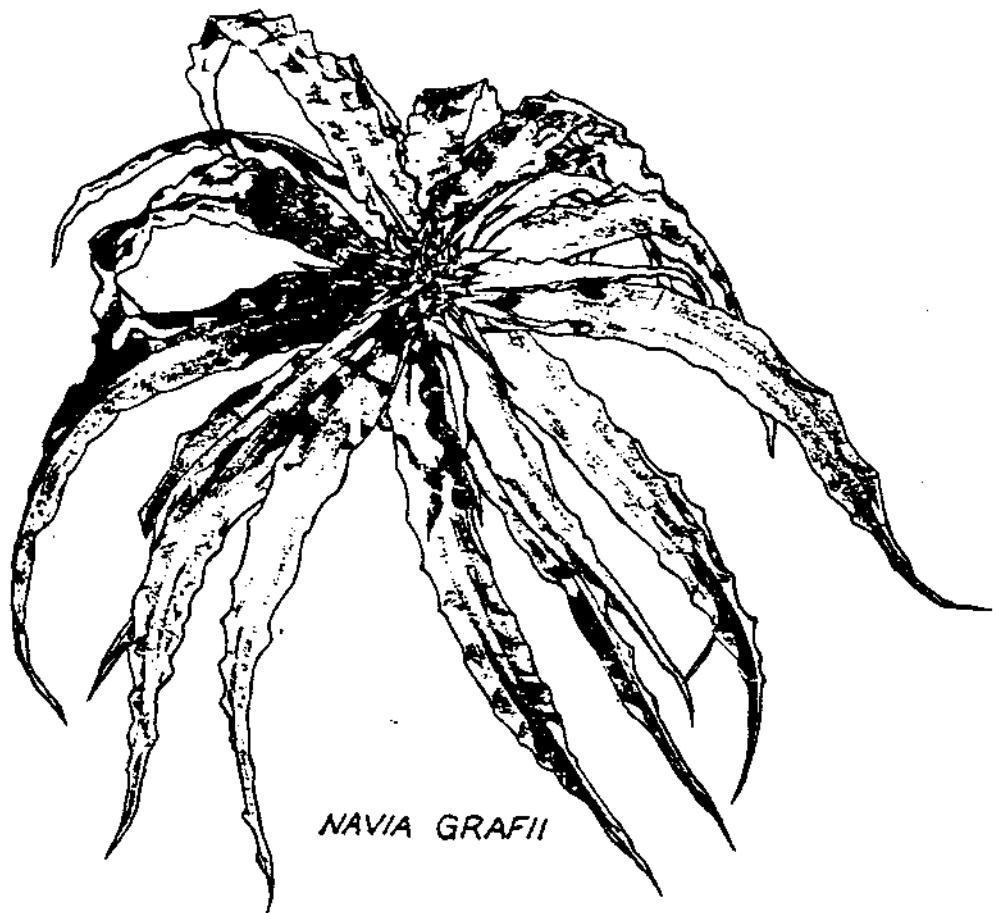


BROMELIACEAE

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JULY - AUGUST, 1993
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NAVIA GRAFII

The 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, Q. 4006*

Patron: Mr. H. Caulfield

President: Mr. John Higgins Phone 800 2561

Secretary: Mrs. Marge Marshall

Treasurer: Mrs. Lorraine Wilton Phone 390 1226

Editor: Mr. Greg Stewart Phone 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.

PROGRAMME

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| JULY, 19TH | General Meeting |
| | Why Bromeliads Grow in Trees - John Higgins |
| | Fertilisers - Lorraine Wilton |
| | Plant Commentary - Patricia O'Dea |
| | Old Favourites - Neoregelias |
| AUGUST, 5TH | R.N.A. SHOW - Set up props |
| AUGUST, 8TH | R.N.A. SHOW - Set up display |
| AUGUST, 9TH - | |
| AUGUST, 18TH | R.N.A. SHOW - Steward display |
| AUGUST, 19TH | R.N.A. SHOW - Dismantle display |
|
 | |
| AUGUST, 16TH | General Meeting |
| | Slide Show - Members are requested to bring
along some of their slides |
| | Plant Commentary - Des Anderson |
| | Old Favourites - Vrieseas |

EDITORIAL

Our 13th Combined Show was staged on the Queen's Birthday weekend last, in co-operation with the Queensland Succulent Society. The Show was again a major success financially, and has provided a much needed boost to our finances for the forthcoming months.

One of the most rewarding aspects, however, was the general good spirit of members who attended and assisted with the Show, particularly during the set-up and pull-down sessions. The most rewarding experiences for members of any Society are derived from contributing to the Society's activities, and this was well demonstrated at the Show.

The central display, the sales area and the demonstrations were all well supported with plants and reflected a lot of credit on the members. The competition table, however, was poorly supported and the Committee have become concerned about ways to engender more interest and support for the Show Competition table, as well as the other show tables conducted by the Society. All members are asked to think about this, and to offer suggestions and ideas to improve this activity.

The next Bromeliad Conference is scheduled for the Easter Weekend in 1991 in Sydney and in 1993 our Society will conduct the Conference in Brisbane. Preliminary planning has now commenced for 1993, and the Committee would welcome any suggestions from the members on the programme for the Conference.

John Higgins

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At the March meeting, our Society presented Ross McKinnon, the Curator of the Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens, with a full set of Smith & Downes Monographs on Bromelioideae.

These were a fully bound set of three books on Pitcairnioideae, Bromeliadeae and Tillandsioideae, and were a valuable addition to the Mt. Coot-tha Botanical Gardens Library, especially for staff to do identification of their bromeliad collection.

Ross thanked our Society for our continued support of the Gardens.

The photograph shows Greg Stewart presenting these books to Ross McKinnon, in the absence of the President, John Higgins.

Here is a hint that I have found to work for me.

Sometime ago, I read in an American Bromeliad magazine that if you rubbed some of the gel from the *Aloe vera* plant on the leaves of bromeliads that you have just cut, it will stop the edges turning brown. I read the same hint in a recent New Zealand magazine put in by Bea Hanson.

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A NOVEL WAY TO GERMINATE TILLANDSIA SEED

When I first came to Caloundra over fifty years ago, almost 100% of the supplies to the town came up Pumicestone Passage on the barge "Waterhen". Out to sea the steam ships brought produce to and from Brisbane. The hatches of these vessels were covered by timber. Loose timber often was blown, washed or thrown overboard. A group of beachcombers earned their living by collecting and selling this new, or almost new, timber washed up on the shores of the northern end of Bribie Island. Many a persons home contained timber of this nature.

Today, there is a modern beachcomber still collecting flotsam for housing. I have found an easy way to germinate tillandsia seed. I collect washed up coconuts, chop them into about four pieces or sizes to suit my requirements and merely spread the seed on the coir. I then hose it in, and this process provides a good home for the young seedlings.

I have also started mounting plants, in numbers, on driftwood in the hope one day I shall have large colonies of plants growing on them. There does not seem to be much of a salt problem. I just wash the coconuts or driftwood, sometimes soak it in a tub for a day or so, then leave it out in a few falls of rain. The plants in general I suspect also have some tolerance to salt as they seem to thrive in my salt laden atmosphere.

Should any of you fellows wish to try this method of mounting on coconuts here is a tip to speed up the process. The coconuts are usually waterlogged and fairly heavy. If you take your wife along, together with a couple of extra fertiliser bags, I've found one wife can carry two bags with five nuts is each for a distance of 3 to 5 kilometres. This process gets the number of nuts collected much more quickly.

Happy collecting and good germination results.

OH!! p.s. Thanks Gwenie

Des Anderson

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COMPETITION RESULTS, COMBINED SHOW 1990

TILLANDSIA	1. L. Musielak	<i>T. didisticha</i>
	2. G. Gleeson	<i>T. pseudobaileyii</i>
	3. D. Upton	<i>T. xerographica</i>
VRIESEA	1. P. Hobbs	<i>V. glutinosa</i>
	2. T. Muller	<i>V. Christine</i>
	3. T. Muller	<i>V. fenestralis x poelmanii</i>
OTHER		
TILLANDSIOIDEAE	No Entries	
TILLANDSIOIDEAE IN FLOWER	1. G. Stewart	<i>T. complanata</i>
	2. K. Golinski	<i>T. didisticha</i>
	H/C J. Golinski	<i>T. bulbosa Giant Form</i>
CRYPTANTHUS	1. K. Golinski	<i>C. Sylvie Langdon</i>
	2. K. Golinski	<i>C. After Dark</i>
	3. D. Reilly	<i>C. Black Mystic</i>
BILLBERGIA	1. -	
	2. -	
	3. R. Paulsen	<i>B. Muriel Waterman</i>
AECHMEA	1. K. Golinski	<i>A. purpurea rosea</i>
	2. P. Hobbs	<i>A. Rajah</i>
	3. R. Paulsen	<i>A. pineliana minutae</i>
NEOREGELIA	1. P. Hobbs	<i>N. liliputiana</i>
	2. K. Golinski	<i>N. Hot Shot</i>
	3. T. Muller	<i>N. empress variegata</i>
NIDULARIUM	1. R. Paulsen	<i>Nid. innocentii whitmackianum</i>
	2. -	
	3. -	
INTERGENERIC	1. P. Hobbs	<i>xNeophytum Ralph Davis</i>
	2. T. Muller	<i>xCanamea Jasper</i>
	3. -	

cont.

OTHER BROMELIOIDEAE	1. T. Muller 2. D. Anderson 3. -	<i>Orthophytum vagans</i> cv. <i>marginata</i> <i>Ananus nanas</i>
BROMELIOIDEAE IN FLOWER	No entries	
HECHTIA/DYCKIA	1. P. Clarke 2. P. Clarke 3. P. Clarke	<i>Dyckia fosteriana</i> <i>D. remotaflora</i> v <i>remotaflora</i> <i>Dyckia Hybrid</i>
PITCAIRNIA	No Entries	
OTHER PITCAIRNIOIDEAE	1. G. Lawson 2. - 3. -	<i>Abromeitiella brevifolia</i> <i>Tillandsia baileyi</i> cv. <i>Halley's Comet</i> <i>T. Fireball</i> v. <i>variegata</i> <i>T. edithae</i>
SPECIMEN - ANY GENUS 3 OR MORE CONNECTED MATURE PLANTS	1. R. Reilly 2. D. Reilly 3. D. Anderson	
NOVICE - ANY GENUS MARY GRASSELLI AWARD	No Entries	
MINIATURE DISPLAY	No Entries	
NOVELTY DISPLAY	1. P. Clarke 2. M. McGregor- Lowndes 3. -	'Cousin It' <i>Vriesea Gunther</i> - 'Exhibit -A-'
FLORAL DISPLAY	1. J. Upton 2. J. Upton 3. M. McGregor- Lowndes	<i>Bromeliad Topiary</i> <i>Queens Tears Arrangement</i> <i>Vriesea bracts</i>

cont.

BEST TILLANDSIOIDEAE NEZ MISSO MEMORIAL	R. Reilly	<i>Tillandsia baileyi</i> cv. Halleys Comet
BEST BROMELIOIDEAE HUDSON PERPETUAL	P. Hobbs	<i>Neoregelia liliputiana</i>
BEST CRYPTANTHUS GRACE GOODE PERPETUAL	K. Golinski	<i>Cryptanthus</i> <i>Sylvie Langdon</i>
BEST PITCAIRNIOIDEAE	G. Lawson	<i>Abromietiella brevifolia</i>
RESERVE CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF SHOW	G. Lawson	<i>Abromietiella brevifolia</i>
CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF SHOW	P. Hobbs	<i>Neoregelia liliputiana</i>
TOM SCHOFIELD AWARD	O. Trevor	<i>Vriesea saundersii</i> <i>x bitumenosa variegata</i>
HIGHLY COMMENDED	L. Wilton T. Muller P. Paroz T. Muller P. Clarke	<i>Tillandsia capallaris</i> <i>Neoregelia pauciflora</i> <i>Abromietiella lorentziana</i> <i>Neoregelia fosperior 'Perfecta'</i> <i>'Cousin It'</i>

Congratulations to all of these winners.

SOME OF OUR LESSER KNOWN GENERA

GREIGIA: sub family Bromelioideae, named after Russian Major General Greig, a horticulturalist.

A small genus of some two dozen known varieties, it remains one of the most difficult to classify because of scanty materials. Scottsberg has decided that the group should be divided with some being reclassified as HESPEROGREIGIA. They are mainly terrestrial or rock loving herbs, allied to Cryptanthus, from which it differs in its simple rather than paniced inflorescence.

Greigia sphacelata is a stout pineapple-like plant to 3 feet, with strong spiny margined spreading or recurving glossy green leaves. Flowers are rose coloured in dense heads formed in the axils of the leaves, with the outer bracts spiny and very acute.

Plants of *Greigia* have been found in Chile, Peru, Mexico, Salvador, Costa Rico, Guatamala, Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia and Eastern Brazil.

ARAEOCOCCUS- sub family Bromelioideae, so named because this genus has the smallest fruit with the fewest seeds in the family, from the Greek ARAEO meaning few, and KOKKOS, meaning seed.

A small genus of only 4 known species, with *flagellifolius* being more commonly seen in competition. In good light, the plant assumes a beautiful rosy colour, and has many grassy, whip-like leaves. The inflorescence is insignificant, with small whitish flowers, and is borne on a Rhachis that is approximately one third the length of the leaves. Usually the plant is grown and shown as a multiple. One should look for a balance of plants around the container, and a clear rosy colour. Excessive elongation of the whip-like leaves generally indicates 'soft' growing and/or over-fertilisation.

Araecoccus flagellifolius - from the upper Amazon region where it grows as an epiphyte near the banks of rivers an elevations of approx. 700 ft., has long thin whip-like bronzy leaves about two feet long that rise from a slenderly ovid pseudobulb. The low

growing, pale red flower stem bears many small pink flowers, followed by blue/black berries. This plant quickly forms a clump.

A. pectinatus - grown epiphytically in the low, humid jungles of Costa Rica. It is a small plant with slender arching reddish bronze tapering leaves. The red inflorescence is pendulous and wiry.

A. micranthus - leaves lineal-lanceolate, inflorescence few branched, with strong flexuose 3 to 8 flowered branches. Found in Tobago, Trinidad, Guyana and Brazil.

A. parviflorus - leaves 6 -1-, forming a tube-like rosette. Leaves 30cm long and 1.8cm wide. Inflorescence ample-flowered, very small flowers. Found in Brazil.

Information compiled by Michael O'Dea

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JOTTINGS OF THE COMBINED SHOW OF 1990

Although weather predictions were against it, the weekend was fine and the public attendance was very good.

As always, the succulent people came well to the fore in competitive display with quality plants in abundance. Although our tabled bromeliads were equally of excellent quality, the numbers for competition were sadly lacking.

Not that there were no great number of bromeliads there, as the centre hall non-competitive display was rich with very outstanding plants.

The new practice of giving highly commended cards was easy to apply because of this, and the Tom Schofield Award went to an eye-stopper that, in my opinion, would have been a champion if exhibited.

There were no entries in our Novice Award, so the first Mary Grasselli Trophy could not be given. Surely some of our newer members could have gone for this.

From acquaintances re-met, a good selection of northern and southern bromeliads were at the Show, and Mr. Harold Caulfield, our Patron, gave his usual polished opening speech.

Judging all round, a very highly successful show, in the sale of plants and door attendances, with more interest being shown this year to the guest speakers, who set up at our entrance.

Congratulations must go to our organisers, all those who gave of their time to help and participate, the Stewards, the Judges, and the people willing to pass out information to the public. One thing sticks in my mind, the really clever entry labelled 'Cousin It', with his top hat, glasses and Spanish Moss.

Len Butt

=====

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