88	728.83	
LESS - Subs in Advance	(76.00)	
PLUS - Rent in Advance	<u>150.00</u>	802.83
Term Deposits		13000.00
Advances		
- Secretary	50.00	
- Treasurer	50.00	
- Trade Table	<u>400.00</u>	500.00
Trade Table		
- Stock/Cash on Hand	828.35	
LESS - Advance	<u>(400.00)</u>	428.35
Share Equity in Combined Show		<u>1087.38</u>
		26443.55
LESS Depreciation on items marked +		<u>(427.14)</u>
		<u>\$ 26016.41</u>

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

Expenditure Account for year ended 31st December, 1988

1987	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		1988
550.00	Rental	- Meeting Hall 1988	400.00
		1989	150.00
876.67	Bromeliaceae Costs		791.49
181.41	Officers Costs	- Postage/Telephones/Etc.	170.97
173.67	Stationery		247.56
23.00	Rental	- Post Office Box	23.00
655.00	Social Costs/Xmas Party		1022.94
249.31	Bus Trips	(nett)	267.00
35.00	Repairs & Maintenance	- Equipment	83.00
60.00		- Display Curtains	-
-	Subscriptions	- B.S.I.	39.51
42.33		- Cryptanthus Society	38.78
6.00		- Queensland Council Garden Clubs	6.00
-		- Royal Horticultural Society Qld.	5.00
234.41	Display Expenses	- R.N.A.	316.76
-		- R.H.S. Show	86.60
141.65	Purchase of	- Trophies/Prizes	103.00
30.00		- Door Prizes	28.00
783.42		- Cupboard	-
292.18		- Display Equipment	116.43
19.95		- Badges	-
39.00		- Library Equipment (Books)	337.00
1005.10	Donations	- Mulford Foster Ident'n Centre	708.24
-		- Victoria Padilla Foundation	140.05
-		- Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens (glasshouse)	2000.00
275.00		- Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens (Gazebo)	-
-		- Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens (Library)	272.60
40.00	Contribution	- Ipswich Bromeliad Society	-
25.00	Advances	- Secretary	-
25.00		- Treasurer	-
350.87	Insurance		353.87
-	Gifts	- Visiting Speakers	7.00
7.60	Federal Government Tax		17.95
3247.86	Print Conference Proceedings		-
9717.40			12006.05
(470.37)	Excess Income/Expenditure		245.09
<u>9247.03</u>			<u>12251.14</u>

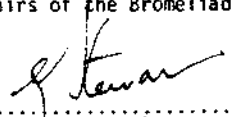
BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

The Balance Sheet as at 31.12.88

<u>ACCUMULATED MEMBERS FUNDS 1988</u>		\$
Balance brought forward 1.1.88		27448.52
Capital Purchases for year	- Library Books	337.00
Purchase of Stock for Resale	- Books	2555.70
Adjust value of Stock on Hand	- Sales Stickers (186.35) - Badges (3.75)	(190.10)
Adjust Equity in Combined Show		(183.46)
Trade Table Profit		428.35
Term Deposits Redeemed		(4000.00)
Totally Write off Capital Equipment		(271.55)
Excess Income/Expenditure		245.09
		<u>26369.55</u>
LESS	Depreciation Adjustment	(427.14)
		<u>25942.41</u>
LESS	Subscriptions in Advance	(76.00)
PLUS	Rent Paid in Advance	150.00
		<u>\$ 26016.41</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 31.12.88.

TREASURER



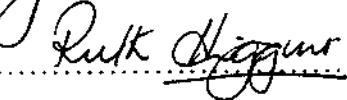
GREG STEWART

PRESIDENT



ROBERT PAULSEN

AUDITOR



RUTH HIGGINS

of my identification because it keys out in Smith & Downes perfectly.

In summary a very large, nice and easy to grow Tillandsia which keeps one very interested through its growing life.

Greg Stewart

-oOo-

BROMELIAD JOTTINGS AFTER ADAPTING (*Alfred Graf*) by Len Butt
Alfred Byrd Graf's expeditions into many parts of the horticultural world resulted in the huge Volume we know as *Graf's Exotica*. Here below are jottings in my words of information regarding our family of plants.

The great Inca city of Machu Picchu which perches on the plateau of one of the granite peaks in the Eastern Cordillera of Peru. Untouched by the Spanish vandals of Pizzaro only because it was never discovered. Built by ingenious architects and labourers of a people so rich in culture, that they are equalled only by the ancient Egyptians.

The granite precipitous walls of the mountain which drop thousands of feet to the Rio Urubamba below are festooned with millions of red bromeliads. These make the cliffs look like they are on fire and contrast with the grey of the great native huge Puyas.

Graf states further that at the time of collecting he considered *Vriesia hieroglyphica* to be the most spectacular bromeliad that he collected from rain forest on the Serra do Mar in southern Brazil at about 1000 metres.

Rain falls 300 days a year, more than anywhere else in Brazil and bromeliads such as *Aechmeas*, *Catopsis*, *Neoregeleas*, *Billbergias*, *Quesnelias*, *Tillandsias* and *Vriesias* thrive there, the heavy hieroglyphica clinging like birds to thin twigs only a few feet from the ground.

In Esperito Santo the State of the Holy Ghost near Bahia and on to Serra do Mar is true jungle still, but for how long is anyone's guess. Epiphytic bromeliads such as *Aechmea fosteriana* with grey

green to yellow leaves embossed by purplish brown bandings sport lovely crimson bracts and yellow flowers. These are called "gravata" by the Brazilian people.

In this region are found *Acanthostachys*, *Aechmea*, *Billbergia*, *Canistrum*, *Neoregelia*, *Nidularium*, *Portea* and *Tillandsia*.

Beyond the Organ Mountains into Minas Gerais on red loam granitic soil among huge rocks, grow thousands of giant terrestrial *Vriesia imperialis*, wine red leaves, 2.5 metre spikes of maroon bracts and yellow flowers.

NOTE (The leaf colour of this mentioned *imperialis* and also the flower colour of it is different to any Australian grown *V. imperialis* I know).

Len Butt

-oOo-

A SUCCESS STORY For many years now since purchasing a nice looking *Tillandsia stricta*? offset from the late Jim Hyde, that plant grew and multiplied. Did it multiply!! Specimen plants were divided on and on *ad infinitum*! But alas no inflorescences. My wife Evelyn a couple of months ago was peeling an apple. "Don't complain" she said. "Put the plant with this apple skin in a plastic bag, hang it up and see what happens." Left it tied closed for a week. Hung it back up in the plant house. Today, Australia Day, a large pink inflorescence has emerged.

No! we have not become avid apple eaters minus the skins!

Rolly Reilly

-oOo-

HISTORY OF EARLY BROMELIANS WE HAVE LOST TO OUR SOCIETY Len Butt

There have been quite some few, and worth mentioning because of their fiery enthusiasm at the time are Chris Gelhaar, a young lady inaugural to our Club with a passion for bromeliads, that a collection well worth noting. Chris left us after a few years.

Pat and Mrs. Brouggy of Greenslopes also extremely early members in 1967. Mrs. Brouggy's collection of orchids and bromeliads was

always a must to see. Both members sustained ill health and although Mrs. Brouggy still has a collection of bromeliads, her health prevents her from participating today.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Phillips were co-foundation members, indeed the Club started because of a conversation between Ivan, Mary Grasselli and myself in December, 1967.

Ivan Phillips dropped out, rejoined, but lapsed a few years ago owing to business reasons.

Audrey Coley, a real enthusiast with a good collection and many interests in our Society Audrey was our Secretary for a few years and ill health is the only reason we lost her also.

Mr. Tolliver, a member who never missed a meeting, retired from University staff, his expertise on literary matters was valued by all of us.

Morris Jones, inaugural member and mentioned in a previous "history". Enthusiastic good worker for our Club lapsed after several years but rejoined 18 months ago, this time with his wife Margaret.

Mr. Erskine, a very early member gave of his expertise until his death, still as a Club member.

Barclay Binnie, also mentioned previously, an inaugural member with large enthusiasm for these plants. His Club contributions are well remembered. Early mainstay member, with Peter Paroz and Neslie Misso.

I do not intend to miss mentioning anyone, as future 'Bromeliaceae' will prove.

Len Butt

--oo0oo--

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