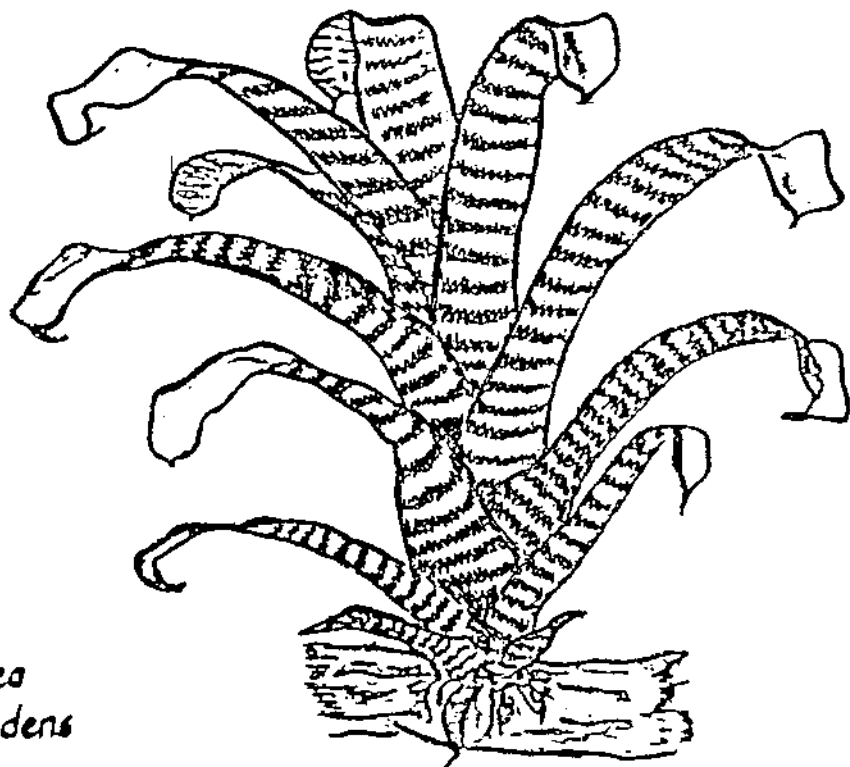


Bromeliaceae

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

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST
PUBLICATION NO. QBH 1849.

VOLUME XXII # 15
JULY - AUGUST, 1989



*Vriesea
splendens*

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

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 p.m.

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

PATRON: Mr. H. Caulfield
 PRESIDENT: Mr. John Higgins 8002561
 SECRETARY: Mr. Greg Stewart 2779965
 TREASURER: Mrs. Lorraine Wilton 3901266
 EDITOR: To be appointed
 COMMITTEE: Mrs. P. Hobbs, Mrs. P. O'Dea, Messrs. L. Butt,
D. Hobbs, M. O'Dea, N. Ryan

PROGRAMME

JULY, 20th . General Meeting
 . Bromeliad Beginnings by Harold Caulfield,
Patron, B.S.Q.
 . Plant Commentary by Patricia O'Dea
 AUGUST, 6th . R.N.A. Show - Set-up of trees, backdrop
 AUGUST, 9th . R.N.A. Show - Set-up of Display
 (Bring plants from 4.00 p.m.)
 AUGUST, 10th-19th . R.N.A. Show - Steward Display
 AUGUST, 17th . General Meeting
 . Moisture Management by Bromeliads by Peter Paroz
 . Plant Commentary by Bob Paulsen
 SEPTEMBER, 19th . SPECIAL MEETING : Lecture & Slides by
 Dr. Alfred Lau
 (members free if wearing badge, visitors \$4.00
supper provided)
 SEPTEMBER, 30th . Garden visit to Bob & Mavis Paulsen (B.B.Q.)

EDITORIAL

The Combined Show staged over the Queen's Birthday weekend last saw the members of our Society join with the members of the Queensland Succulent Society for the 12th time to hold the Show.

The spirit of co-operation and compromise demonstrated at the very first show in 1978 continues to be the framework for each successive Show. Without this, the Show would not be possible, and the members of both Societies are to be congratulated on this proud record and the tradition that has developed.

This year, a number of factors combined to reduce the numbers attending, but the continued support of a hard core of followers maintained plant sales at previous levels to ensure a financial success.

The next major event in our programme is that of the R.N.A. Show in August. Details of the 'EKKA' timetable are listed in the programme elsewhere in this issue. The Roster Steward, Doug Upton, will be seeking volunteers for the Show Roster, and members are asked to register with Doug at the earliest opportunity.

Over recent weeks, some of our members have not enjoyed the best of health, and to those members we extend our best wishes for their recovery.

The development of the Society is dependent on the continued support of our established members and on the acquisition of new members. This provides a balance of interests and ideas, and helps to maintain the strength of the Society. Ideas and opinions from new and old members are welcomed by your Committee, and these may be offered to any member of the Committee for consideration.

As the winter months descend on us, greater care and attention is called for to maintain our plants in good condition, but the rewards for this effort will be gained later in the year.

Good growing, and best wishes to all members.

John Higgins

'A BLOOMING SHAME'

The following article from an unidentified newspaper was supplied by a member, and is reproduced here for the interest of other members (Ed).

Lacking the cash or the opportunity to buy fireworks, the Andes Indian will select the biggest puya plant he can find. The tinder dry stalk is set up in the market square and a torch is applied. Flames shoot 50 feet high - and a million potential puya plants go up in smoke.

This is confirmed by Florida's bromeliad authority, Mulford Foster, who marvelled at seeing a solitary plant on a mountain in Bolivia 300 miles from the nearest known specimens. He wrote (in *National Geographic* 1950: "Perhaps an Indian had brought the puya there as a small plant to serve as a torch for his grandchildren to fire on some fiesta day. Unfortunately this practice of burning the dry plant and flower stalk, full of seeds, has destroyed many of these noble bromeliads."

In these days of widespread concern for endangered species, one shudders at the thought: The parent plant dies after blooming, but Nature meant the seeds to fall to the ground and sprout.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I have observed, and no doubt other growers have also, a tendency in the last few years for *Tillandsias*, noticeably all varieties of *Tillandsia stricta* and a few others, to flower earlier each succeeding year. All mine finished weeks ago.

Comments please !!!!!

Rolly Reilly

TILLANDSIA REFLECTIONS

Over the last four or five years, a trend has been developing to grow some of the silver Tillandsias in pots.

A very loose, open mix of bark, charcoal or pumice stone is used and the plants seem to grow more robustly and quicker than their counterparts which are mounted.

A word of warning - I have had trouble with some of the soft grey leaved tillandsias when they come into flower. A severe fungal condition results with dead leaves smelling putrid. This seems to strike only when the plant starts to come into flower with excellent growth and condition prior to flowering. The plants I have had losses with are listed below -

Tillandsia bourgeayi
Tillandsia yunkerii
Tillandsia kalambacherii
Tillandsia intumescans (the real one)
Tillandsia parryi
Tillandsia imperialis

I am now mounting these particular plants, and I am having no problems, even though growth rates are down compared to pots

Greg Stewart

Do you have trouble remembering what plants you have in your collection?

We are offering a service to you, as a member of the Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc., the opportunity to have a computer generated list of your plants that can be updated either on a regular basis, or whenever you purchase new plants.

Your list will be stored on your own floppy disk for as long as you wish, and will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

For more information, please contact Graham or Wendy Besgrove, on (07) 8005431 after 6.00 p.m. weeknights or all weekend.

Graham and Wendy Besgrove

COMPETITION RESULTS C

TILLANDSIA	1. T. Muller	<i>T. funkiana</i>
	2. G. Stewart	<i>T. tectorum</i>
	3. P. Clarke	<i>T. argentea</i>
VRIESEA	1. -	
	2. T. Muller	<i>V. Lemon Spike</i>
	3. -	
OTHER	1. -	
TILLANDSIOIDEAE	2. T. Muller	<i>Guzmania Cherry</i>
	3. -	
TILLANDSIOIDEAE	1. D. Anderson	<i>T. didisticha</i>
IN FLOWER	2. G. Stewart	<i>T. variabilis</i>
	3. K. Golinski	<i>T. lindenii</i>
CRYPTANTHUS	1. K. Golinski	<i>C. Periwinkle</i>
	2. K. Golinski	<i>C. Mixed Grill</i>
	3. D. Reilly	<i>C. Marian Openheimer</i>
BILLBERGIA	1. G. Besgrove	<i>B. species</i>
	2. A. Freeman	<i>B. Dr. Ceser's Hybrid</i>
	3. A. Freeman	<i>B. Harland</i>
AECHMEA	1. T. Muller	<i>A. fasciata v. Purpurea</i>
	2. T. Muller	<i>A. chantinii x tillandsioides</i>
	3. T. Muller	<i>A. penduliflora</i>
NEOREGELIA	1. R. Reilly	<i>N. pendula v. brevifolia</i>
	2. A. Freeman	<i>N. Inferno</i>
	3. A. Freeman	<i>N. magnifica</i>
	H/C P. Hobbs	<i>N. pendula v. brevifolia</i>
NIDULARIUM	No Entries	
INTERGENERIC	1. -	
	2. T. Muller	<i>XNeophytum Ralph Davis</i>
	3. T. Muller	<i>xNidumea Superstar</i>
OTHER	1. K. Golinski	<i>Orthophytum guerkenianum</i>
BROMELIOIDEAE	2. O. Trevor	<i>Orthophytum vagans f. variegata</i>
	3. P. Hobbs	<i>Orthophytum navioides</i>
BROMELIOIDEAE	1. T. Muller	<i>Orthophytum guerkenianum</i>
IN FLOWER	2. -	
	3. -	
HECHTIA/DYCKIA	1. P. Clarke	<i>Dyckia fosteriana f. Silver King</i>
	2. T. Muller	<i>Dyckia fosteriana cv Silver</i>
	3. R. Reilly	<i>Dyckia brevifolia</i>

BIBLINED SHOW 1989

PITCAIRNIA	1. P. O'Dea	<i>Pitcairnia</i> Sp.
	2. -	
	3. -	
OTHER PITCAIRNIOIDEAE	1. G. Lawson	<i>Abromeitiella chlorantha</i>
	2. -	
	3. -	
SPECIMEN, ANY GENUS	1. E. Braun	<i>Neoregelia pauciflora</i>
3 OR MORE CONNECTED	2. D. Reilly	<i>N. wilsoniana</i> v. <i>nigra</i>
MATURE PLANTS	3. D. Reilly	<i>N. ampullacea</i> v. <i>purpurea</i> f. <i>Pixie</i>
NOVICE ANY GENERA	1. S. Gleeson	<i>Vriesea fosteriana</i> f. <i>Red Chestnut</i>
	2. S. Gleeson	<i>Neoregelia pendula</i> v. <i>brevifolia</i>
	3. K. Golinski	<i>Neoregelia Gold Fever</i>
MINIATURE DISPLAY	1. R. Reilly	<i>Tillandsia stricta</i> (Tree)
	2. P. Clarke	'Rubbish' (<i>Dyckia</i> display)
	3. -	
NOVELTY DISPLAY	1. M. McGregor- Lowndes	<i>Vriesea</i> & <i>Tillandsia</i> Head Teapot
	2. P. Clarke	Midnight Surprise
	3. P. Clarke	
FLORAL DISPLAY	1. P. Clarke	<i>Billbergia</i> floral arrangement
	2. P. Clarke	Boat Shaped Group
	3. -	
BEST TILLANDSIOIDEAE NEZ MISSO MEMORIAL	T. Muller	<i>Tillandsia funckiana</i>
BEST BROMELIOIDEAE HUDSON PERPETUAL	T. Muller	<i>Orthophytum guerkenianum</i>
BEST CRYPTANTHUS GRACE GOODE PERPETUAL	K. Golinski	<i>Cryptanthus Periwinkle</i>
CRYPTANTHUS SOCIETY BEST HYBRID	K. Golinski	<i>Cryptanthus Periwinkle</i>
BEST PITCAIRNIOIDEAE	G. Lawson	<i>Abromeitiella chlorantha</i>
RESERVE CHAMPION	T. Muller	<i>Tillandsia funckiana</i>
CHAMPION	T. Muller	<i>Orthophytum guerkenianum</i>

COMPETITION RESULTS (cont.)

TOM SCHOFIELD AWARD	D. & P. Hobbs	<i>Aechmea dichlamydea</i> <i>v. trinitensis</i>
SPECIAL AWARD	O. Trevor	<i>Billbergia amoena</i> (stoloniferous form)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

MAY, 1989

55 members and 2 visitors attended the meeting. A talk given by Peter Paroz on Microclimates reminded members that experimentation in the grouping and location of plants could often produce remarkable differences in growing results.

The commentary on the well stocked plant table was given by Greg Stewart.

POPULAR VOTE: ADVANCED	Greg Stewart	<i>Tillandsia dyeriana</i>
NOVICE	Laurie Muller	<i>Vriesea Lemon Spike</i>

Both these plants were flowering specimens.

JUDGES CHOICE	Greg Stewart	<i>Tillandsia dyeriana</i>
---------------	--------------	----------------------------

Orders for the new book 'Bromeliads of Venezueliana' were taken at the meeting. Cost of this book is expected to be approx. \$ 80.00 (Aust).

JUNE, 1989

39 members and 2 visitors were in attendance, and a number of apologies were received from members unable to attend.

Notice was given of a Field Day to be held at Bob & Mavis Paulsen's garden on 30th September at 3.00 p.m. A barbeque will be served, and members are requested to bring a salad. Meat, tea and coffee will be provided. Members are requested not to bring alcohol to

Secretary's Notes (cont)

the Field Day.

A new award will be given for the Novice section at the next Combined Show. This will be the Mary Grasselli Memorial Medallion.

An enthusiastic discussion on Growth Media and Potting Mixes was led by John Higgins and was well supported by general comments from many of the members.

POPULAR VOTE: ADVANCED Rolly Reilly *Neoregelia pendula*
 v. brevifolia

(a multi-headed flowering specimen)

 NOVICE Graham &
 Wendy Besgrove *Billbergia vittata*
 (in flower)

JUDGES CHOICE: Rolly Reilly *Neoregelia pendula*
 v. brevifolia

TO THE EDITOR: "CARNIVOROUS PLANT AID IN THE BROM HOUSE"

Some months prior to the big wet, I was presented with a large pitcher variety of some seven cups.

Vacillating where to place it, I eventually decided the Tillandsia house would be the most suitable. Upon tipping out a cup recently, was pleasantly surprised to discover not only a myriad of tiny insects, but half a dozen of those root tip eating cockroaches, plus one large variety, all this decomposing in about 15 mls. of dark fluid.

Peering into the remaining pitchers confirmed that they had a likewise share also.

Rolly Reilly

A CARNIVOROUS BROMELIAD

There is in South America a ring of sheer escarpment topped by a wild unexplored plateau. This is Auyan tepui, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, learning of it, wrote his great classic "The Lost World".

In 1935, George Angel, flying a bush pilot plane, stumbled on a great roaring column of water pouring from the plateau to the valleys below. Named for him, this was Angel Falls, the world's tallest waterfall.

Now, expeditions landing on that summit have found, not the prehistoric world of Conan Doyle, but animals, reptiles and plants of a very strange nature. One such find was the first known carnivorous bromeliad.

The rapid run-off of torrential storms sweeps soil from many rock formations on the edges of the tepui. There, in lone island of lichens and moss, large colonies of this terrestrial plant, *Brocchinia reducta*, can be found.

Because intense solar radiation and cool humid conditions deprive them of nutrition from the soil, they catch their own, digesting all insects that fall into the liquid within the bromeliad's vase.

Only on this plateau is this phenomenon observed. Although it was known to occur in swampy savannah of Venezuela, it is not known if the lowland forms are insectivorous also.

It has erect leaves in a tubular rosette of about 25-50 cm in height, the leaf blades being from 3-6 cm wide.

The flowering inflorescence is not very spectacular, but at least in the escarpment, this would be the world's most unique bromeliad.

According to *National Geographic*, May 1989, Bruce Holst of the Missouri Botanical Garden also discovered another new bromeliad in this area in 1987.

Len Butt

(Botanical information researched from *Neo Tropica*, 1974,
Other extracts from *Vive George National Geographic*)

FORM 2



QUEENSLAND

ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 1981

Section 12
Regulation 7

No. 5649.....


CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
OF AN ASSOCIATION

This is to Certify

that

.....
THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC
.....

.....
n and from the fifth day of ... May , 19 89 ,
incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.


.....
Under Secretary,
Department of Justice.



PINEGROVE BROMELIADS

Specialising: NEOREGELIAS, AECHMEAS, TILLANDSIAS, VRIESEAS,
GUZMANIAS, RARE SPECIES AND HYBRIDS.

Visitors Welcome - opportunity to view over 8000 different
species and hybrids - OPEN 7 DAYS

Large S.A.E. for mail order list

June & John Buchanan, Pine Street, WARDELL. NSW 2477
P.O. BOX 61 Ph: 066 874188

FOREST DRIVE NURSERY

Located at Repton, south of Coff's Harbour, specialising in
species and variegates from mostly imported stock.

Tillandsias to titillate even the most discerning fanciers.
Beautiful Vrieseas including silver species, Guzmanias,
Aechmeas, Neoregelias. etc.

Visitors Welcome - PLEASE PHONE FIRST on 066 554130 (A/H)

Mail Order List - Send S.A.E. C/- Repton. NSW 2454

Proprietor: *Peter Tristram*

"BROMAGIC" BROMELIAD NURSERY

One of Queensland's largest collections of bromeliads,
including Tillandsias.

IMPORTING TILLANDSIAS REGULARLY

We specialise in mail order - send \$1.50 for complete list
(refunded with first order) to:

"BROMAGIC" M.S. 956,
Hunchy Road,
PALMWOODS. Q 4555

Visitors Welcome by appointment

Ph: (071) 429303