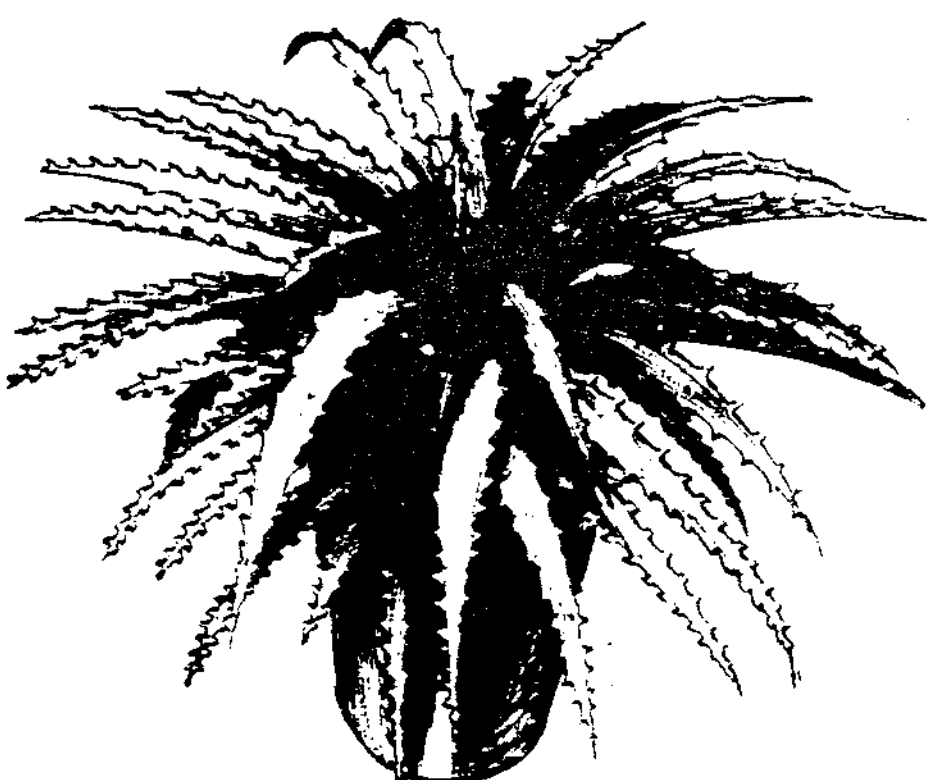


BRONIA

MAY - JUNE 1994



Dyckia fosteriana

VOLUME XXVII No. 3

THE 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 p.m.

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ON THE INSIDE

FEATURES:

- Beginners Segment - Nidulariums - by Narelle Rowe....1
South African Trip - Cactus & Succulent Conference -
John and Ruth Higgins....3
Seed Raising Group - News Snippets....5
Open Day - Jo Ketelaars - Jo's Jolly Jungle....7
Plant Presentation - Tips from a Judge - Olive Trevor....12
Plant of the Month - Tillandsia Cyanea - Peter Paroz....8

CULTURAL NOTES:

- Catopsis - Cultivation - Bea Hanson....9
Trouble with heart or root rot - Ridomil - Peter Paroz....10

COMING EVENTS:

- Mini Show....11
Combined Show - 11th and 12th June 1994 -schedule attached...14

REGULAR ITEMS:

- New Members....18
Programme for the next two meetings....18
Secretary's jottings....20
Popular Vote Results....18
Problem Corner....21
Advertisements....21..22..23

1

BEGINNERS TALK GIVEN BY NARELLE ROWE ON THE SUBJECT OF
NIDULARIUMS.

17TH FEBRUARY 1994.

This is a small genus of about thirty known species, all native to eastern Brazil, where they grow on the ground or on the lower limbs of trees in shadowy humid forests.

They are compact, medium to large plants mostly with shiny, soft foliage and are finely toothed. They vary in colour from lime green to black-purple and can be spotted, striped or just plain green. The rosette of shortened inner leaves in the heart forms before flowering and most species project their inflorescences above the open rosette of leaves. A few have a stalk about 15cm tall. The egg-like flowers nestle in the bracts, giving them their nickname of 'birdnest bromeliads', but the name *Nidularium* is taken from the Latin 'nidus' meaning nest. The inner cluster of colour is confined to this collarette of leaves which turn either bright red, orange, yellow, cerise or maroon. The small flowers are either white, blue or orange-red.

Nidulariums are sometimes confused with *neoregelias* but they have softer spines and larger bracts separating the flowers. Most species project their inflorescences above the open rosette of leaves and not down in the cup like *neoregelias*.

A well-grown *nidularium* in full colour can hold its own against any other genera.

INFORMATION FOR GROWING NIDULARIUMS.

Points of interest to me as a beginner.

Nidulariums will tolerate the lowest light conditions of all Bromeliads and should be grown more like *guzmanias*.

When you pot the offsets do not "overpot" as they grow better when they are rather rootbound. Full grown *nidulariums* do not need any more than a 150mm pot.

Nidulariums require a potting mixture that is friable, porous and slightly acid.

Always pot with moist potting mixture as there is less chance of damaging tender new roots when the soil is damp.

Don't pot the crown of the plant too deep in the mixture as the moisture around the crown could rot the plant.

One nidularium that does best in poorer soil is *Nidularium innocentii* var. *lineatum* as a too rich soil will cause it to become green and lose a lot of its attractive white stripes.

Winter watering of nidulariums should be kept to a minimum - about once every 14 days depending on the cold and winds. If in doubt - don't water. Overwatering will rot the plants.

Flush out the tank (centre of the cup) of the plants regularly to rid it of accumulated salts.

Fertilizers can be used during the warmer months when the plants are growing. They respond well to liquid foliar feeding - use at 1/2 strength. Remember too much can be worse than too little. Don't overfertilize. Example *striatum* and *lineatum* will lose their stripes.

All information contained herein has been taken from the publication *Growing Bromeliads* by The Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc. Edited by Barry E. Williams.

A VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

During September, 1993 we were able to visit Zimbabwe and South Africa to attend the International Succulent Plant Conference, "Succulenta '93". Although the main purpose of this trip was to attend the conference we were on the lookout for any and all plants, including bromeliads, during our travels.

On the first day in Zimbabwe we were pleasantly surprised upon arrival at the Monomatapa Hotel in Harare to find two bromeliad trees flanking the reception desk. These were 2.5 metres or so tall and had billbergias mounted with coconut fibre on the branches. Very nodescript green plants with no live flowers - but bromeliads nonetheless. Although this suggested that bromeliads would be plentiful, we were disappointed to see them only once more - in a flower shop in Johannesburg - 10 or 12 potted Vriesea splendens located with the geraniums and other flowering plants outside the shop entrance. Allowing that our trip was targeted on succulent plants we have to assume that we missed the bromeliad collections and growers.

For 10 days prior to the conference we travelled by bus through the habitat areas of some of the very rare and unique South African succulents. The Northwest Cape region which included the Namaqualand Reserve and the Richtersveld National Park contained very specialised habitats for lithops, crassulas, tylecodons, hoodias, aloes, etc. These plants were restricted mostly to rocky outcrops and mountains and required a lot of climbing - up and down - to reach the sites. Of particular interest was the tree Aloe, Aloe pillansii which we saw in its type location on top of a mountain in the Richtersveld. This plant is now endangered because of its specialised growing needs and over collecting by plant collectors. Only very old plants, 5-6 metres tall, now persist in this location with no regeneration of seedlings. The plants were in flower during our visit and the large clusters of bright yellow grape-like flowers were a spectacular sight above the rosettes of fleshy leaves on the ends of each branch.

This mountain top was also a neolithic (stone age) site and had many rock shards and chips from tool making lying around on the ground.

Another highlight was to see the Fenestraria rhopalophylla subsp aurantiaca growing in habitat. This is the well known 'baby toes' succulent grown in local collections. The plants we saw were embedded in very sandy soil which covered the thick fleshy leaves right up to the blunt, windowed leaf tips which appeared like flat flakes of mica on the soil surface. The ground surface temperature at this site was 43 deg.C but 7 cms below the surface this temperature had dropped to a 'cool' 37 deg.C. This plant has evolved to cope with these conditions by drawing itself underground to conserve moisture. We were asked to walk along one side of this colony to ensure that our footprints did not mark the ground behind. The week after our visit this location was to be included in a film segment by David Attenborough for one of his nature programmes.

Following the Richtersveld and Namaqualand we visited the Southern Cape region including Capetown. Here we were able to visit the Flora '93 Exhibition which featured the native flora of South Africa. This included many succulent plants, bulbs, pelargoniums, proteas, etc, all arranged in simulated habitat displays. Then on to the Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens and the magnificent plantings of proteas, lecuod-endrons, etc.

The next week was taken up with the conference in Pretoria and the last week was spent driving through the Northeastern Transvaal and the Kruger National Park. During this time we saw many more succulent plants including aloes and euphorbias, and the fascinating wild animals of Kruger.

Although we spent 4 weeks which were concentrated on plants, there is still so much more to see, and we hope to return, if only to find the elusive bromeliads.

John & Ruth Higgins

REPORT FOR THE MONTHLY SEED RAISING MEETINGS.

Our Seed Raising Group has been up and going since September last year and the enthusiasm of the members is very intense.

Meetings are held monthly at Len and Olive Trevor's home at 232 Canvey Road, Ferny Grove, usually starting about 7.00 am the early bird catches the worm.

At the December meeting after a talk from John Catlan on the subject of seed raising medium, the amount of light required for germination and hybridizing, we were extremely busy in experimenting in our own hybridizing using various Neoregelias that were taken along for this purpose.

Members attending the January were Genny and John Catlan, Narelle and Greg Aizlewood, Val Urquhart, Noel Weir (with an apology from his wife Liz), Neville Ryan and our hosts Len and Olive Trevor. The meeting started with an early cup of coffee to get us up and going. Topics for discussion were open mixes for seedlings, fungi effecting seedlings, and suitable fungicides to use. Topic plants of interest were the Neoregelia Olens crosses such as:
 Neoregelia Bright Spot - which is Neoregelia Olens X Neoregelia Chlorostricta, Neoregelia Olens X Neoregelia Cruenta which is an imported hybrid. Neoregelia Olens X Neoregelia X Neoregelia Meyendorffii - Neoregelia Aussie Dream cv Gift, Neoregelia Aussie Dream cv Oh! and Neoregelia Aussie Dream cv Lil '01.

The February meeting was held on Saturday 26th, with eleven members attending. Apology was received from Greg Aizlewood.

Topic for discussion was hybridizing Vrieseas and in particular we looked at Vriesea Carinata crosses.

Vriesea Carinata X Vriesea Favourite giving Vriesea Serene and also Vriesea Carinata X Vriesea Sucerii, both crosses were done by Margaret Patterson of Gympie.

Vriesea Carinata X Vriesea Erythrodactylon and Vriesea Carinata X Vriesea Rodigasiana - both of these crosses were done by Mr. Alan Ladd.

Olive had a collection of vriesea species including Vr. Inflata, Vr. Psittacina, Vr. Suceru, Vr. Carinata and Vr. Rodigasiana.

John Catlan explained how he cross pollinates his vrieseas. To finish up the morning we all put our hands to potting up Neoregelia Magdalenae seedlings that Olive had grown from seed given to her by Elton Leme.

The morning concluded with a lovely breakfast and a social chat in Olive and Len's cosy kitchen.

Members of the Seed Raising Group have contributed funds with the aim of procuring various seeds from overseas.

All members are most welcome to attend with the date of the next meeting being announced at the next Society meeting.

Any enquiries and your intention to attend could be directed to Olive either personally or by telephone.

REPORT ON THE FIELD DAY HELD AT THE HOME OF JO KETELAARS ON

SUNDAY 27TH MARCH 1994.

The weather was fine for Jo's field day and the afternoon gathering was attended by 14 society members and apologies were received from 9 members who were unable to attend.

Everyone, at their leisure, browsed around Jo's lovely little garden during the course of the afternoon.

It is interesting to see how Jo grows her plants and I'm sure all of us left learning or seeing something new of different.

Jo's small backyard is enhanced with fruit and native trees. and various genera of Bromeliad set about on the ground but mainly neoregelia and aechmea.

In her shadehouse Jo grows her Vrieseas, Tillandsias and Guzmanias.

Not to be missed was her great collection of Billbergia which she has aligning the driveway, and her centre display of mainly Neoregelia in her front yard.

Jo's plants were well presented and neatly arranged and it was quite obvious to me that she and Hank had spent many hours maintaining their garden.

The scrumptious afternoon tea supplied by Jo was very tempting and was enjoyed by all.

Plants were supplied for a raffle that was held during the afternoon and winners were Val Urquhart winning two draws in the raffle and Jan Duncan also lucky enough to win two plants from the draw.

It was a great social afternoon for all those members who attended and I would thank Jo and Hank for their hospitality in making their garden available for us all to visit.

I'm sure an extremely enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

REPORT ON PLANT OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH - TILLANDSIA CYANEACommentary given by Mr. Peter Paroz.

Peter explained that Tillandsia Cyanea is the most commonly grown Tillandsia. It has a relatively short scape with a broad flat cerise coloured flower head or paddle as some people refer to it. He explained that the flower head needed even light for even colour, as one plant had a bright pink side and a paler side, indicating that the brighter pink side of the flower head had received more light.

He indicated Tillandsia Cyanea was easy to grow and grew particularly well in a clump. Another member of this particular family is Tillandsia Lindenii which has an elongated flower head as opposed to the Tillandsia Cyanea which had a broader more elliptic shaped paddle.

There was an early hybrid of Tillandsia Cyanea X Tillandsia Lindenii, which was named Tillandsia Emilie and the main difference was the flower head being longer and broader. Also in this family group are Tillandsia Anceps, Tillandsia Umbellata and Tillandsia Pretiosa.

Peter felt Tillandsia Cyanea had great potential as landscaping plants provided they are protected with adequate shade.

Tillandsia Cyanea is one of the few highly fragranced Tillandsias, It grows easily in our climatic conditions and needs a well drained growing medium.

Plants for the Plant of the Month were brought in by, John Catlan, Olive Trevor, Jo Ketelaars, Doug Upton and Roly Reilly.

CATOPSIS

Catopsis, to me, are fascinating plants though some folk cannot understand why. They are usually a light green and stay that way. However, it is the shape that makes them so interesting. Many are bottle shaped while others look rather like a vriesea at first glance. Some of them have leaves whose undersides are coated with white powder, so this adds interest. They grow in forests in the same conditions as tillandsias and vrieseas.



Catopsis nutans var. *nutans*¹

Their flower stems are sometimes pendant or can be erect and some are branched. Dainty little flowers are white or yellow.

You feel, maybe, there is nothing about the above description to attract you? Well, growing them with your tillandsias they really look great. I have most of mine hanging in containers and grow them in fibre. They like a situation where they get a good light but not too much sun. At all times water must be kept in the centre—this is important. I have found they are not very generous with pups. Some seem to produce only one but I have had two on a couple—never more. They are not easy to get and I don't think there are many in this country.

There are 22 species and varieties. I have three so I have a long way to go before I get 22! Even if you can get only one it is worth having.

As there are so few catopsis and as they are so hard to get I am not giving any descriptions of the different plants. If you are lucky enough to have the opportunity to get one then grab it, and I am sure will enjoy its quite 'different' looks and how it contrasts with your tillandsias.

Bea Hanson
Reprinted from *Bromeliad Society of New Zealand Bulletin*
November 1986

Ridomil — A New Systemic Fungicide

Ridomil is a new systemic fungicide from the Ciba-Geigy organization showing great promise for the control of root and heart rot in ornamental bromeliads. It has already shown excellent results in the control of heart rot (due to *Phytophthora* sp.) in commercial pineapple plantations. A very limited trial on one plant of *Vriesea philippocoburgii* with advanced rot in the leaf sheaths, showed that it was equally effective in halting this infection. In the case of heart rot, the best one can hope for is to arrest the decay and save the base of the plant for offset production.

This fungicide is apparently transported upward within the plant so the method of application is by drenching the potting mixture. The recommended procedure is to saturate the potting mixture with a suspension of one gram per liter of 25% wettable powder.

Toxicity data show an L.D. 50 to 670 mg per kg for an oral dose and greater than 3000 mg per kg for dermal application. This indicates that Ridomil is a relatively safe fungicide, approximately comparable to malathion; however, the normal precautions used in handling agricultural chemicals should be observed for this one as well.

Peter R. Paroz

Bromeliad Society of Queensland

Text was copied from the B.S.I. Journal Volume XXXII
March/April 1982.

CORRECTION TO PRINT

On our visit to Roly and Evelyn Reilly's home last edition, there was an incorrect spelling of plant name. *Cryptanthus* Cafe Aloe should have been spelt Cafe au Lait.
Sorry about that!

MINI SHOW

A reminder that a Mini Show will be held at the regular meeting of the Bromeliad Society of Queensland on Thursday 19th May. This is the perfect opportunity to have a test run for plants on Show, as our Combined Show in June held at the Auditorium at the Mt. Cootha Botanical Gardens is fast approaching.

Schedule is as follows:-

- Class 1. Neo- miniature under 20 cm.
- Class 2. Neo- other than provided for.
- Class 3. Aechmea.
- Class 4. Vriesea - in flower or spike.
- Class 5. Vriesea - foliage.
- Class 6. Guzmania.
- Class 7. Tillandsia
- Class 8. Any other genera

Printed schedules for the Mini Show will be available at the May meeting.

SOME TIPS ON PREPARING PLANTS FOR SHOW

If you have never shown your plants before confidence can be gained by preparing plants in advance for competition. Start now to select and groom your plants for a mini show, the combined show, or maybe to compete on the popular vote table.

Always select fairly mature plants with good shape colour and markings. Select more than you intend to exhibit, this way you can reject those that don't reach a certain standard by the time the show arrives. Perhaps these "rejects" will be just what we need for display plants!

Start by elevating these selected plants on upturned pots, bricks or suitable stands above the other plants on the benches. They will get maximum light and also they are not touched or shaded by other plants on the bench. In this position you can watch them closely and it will be easy for you to give them a quarter turn every few days to help improve their shape or conformation.

Examine the pot and repot in a similar size if it is marked or scruffy. Sometimes a different coloured pot can blend or contrast with the colour of the plant to some advantage. Pot into a larger pot if the plant is top heavy or out of proportion with the pot. Never do this at the last minute or your plant could be unstable. While you are "potting on" or repotting the plant, remove any of the bottom leaves that are yellowing off or marked. Sometimes the plant can be buried a little deeper to cover part of the stem or trunk after you have removed some leaves. Even if you are not repotting but just removing some old leaves a "top up" to cover the stem may be beneficial to the appearance of the plant.

Trim the leaves if you wish but this will have to be done again at the last minute to remove the dead edges of the trim. Always copy the shape of one of the good leaves. A pair of very sharp scissors will be needed to do a good job. I have been told that aloe vera rubbed on the cut will stop it from drying out and leaving those tell tale edges.

Try this out beforehand to see if it really works.

Last but not least is the cleaning of the plant. So many beautiful plants lose points because they are dirty. A good flush out with a hose will be a start to removing debris and grime but a soft brush will be needed to clean high water marks and salts etc that collect in the "cup" of the plant. You need to be very careful especially if your plant has lots of silver trichomes or scales. Clean your plants well in advance by all means but a last minute clean on the day of the show will be necessary. Make sure all the water is emptied from the cups and dry out with some tissues or soft material. Dry the pot and add a touch of cooking oil to give it a nice clean shine if it needs it. Now we are ready to transport the plant - B careful when packing as damage in transit can ruin any show plant. A hole cut in a white box (upside down) makes a good stand to carry a plant. Space your plants so that they do not touch while travelling or damage to the leaves may result.

Make sure you have some extra name tags in case you loose some in transit and of course don't forget your entry forms and schedule !

We look forward to crowded tables of competition plants this year - and don't forget our new section for plants in decorative containers or mountings.

I'm looking forward to it.

"See you there"

Olive Trevor
The Olive Branch.....

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND - 1994 COMBINED SHOWCOMPETITION SCHEDULENOTES:

1. Classes 1 to 15 inclusive may consist of multiple plants in one container or on one mounting, but should be connected by an intact rhizome.
2. Class 13 - theme may be display or educational. Other plants, natural or artificial adjuncts are allowed, but judging will be on the basis of plant quality and effective presentation of bromeliads.
3. Classes 4 and 12 - must have flowers (i.e. petals) or unopened buds evident. Plants in other classes may show bud, bract or berry, or capsule.
4. The Nez Misso Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the best Tillandsioideae on the competition table.
5. The Hudson Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the best Bromelioideae on the competition table.
6. The Grace Goode Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the best Cryptanthus on the competition table.
7. The Tom Schofield Memorial Award will be made at the discretion of the Chairman of the Combined Show Committee.
8. Plants eligible for Classes 26 and 27 will be the first and second winners from Classes 22, 23 and 25.

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CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

1. Plants must be correctly labelled, free of disease, established in the pot or on the mounting, and in show bench condition.
2. All water must be emptied from the plants and the pots dried off before placing on the show bench.
3. Plants must be the property of the Exhibitor and have been in his/her custody for the previous three months.
4. A limit of three (3) plants per class per financial member of the B.S.Q. or Q.S.S. will apply.
5. The eligibility of plants in the various classes will be determined by the Chief Bromeliad Competition Steward, whose decision is final.

6. The Judging Panel's decision as to the quality of the plants is final.
7. Specimen plants (Class 16) must be connected by an intact rhizome.
8. Entries will be received up to 7.15 pm. on the Friday evening of the Show. Judging will commence at 7.30 pm. sharp.

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- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|-----|-------|
| 1. | TILLANDSIA | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 2. | VRIESEA | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 3. | OTHER | (a) | _____ |
| | TILLANDSIOIDEAE | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 4. | TILLANDSIOIDEAE | (a) | _____ |
| | IN FLOWER | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 5. | CRYPTANTHUS | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 6. | BILLBERGIA | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 7. | AECHMEA | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |
| | | (c) | _____ |
| 8. | NEOREGELIA | (a) | _____ |
| | | (b) | _____ |

9. NIDULARIUM (a) _____
 (b) _____
 (c) _____
10. INTERGENERIC (a) _____
 (b) _____
 (c) _____
11. OTHER (a) _____
 BROMELIOIDEAE (b) _____
 (c) _____
12. BROMELIOIDEAE (a) _____
 IN FLOWER (b) _____
 (c) _____
13. HECTIA/DYCKIA (a) _____
 (b) _____
 (c) _____
14. PITCAIRNIA (a) _____
 (b) _____
 (c) _____
15. OTHER (a) _____
 PITCAIRNIOIDEAE (b) _____
 (c) _____
16. SPECIMEN - ANY (a) _____
 GENUS 3 OR MORE (b) _____
 CONNECTED MATURE (c) _____
 PLANTS
17. NOVICE- ANY (a) _____
 GENERA - MARY (b) _____
 GRASSELI MEM. (c) _____

MEDALLION (Entrant never won a First prize in any class
 the Combined Show).

- 17a BROMELIAD IN DECORATIVE POT OR MOUNTING. (a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
- 18 MINATURE DISPLAY (Not to exceed 1 metre in any dimension) - incl. Terrariums). (a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
- 19 NOVELTY DISPLAY (Not to exceed 1 metre in any dimension) (a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
- 20 FLORAL DISPLAY Cut bromeliad flowers and/or berries and bracts - A (a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
Accessories permitted
- 21 FLORAL DISPLAY (Making the most of one inflorescence). (a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
- 22 BEST TILLANDSIOIDEAE Nez Misso Memorial Trophy
- 23 BEST BROMELIOIDEAE Hudson Perpetual Trophy
- 24 BEST CRYPTANTHUS Grace Goode Perpetual Trophy
- 25 BEST PITCAIRNIOIDEAE
- 26 RESERVE CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF THE SHOW
- 27 CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF THE SHOW
TOM SCHOFIELD MEMORIAL AWARD - CHAIRMAN'S AWARD
(Awarded at the discretion of the Chairman of the Combined Show Committee).
ENTRANTS NAME: _____
Please Print

A very big welcome to all new members.....

OSSIE AND LORNA SIBBLES	- GRANGE
PATRICIA DARCY	- NEW FARM
LIL Mc COMBE	- MAROOCHYDORE
MICHAEL PASCAL	- CHILDERS

POPULAR VOTE

MAY

NOVICE	- Tillandsia dyeriana	- GENNY VAUHKONEN
ADVANCED	- Tillandsia quatumalensis	- PHYLLIS HOBBS
JUDGES CHOICE	- Tillandsia quatumalensis	- PHYLLIS HOBBS

JUNE

NOVICE	- Tillandsia ionantha Cone-Head	- Noel Weir
ADVANCED	- Tillandsia mooreana	- Roly Reily
JUDGES CHOICE	- Tillandsia mooreana	- Roly Reily

PROGRAMME

MAY

COMMENTARY	- GENNY VAUHKONEN
BEGINNERS	- SEED GROWING - DYCKIAS - LEN BUTT
FEATURE ITEM	- MINI-SHOW
PLANT FOR MONTH	- HECHITIA & DYCKIA
COMMENTARY	- LEN BUTT

JUNE

- COMMENTARY - NEVILLE RYAN
- BEGINNERS - LANDSCAPING WITH BROMS - PHYLLIS HOBBS
- FEATURE ITEM - SLIDES - GREG AIZLEWOOD
- PLANT FOR MONTH - Tillandsia stricta
- COMMENTARY - NEVILLE RYAN

BOOKS FOR SALE

"COLOURFUL BROMELIADS"	by VICTORIA PADILLA	\$15.00
"THE BEAUTY OF BROMELIADS"	by TONY LEA	\$ 4.50
"BROMELIADS"	by BILL SEABORN	\$ 4.50
"BROMELIADS"	by WALTER RICHTER	\$ 3.50
"BROMELIADS FOR EVERYONE"	by BEA HANSEN"	\$ 2.50
"BROMELIADS FOR EVERYONE" 2	by BEA HANSEN"	\$11.50
"BROMELIADS IN AUSTRALIA"	by BROM. SOC OF NSW	\$ 2.00
"GROWING BROMELIADS"	by BROM. SOC OF AUST	\$11.00
"GENUS TILLANDSIA"	by PAUL ISLEY 3rd	\$ 3.00
"INTERNATIONAL CHECKLIST OF BROM HYBRIDS"	by BSI	\$ 3.50
"A BROMELIAD GLOSSARY"	by BSI	\$ 3.50
"BROMELIADS - A CULTURAL MANUAL	by BSI	\$ 4.00

PACKAGING AND POSTAGE AT COST

SECRETARY'S SECTION

We are happy to report that we have obtained a set of Smith and Downes for the Library. However we still require a copy of Pitcairnioidiae to complete our original set. Should anybody have this for sale, please contact me.

We are looking at purchasing copies of Elton Leme's book:- "Bromeliads in the Brazilian Wilderness". It is a hardcover book of 180 pages covering all genera, growing naturally in their habitat and divided into their regions. The photography is absolutely brilliant. The style of writing is slightly technical but not too highbrow to be understood. The price will be approximately \$100 to \$120 depending on the volume of orders. For anybody wishing to place a firm order, a reasonable deposit will be required. (Minimum of \$30-\$40).

Whilst on the subject of books, the Book of Conference Proceedings is at the Binders - so won't be long now.

I hear on the grapevine that Jan & Terry Vogt are spending their 25th Wedding Anniversary in Hawaii en route to the World Conference. Congratulations Jan & Terry.

On a sadder note, I wish to report the passing of Colonel Patterson of Coff's Harbour, who was once one of our members. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

We are having another red dot special. I realize a few surface at the Combined Show (11th & 12th June) so I will not be attacking the Membership List with a red pencil until after this time, but regret that any unfinancial members will then have to be removed from the Mailing List.

P.s. Meeting's now will be starting at 7.30pm sharp instead of 8.00pm.

PROBLEM CORNER:

Q. I was told to give my neoregelias lots of light. When I put them out in the sun, many leaves bleached out with large areas that eventually turned brown. Others developed a pale yellow cast to most of the leaves. What should I do now?

A. Lots of light and full sun are two different things. Full noonday sun is a bit much for most neoregelias with some exceptions such as *N. cruenta*, *N. concentrica*, *N. olens* (and its variations). Even these plants need to acclimatize slowly to full sun over a period of weeks. Most neoregelias need some protection from midmorning 'til midafternoon. That is the reason for lath and shade houses. Those structures do not block out all sun, but only a portion according to their construction or the density of the shade cloth used.

Every plant has a light intensity characteristic, either sun-loving or shade-loving and everything in between. Each plant has a photosaturation point beyond which more light does not contribute to food production, but may enhance color formation as the plant attempts to produce pigment to reflect certain portions of the light spectrum.

Use morning and evening sun to help your plants adapt to high light situations.

ALL READERS ARE INVITED TO SEND THEIR QUESTIONS ABOUT GROWING BROMELIADS AS A HOBBY TO THE EDITOR. ANSWERS WILL BE FOUND AND PUBLISHED IN FURTHER EDITONS.

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ABOUT THE LACY SPANISH MOSS THAT GARLANDS THE GREAT OAKS.

A LOVELY PRINCESS AND HER LOVE UPON THEIR WEDDING DAY
WERE STRUCK DOWN BY A SAVAGE FOE AMIDST A BITTER FRAY.

UNITED IN DEATH THEY WERE BURIED SO THE LEGEND GO
NEATH AN OAK'S STRONG FRIENDLY ARMS PROTECTED FROM THEIR FOE.

THER AS WAS THE CUSTOM, THEY CUT THE BRIDE'S LONG HAIR WITH
LOVE.

AND HUND IT'S SHINING BLACKNESS IN THE SPREADING OAK ABOVE.

UNTOUCHED, UNDISTURBED, IT HUNG THERE FOR ALL THE WORLD TO
SEE.

AND WITH THE YEARS THE LOCKS TURNED GREY
AND SPREAD FROM TREE TO TREE.



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