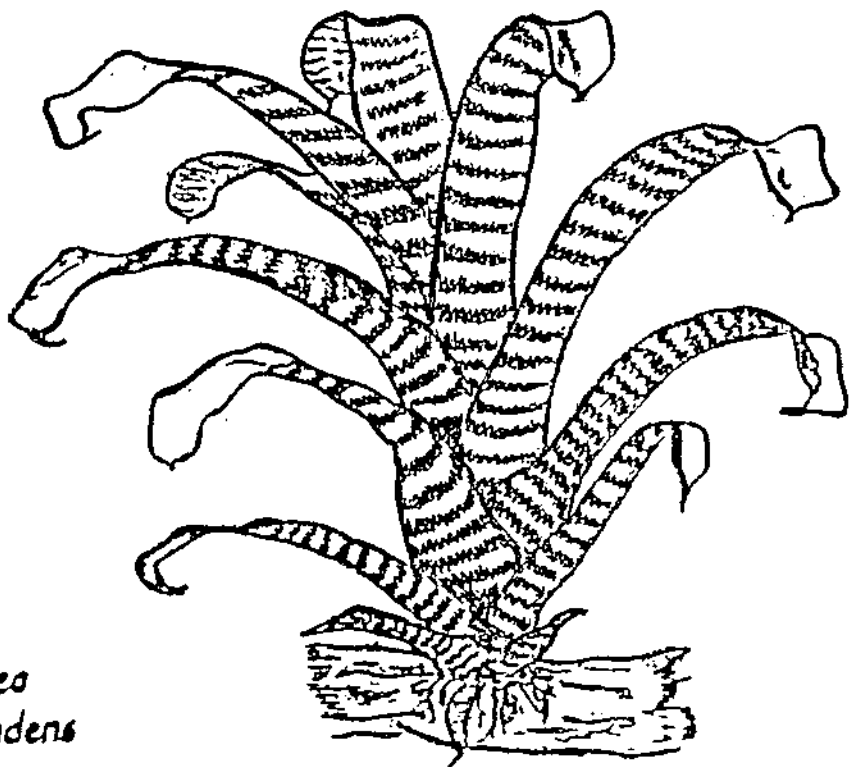


Bromeliaceae

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

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VOLUME XXIV No.2
MARCH-APRIL, 1990



*Vriesea
splendens*

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

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.

Postal Address: P O Box 565
FORTITUDE VALLEY
AUSTRALIA Q 4006

-oOo-

PATRON: Mr. H. Caulfield
PRESIDENT: Mr. John Higgins Ph. 800 2561
SECRETARY: Mrs. Marge Marshall --
TREASURER: Mrs. Lorraine Wilton Ph. 390 1226
EDITOR: Mr. Greg Stewart Ph. 277 9965
COMMITTEE: Mrs. P. Hobbs, Mrs. P. O'Dea, Mrs. O. Trevor,
Messrs. D. Hobbs, M. O'Dea, D. Upton, L. Trevor, L. Butt

-oOo-

PROGRAMME

MARCH, 15 General Meeting
Guest Speaker Mr. Ross McKinnon, Curator,
Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens - Topic -
'Up The Garden Path'
Plant Commentary by L. Wilton
Golden Oldies Display - Nidulariums

APRIL, 19 General Meeting
Mini Show conducted by Student Judges
(See schedule inside)
Plant Commentary by N. Caplan

JUNE, 8 Set-up of combined Show Display from 12 noon at
Mt. Coot-tha Auditorium.

JUNE, 9, 10 Combined Show - Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

AUGUST, 5 R.N.A. Show - Set-up of Backdrop and Accessories

AUGUST, 8 R.N.A. Show - Set-up of Display
(bring plants from 4.00 pm.)

AUGUST, R.N.A. Show - Steward Display

EDITORIAL Unfortunately at last year's A.G.M. we were unable to come up with an Editor and the Committee, primarily our President were forced to compile the magazine in between their other commitments. They should be applauded for getting five quality editions out for 1989. Due to holidays, sickness and business commitments it was found to be impossible to get the November-December magazine compiled and of course members did not receive one in the mail. The same problems were encountered for the January-February magazine this year.

We have now had our Annual General Meeting and I was elected Editor for the 1990 financial year so the prospect of having an Editor on Committee is a much more satisfactory state of affairs and you should now receive your 'Bromeliaceae' at the due dates.

I make an appeal to all members to send me material for the magazine, for without your contributions the viability of printing a magazine doesn't exist. I will accept anything, (provided it comes within the parameters of Qld. Censorship Laws), and articles need not be on Bromeliads alone. Any articles on associated vegetation that grows along with Bromeliads would be nice and also some articles on fauna who have some association with Bromeliads would be helpful.

I close this editorial in the faith that my fellow members will join together and help me to compile an interesting and educational "Bromeliaceae" in 1990.

Greg Stewart

-o0o-

BUS TRIP A bus trip is being organized to go to Buchanan's Nursery at "Pinegrove" Wardell.

The date of this bus trip is Saturday 31st March, leaving our meeting hall at 7.00 am sharp. The pickup point on the southside will be in front of Palmdale Shopping Centre at 7.20 am sharp. It is hoped the bus will be back at Palmdale by 4.40 pm. and at the meeting hall by 5.00 pm.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

Expenditure Account for year ended 31st December, 1989.

1988	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	1989
550.00	Hall Rental - 1989	150.00
	- 1990	150.00
791.49	Bromeliaceae Costs	712.29
170.97	Officers Costs/Postage/Telephone	103.32
247.56	Stationery	145.69
23.00	Rental P.O. Box	24.00
1022.94	Social Costs/Xmas Party (nett)	847.11
267.00	Bus Trips (nett)	-
83.00	Repairs & Maintenance	40.00
39.51	Subscriptions - B.S.I.	47.04
38.78	- Cryptanthus Society	40.38
6.00	- Qld Council Garden Clubs	6.00
5.00	- Royal Horticultural Society	5.00
316.76	Display Expenses - R.N.A.	138.00
86.60	- R.H.S. Show	-
103.00	Purchase of - Trophies/Prizes	59.30
28.00	- Door Prizes	28.50
116.43	- Display Equipment	-
-	- Badges	4.10
337.00	- Library Equipment	94.00
4273.30	- Books	2393.02
-	Donations - Dr. Lau	300.00
272.60	- Mt. Coot-tha Gardens Library	76.50
708.24	- Mulford Foster	-
140.05	- Victoria Padilla	-
2000.00	- Mt. Coot-tha Gardens G/house	-
353.87	Insurance	453.49
7.00	Visiting Speakers	-
17.95	Fed. Govt Tax/Bank Charges	28.90
	Incorporation Costs	219.31
<hr/>		<hr/>
12006.05		6065.95
245.09	Excess Income/Expenditure	2791.80
<hr/>		<hr/>
12251.14		8857.75
<hr/>		<hr/>

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

Income Account for year ended 31st December, 1989.

1988	<u>INCOME</u>	1989
738.00	Subscriptions	859.00
76.00	Subscriptions in Advance	20.00
417.13	Plant Sales Commission	452.35
423.30	Raffle Receipts (nett)	404.61
3.75	Sale of - Society Badges	22.75
186.35	- Sales Stickers	151.50
1717.60	- Books	1781.20
-	- Name Badges	4.60
-	- Tea Towels	16.00
24.00	- Donations	12.50
2445.70	Combined Show Sales Commission	2386.70
2137.31	Interest on Investments/Bank Account	1931.54
35.00	Sale of Captial Equipment	-
37.00	Advertising in Bromeliaceae	29.00
-	R.N.A. Show Contribution	775.00
10.00	Postage	11.00
4000.00	Redemption of Investments	-

12251.14

8857.75

Members participating on this trip are asked to bring their own lunch and drinks (no alcohol please). Also some small cardboard boxes for purchased plants may be wise.

Anyone wishing to book a seat please see Bob Paulsen at the meeting or ring Bob on 297 0415. The bus is only a twenty seater so first in, first served.

-o0o-

WET WEATHER PROBLEMS WITH POTTED TILLANDSIAS Hands up all the people who have had trouble with their potted Tillandsias over the prolonged wet summer. You will find in some cases that the plant is starting to go yellow with leaves dying and a very pungent odour coming from the plant and mix.

These tillandsias such as *T. Kalambacheri*, *T. lucida*, *T. ponderosa* which fall in the group of neither really green or silver-leaved tillandsias, have very limited tolerances to over wet mixes in a potted situation. It is imperative that the mix be allowed to dry out completely between waterings and with our current spate of weather this has been impossible. The humidity over the last few months has not aided the plants' cause either and has contributed to plant losses.

If you have potted tillandsias in your collection which look sick take the following steps:-

1. Remove plant from the pot.
2. Remove all dead leaves and soft decaying material from around the base of the plant.
3. Dust base of the plant with a good reputable fungicide.
4. Try and keep plant water free for at least ten days.
5. After plant is completely dried out mount to a piece of virgin cork or timber with old panty hose.

If the plant survives and starts to grow roots on the mount leave it where it is. Tillandsias mounted tend not to grow as big as their potted brothers but their life expectancy in sustained wet periods is much more assured.

Greg Stewart

-o0o-

Adventuring with Bromeliads in Colombia and Ecuador on the Journeys of Eduard Francois Andre, as told by Lyman B. Smith

Andre, botanist, horticulturist and editor, journeyed from the mouth of the Rio Magdalena in northern Colombia to Loja in southern Ecuador. He collected and studied a great variety of plants, but there can be little doubt that his main interest lay with the members of the Bromeliaceae. The gruelling treks he made into difficult areas to get them is ample proof of this. After returning to France he spent many years in serious study with his collections; and produced as one great monograph the *Bromeliaceae Andreanae*, an account of the 122 species and 14 varieties which he had brought back. Of these, 91 species were described as new, and it is worth noting the great majority of them are still valid.

With two companions in the late November of 1875 embarking on a new but ramshackle stern wheeler at the Magdalena river port of Barranquilla, the ship had to stop at intervals for fuel and Andre seized each opportunity to rush ashore and collect. At Isla Brava, one of these stops along the torrid lower reaches of the Magdalena, he collected his first new specimen of a new bromeliad, *Aechmea penduliflora* with its delicate nodding inflorescence. His main concern at the time however was heat from the river sand - approximately 47°C, the many poisonous snakes, and the *Vara Santa* tree with its hollow branches full of vicious ants.

Other species added at that time were *Guzmania monostachya*, *Catopsis sessiliflora*, *Tillandsia valenzuelana* and *Aechmea magdalenae*. The author notes here that it seemed strange that Andre should be the first to find the latter for it extends from Colombia to Yucatan. It grows in great impenetrable stands of great extent and has been used by the Indians for its fibre. Possibly its resemblance to a pineapple caused earlier botanists to overlook it.

To be continued.....

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