

Bromeliaceae





BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

P.O. BOX 565, FORTITUDE VALLEY
QUEENSLAND, 4006. AUSTRALIA

GENERAL MEETINGS are held on the Third Thursday of Each Month Except December at the Uniting Church Hall, 52 Merthyr Road., New Farm, Queensland. Classes for Beginners commence at 7.30 p.m. and the General Meeting at 8 p.m.

FIELD DAYS are held bi-monthly at the gardens of members as advised in this journal.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Family \$20, Single \$15—payable on January 1.

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Combined Show 2000 Photographs

Sincere thanks to **DOUG UPTON** for all the photos in this issue.

FRONT AND BACK PAGES

- Front, Top: RESERVE CHAMPION OF SHOW: *Vriesea bitumenosa* X *saundersii*, exhibited by Mike Symmons.
- Front, Bottom: CLASS 9, BILLBERGIA: 1st *Billbergia* 'Ellen', exhibited by Olive and Len Trevor.
- Back, Top: CLASS 11, NEOREGELIA: *Neoregelia* 'Thelma's Choice', exhibited by Mike Symmons.
- Back, Bottom: The Bromeliad Society's central display, designed by Bob Cross.

CENTRE PAGES

1. CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF SHOW: *Hectia rosea*, exhibited by Bob and Mavis Paulsen.
2. THE COLUMN, part of the Society's display, designed by Bob Cross.
3. THE TOM SCHOFIELD MEMORIAL TROPHY: *Guzmania* 'Neon', exhibited by Olive and Len Trevor.
4. THE HUDSON PERPETUAL TROPHY: *Neophytum* 'Galactic Warrior', exhibited by Phyllis and Don Hobbs.
5. CLASS 9, BILLBERGIA: 2nd *Billbergia* 'Hallelujah', exhibited by Mike Symmons.
6. HIGHLY COMMENDED: *Aechmea* 'Little Harv', exhibited by Olive and Len Trevor.
7. CLASS 1, TILLANDSIA: *Tillandsia* 'Wildfire', exhibited by Bob Cross.
8. CLASS 22, BROMELIAD IN DECORATIVE POT: 1st *Neoregelia* 'Pepper Royal', exhibited by Perry Crawford.

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES for *Bromeliaceae*

September / October, 2000, Edition..... August 30, 2000

November / December, 2000, Edition October 30, 2000

Please send all contributions to:

The Editor, Ray Nicholson, 11 Malory St, Balmoral, Qld. 4171.**Phone (07) 3399 5296**

Sunburn, Suntan and Survivors

By PHYLL and DON HOBBS and PETER PAROZ

THE SPELL of hot dry weather in January when temperatures peaked at 39.1° C with relative humidity down to 32%, has taken its toll of a number of plants in the garden including some bromeliads. With the effects of the heat wave now fully apparent, it's a convenient time to examine which plants were affected and to what extent.

Brisbane's weather conditions are recorded at the airport and at Kangaroo Point in the City. Inland temperatures would be higher and probably with a lower relative humidity.

Bromeliads, mostly Tillandsias and some Vrieseas, grown in the bush-house with the benefit of old 60% Sarlon shadecloth and a damp earth floor suffered no ill effects. The plants are grown at an elevation of about 25 metres and about one kilometre from Moreton Bay. Normally in summer there are good south-east or north-east sea breezes.

We grow a number of Tillandsias outside the bush-house, some in very exposed conditions with up to six hours full sun exposure. All plants noted have been growing in the nominated conditions for at least two summers, and some of the results are surprising.

All plants are fertilised weakly and weekly, mostly with Phostrogen but occasionally with a different fertiliser for variety. To what extent good mineral nutrition may have contributed to sunburn resistance is unknown. Good potassium nutrition is known to contribute to cold resistance in bromeliads.

T. disticha (small green form in a clump in a very exposed situation): Top four offsets cooked and now moribund. Lower offsets survived with some leaf damage.

T. stricta (various clones in clumps including a small seedling fully exposed to the mid-day sun: All plants no damage; the seedling subsequently flowered.

T. filifolia (a mature plant in an exposed area but with slight overhead shade from other plants) and *T. cyanea*, *lindenii* and related hybrids (these plants were planted in potting mixture in the ground as bedding plants: No damage, all plants subsequently flowered normally.

T. xerographica (½ grown seedling, exposed position): no damage.

T. somnians (mature plant with offsets on the old flower spike, exposed position until noon): No damage.

T. ionanthe: Some fully exposed plants severely damaged. Plants with slight protection no damage. ➔

T. bulbosa (a clump in an exposed position): No damage.

T. fasciculata (various varieties and clones, exposed position until 2 p.m.): No damage.

T. neglecta (slight overhead protection): No damage.

T. crocata (small clumps, full exposure): No damage, now in flower.

Neo. pendulabrevifolia: Sunburnt spots on the parts of the leaf at right angles to the mid-day sun. — PETER PAROZ.

* * * *

SIMILAR TO PETER'S EXPERIENCE, we had a few surprises after the extremely hot spell in January. Our home is only a few minutes' walk from the water at Oyster Point and if there is the slightest breeze, we benefit from it.

All plants under shade cloth suffered no damage. In the garden with dappled shade from trees, we grow a large variety of *Aechmea*, *Neoregelia*, *Canistrum*, *Tillandsia*, *Vriesea*, *Guzmania*, and *Nidularium*.

Neo. cruenta X *olens* thrived as the days got hotter. Both parent plants are wonderful for full sun exposure and any hybrid with either as a parent is suitable for similar conditions.

Three plants of *Neo.* 'Moana (Manoa) Beauty' were grouped in an exposed area. Two undamaged, one (surprisingly) had some bleaching.

A variegated hybrid of the *Neoregelia* genus with *caroliniae* and *concentrica* parentage just sat there looking beautiful with no hint of stress. Similarly the *Neoregelias* 'Hearts Blood', 'Rosatina Striatum', *kautskyi* and 'Morris Henry Hobbs' (a lovely dark miniature) came through with flying colours.

Neoregelia 'Fireball', the type plant, hated the conditions. We will have to wait for pups to start another clump.

A *N. concentrica* species had some bleaching.

Tillandsia fasciculata, of which we had eight different varieties in the garden, handled the conditions with no problems.

A large clump of *T. ionantha* on a leptospermum tree had no problems, but it did get a little help from sparse foliage after mid-day.

T. crocata, in the same area as the above *ionanthas*, did well.

To our surprise, a large pot of *Vriesea* 'Vigeri', which was inadvertently exposed to full sun, suffered no damage, so it was left there to see how much it would put up with.

Worst damage was to several pots of *Neoregelias* which had been taken out of the garden to remove pups. These were badly damaged. It brought home the fact that bromeliads don't like their normal position to be changed. They should have been put back in the bed. ➔

All in all, the results over the hot spell were very pleasing and the use of bromeliads in landscaping situations can be recommended.

Now is the time to experiment with plants in more exposed positions as they will have several months to acclimatise to increasing light intensity.

Question: Are the effects noted due to light intensity, temperature, humidity or ALL of the above? — PHYLL and DON HOBBS

Introducing Two "New" Fat Ladies

By GEOFF LAWN

A PAIR OF MEDIUM SIZED neoregelias growing in Perth collections for some years (and probably circulating in the eastern states also) under their formulae (parentage) are worthy of cultivar names.

N. punctatissima x *N. marmorata* in bright light and with restricted feeding, is a stocky, broad-leaved urn to 25 cm tall by 20 cm diameter. As expected from such parentage the entire foliage is heavily marbled and splotched dusky brick-red and green, earning it the title *Neoregelia* 'Mottles'. The rosette's 10-15 leaves, each 3 cm wide are lightly spined and with rounded, cusped tips. *N.* 'Mottles' has short 1 cm long stolons and pups soon form close-knit multiples; a delightful foliage specimen. Possibly of USA origin, *N.* 'Mottles' quoted parent of *N. punctatissima* is probably incorrect as this species is doubtfully in cultivation. (Ref. Bromelioideae Monograph (1979) p1561, Smith & Downs; BSI Journal Sept/Oct 1983, p224, Notes on Neoregelias, H. Luther.)

One of Grace Goode's earlier hybrids is *N.* 'Marnier Lapostolle' x *N.* 'Ruby Jean' which produced named cultivars 'Jean Black' and 'Delphine'. Another clearly different clone from cross and possible grex has been named *N.* 'Cherub' as it is indeed a chubby child! Looking more like one of the parents of *N.* 'Ruby Jean' (namely 'Fireball') *N.* 'Cherub' is a squat, wide-leaved rosette 25 cm across by 15 cm tall. The shiny, garnet reddish green foliage is minutely spined with the "redness" more pronounced on the leaf reverses in strong light. It has short 1 cm long stolons and soon clumps to fill a small basket. Although *N.* 'Cherub' does not have crossbands on the leaves it is possible that the quoted seed parent of 'Marnier Lapostolle' was in fact the species *N. tigrina*, as indicated in Derek Butcher's 5th Edition of the Australian Checklist of Bromeliad Hybrids and Cultivars (1997). Often such siblings as F2 or F3 hybrids are distinctly different.

Both *N.* 'Mottles' and *N.* 'Cherub' may be viewed on the Web site <http://fcb.org> under the Menu's Photo Index. #

***Neoregelia* 'Red Waif' / 'Cayenne'**

By DEREK BUTCHER

IN JULY 1984, Brian Smith in his Manuscript of Bromeliad Hybrids and Cultivars reported *Neoregelia ampullacea* 'Zebrina' x 'Fireball' (DeLeon) and also *Neoregelia* 'Fireball' x *ampullacea* 'Zebrina' (DeLeon}.

In the Preliminary Listing by Don Beadle in 1991 *only Neoregelia ampullacea* 'Zebrina' x 'Fireball' is listed under DeLeon List #3.

In the BSI Journal Jan/Feb 1994 *Neoregelia* 'Red Waif' is listed as 'Zebrina' x 'Fireball'. This is a Hendrix hybrid grex #7902 but named by Carol Johnson of Pineapple Place. Only one plant was selected from the grex!

Ever since the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry 1998 was issued, I have been aware that plants with parental formula only will be lost to the "official" Bromeliad World and all worthwhile cultivars needed names so that they could be catalogued.

In 1999 my wife and I pondered over our *Neoregelia* 'Fireball' x *ampullacea* which we had obtained from Margaret Paterson of Gympie in Queensland in 1996 which seemed to be identical to one with the same name from Olive Trevor of Brisbane in 1993. It was clearly being grown widely in Australia so we decided to call it 'Cayenne' and announced this fact in a printed update on Australian Cultivars at the Cairns Conference in 1999. A photograph of this plant is shown on <http://fcbs.org>.

In April 2000 Geoff Lawn of Perth sent me photographs of *Neoregelia ampullacea* x 'Fireball' (note reversal of parentage) that he had received from Olive Trevor in 1997 and an identical looking plant with the same parentage from Grace Goode from the Sunshine Coast. Geoff had linked them to our 'Cayenne' and he could well be correct. Also growing in Perth is a plant called *Neoregelia ampullacea* 'Red Form' that they inherited from the Cairns Bromeliad Study Group that had brought plants to Perth for their Bromeliad Conference in September 1997. This also seems identical and the Cairns Bromeliad Study Group after "studying" the problem have the same thoughts!

And that's not all! Don and Alice Woods also of Perth had imported a *Neoregelia* 'Red Waif' from Pineapple Place Nursery and this seems identical to all plants mentioned so far!

1. We know that a true species crossed with another true species will produce like progeny at this F1 level. ➔

2. We know that the ICNCP rules (Rule 2.15) allow for a cultivar name to be given to all these like plants.
3. I have kept a close watch on Australian hybridising since before 1982 and no similar combination has been tried in Australia.
4. Also in the 1991 Preliminary Listing is a *Neoregelia ampullacea* (without the 'Zebrina') x 'Fireball' in Tropiflora catalogue in 1986 but Dennis Cathcart has always been a "middleman" so while this has been considered it is treated here as a red herring!
5. We know that DeLeon preferred formulae to Cultivar names and that some of the hybrids he offered had in fact been done by Hendrix although not stated as such. Therefore we can be fairly sure that the formula plants came from DeLeon..
6. Hendrix could easily have used the same parental clones to produce *Neoregelia ampullacea* 'Zebrina' x 'Fireball' (even at the same time in the same flower head). Each seed berry could produce similar progeny so the significance of Grex #7902 seems less important in this situation.
7. While I have strong feelings that 'Red Waif' and 'Cayenne' could share the same name I intend to show both in the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry and link them as being probably identical.
8. Comparison of photographs of all participants can be made on <http://fcbs.org>.
9. This situation proves, at least to me, that formulae are essential to the hybridist for the correct interpretation of results but if a plant is then worthy of growing and/or selling it is worthy of a name in its own right.

If you have any other evidence in this saga please advise. #

WANTED: BACK ISSUES OF *Bromeliaceae*

Several new members of the Society have made requests for back issues of *Bromeliaceae*

The Society is also desirous of obtaining some issues to replace those damaged or missing from the files.

If you have any spare or unwanted issues from past years and wish to donate them to the Society or sell them to new members

PLEASE ADVISE THE EDITOR

Advise which issues you have and the price you are asking so that a list can be printed in *Bromeliaceae*

Cultivar Nomenclature—A Personal View

By MIKE SYMMONS

FOR ME, Derek Butcher's article "Cultivar Nomenclature" (*Bromeliaceae* May/June 2000) raises questions and I imagine there must be growers who, when considering bromeliad breeding, might despair.

There are what I see as two major faults in the system or Derek's interpretation, yet it is a system that has been adopted by all except orchid growers. The first problem is in the statement "The use of grex is OUT and is replaced by Cultivar Groups which contain similar looking plants irrespective of their parentage" (my underlining). Who defines and decides what is similar? Derek cannot possibly inspect every plant put up for registration and we all know cameras lie—or at least film and film processing does. With Neoregelias in particular, appearance is greatly influenced by conditions and culture. I have obtained plants from 12 km away and within 12 months the very experienced growers from whom they were obtained have not recognized them—not because either of us is a better grower—just different.

If we turn to the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry and look up, say, *Billbergia* 'Golden Joy' we see there is more than one colour form. Are they similar? Surely not. For the breeder a knowledge of a parent's background and dominant or recessive traits must be important yet two similar but unrelated plants could produce very different results.

My second and related concern is in the statement "Cultivar names should be able to stand alone and *Aechmea* lueddemanniana 'Mend' is frowned upon because we should be writing *Aechmea* 'Mend'." I would have thought that for all plant collectors (from hobby growers to Botanic Gardens) the collection of and preservation of the species was of paramount importance. Yet if you omit the specie name and follow the dictum of "similar looking plants" then are you not in danger of having many hybrids carrying the same cultivar name as a species? The new grower will likely seek out species first, yet if they are not a member of a bromeliad society how could they know what to buy? In the unlikely situation of having the Cultivar Registry they could hardly look up every plant before purchase.

Also, the statement "The more you write on the label the more chance for error" is, to me, about as negative as saying "you should never fly because the aircraft may crash". To follow this argument to the extreme we would have blank labels but enjoy the knowledge that there were no errors. Indeed, are we reaching the position where, when adding to our bromeliad collections, it is a case of "That is a pretty ➔

plant, I don't think I have it yet". When referring to the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry, Derek says "What you will never know is whether the hybridist used the correct names in the first place!". A strange statement for the Registrar.

If we are to have a system, a registrar and hybrid names, then we must have some trust otherwise it is all pointless.

It is not possible to return to pre-1995 but please could we:

1. Retain single quotation marks for cultivar names
2. Return to no quotation marks for existing grex names;
3. Retain species names alongside cultivar names;
4. Only use a cultivar name for identical plants of the same parentage. After all it was the same Derek Butcher who, when writing of *Vriesea* 'Komet' (*Bromeliaceae* Jan./Feb. 2000) said "Remember a true 'Komet' can only be obtained by offset or meristem".#

Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc.

BOOKS FOR SALE

<i>Bromeliads – Next Generation</i> by Shane Zaghini	\$33.00
<i>Tillandsia Handbook</i> by Hideo Shimizu and Hirouli Takizawa	\$58.00
<i>Bromeliads for Everyone 2</i> by Bea Hansen	\$11.50
<i>Growing Bromeliads</i> by Bromeliad Society of Australia	\$21.50
<i>Genus Tillandsia</i> by Paul Isley III.....	\$3.00
<i>International Check List of Bromeliad Hybrids</i> by B.S.I.	\$1.50
<i>A Bromeliad Glossary, 1977 Edition</i> , by B.S.I.....	\$3.50
<i>A Bromeliad Glossary, 1998 Edition</i> , by B.S.I.....	\$18.50
<i>Bromeliads—A Cultural Manual</i> by B.S.I.....	\$4.50
<i>Distributional Checklist of the Genus Tillandsia</i> by Lloyd Kiff	\$20.00
<i>Die Bromelie—The Red Flowered Tillandsia from Brazil</i> by R. Ehlers	\$23.00
<i>A Guide to Beautiful Neoregelias</i> by S. Zaghini	\$20.00
<i>1985 Bromeliads III Conference</i>	\$10.00
<i>1993 Bromeliads VII Conference</i>	\$18.00

You can order your copy of

The Bromeliad Cultivar Registry

compiled for The Bromeliad Society International by Don Beadle, and listing over 5000 cultivars, through our Librarian on payment of a deposit of \$50.

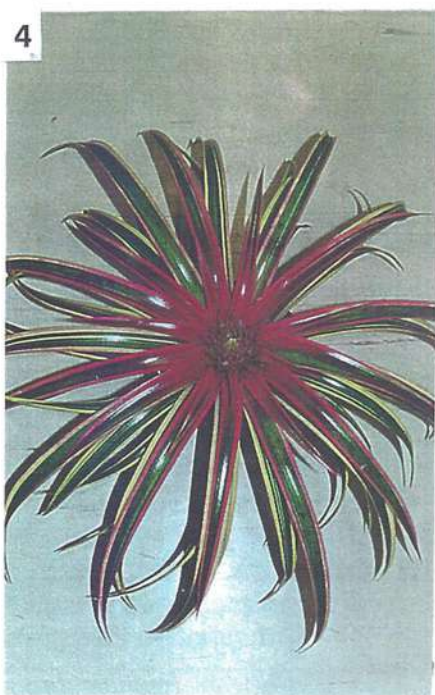
CONTACT LIBRARIAN, Mrs MAVIS PAULSEN, Ph (07) 5493 3677

ALL PRICES PLUS POSTAGE

Combined Show 2000 Competition Results

1. **TILLANDSIA:**
 - 1st *Fasciculata clavispica* N. and E. Weir
 - 2nd *Fasciculata hondurensis* N. and E. Weir
 - 3rd *Tectorum*..... N. Ryan
2. **TILLANDSIA, in Flower or Spike:**
 - 1ST *Fasciculata* D. and P. Hobbs
 - 2ND *Stricta* N. Kickbusch
 - 3rd *Rodrigueziana*..... N. and E. Weir
3. **VRIESEA, in Flower or Spike:**
 - 1ST 'Charlotte' L. and O. Trevor
4. **VRIESEA, Decorative Foliage:**
 - 1st *Bituminosa X saundersii* (variegated)..... M. Symmons
 - 2nd *Heiroyglyphica X fenestralis* L. and O. Trevor
 - 3rd *Fosteriana* 'Speckles'..... P. James
5. **GUZMANIA:**
 - 1st 'Cherry Smash' L. and O. Trevor
 - 2nd 'Mellow Yellow' L. and O. Trevor
 - 3rd *Stricta* D. and P. Hobbs
8. **CRYPTANTHUS:**
 - 1st 'Cloud Cover' P. Crawford
 - 2nd 'Milky Way' R. and M. Paulsen
 - 3rd 'Kit Hibers' R. and M. Paulsen
9. **BILLBERGIA:**
 - 1st 'Ellen' L. and O. Trevor
 - 2nd 'Hallelujah' M. Symmons
 - 3rd 'Golden Joy' N. and E. Weir
11. **NEOREGELIA:**
 - 1st 'Thelma's Choice' M. Symmons
 - 2nd 'Rosy Morn' C. Basic
 - 3rd 'Kay Jay' M. Symmons
12. **MINIATURE NEOREGELIA:**
 - 1st 'Rosemarie' X *lilliputiana* N. Kickbusch
 - 2nd 'Small World' L. and O. Trevor
 - 3rd 'Wild Tiger' R. and M. Paulsen
14. **INTERGENERIC:**
 - 1st *Neophytum* 'Galactic Warrior' D. and P. Hobbs
15. **OTHER BROMELIOIDEAE:**
 - 1st *Quesnelia marmorata*..... N. and E. Weir
 - 2nd *Orthophytum* 'Stellar Beauty' R. and Paulsen

Results continued on Page 14.





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17. **HECTIA / DYCKIA**
 1st *Hectia rosea* R. and M. Paulsen
 2nd *Dyckia platyphylla* P. Crawford
 3rd *Dyckia fosteriana* 'Betty Fennell' R. and M. Paulsen
18. **PITCAIRNIA:**
 1st *Smithiorum* M. Symmons
 2nd Species D. Andersen
20. **SPECIMEN:**
 1st *Neoregelia* 'Little Faith' X 'Lillipet' P. James
 2nd *Neoregelia punctatissima* X "Lillipet" P. James
 3rd *Aechmea recurvata* var. *Benrathii* N. and E. Weir
22. **BROMELIAD IN DECORATIVE POT:**
 1st *Neoregelia* 'Pepper Royal' P. Crawford
 2nd *Billbergia* 'Muriel Waterman' hybrid N. and E. Weir
23. **BROMELIAD ON DECORATIVE MOUNTING:**
 1st *Aechmea correia-araujoii* L. and O. Trevor
 2nd *Canistrum triangulare* L. and O. Trevor
26. **FLORAL DISPLAY:**
 1st *Millenium* L. and O. Trevor
28. **BEST TILLANDSIOIDEAE, Nez Nisso Memorial Trophy:**
Vriesea bituminosa X *Saundersii* M. Symmons
29. **BEST BROMELIOIDEAE, Hudson Petpetual Trophy:**
Neophytum 'Galactic Warrior' D. and P. Hobbs
30. **BEST CRYPTANTHUS, Grace Goode Perpetual Trophy:**
 'Cloud Cover' P. Crawford
31. **BEST PITCAIRNIOIDEAE:**
Hectia rosea R. and M. Paulsen
32. **RESERVE CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF THE SHOW:**
Vriesea bituminosa X *saundersii* M. Symmons
33. **CHAMPION BROMELIAD OF THE SHOW:**
Hectia rosea R. and M. Paulsen
34. **TOM SCHOFIELD MEMORIAL AWARD:**
Guzmania 'Neon' L. and O. Trevor
- HIGHLY COMMENDED ENTRIES:**
Aechmea 'Little Harv' L. and O. Trevor
Tillandsia xerographica L. and T. Muller
Billbergia vittata 'Domingos Martens' L. and T. Muller
Guzmania 'Neon' L. and O. Trevor

There were no entries in Classes:

6 Other Tillandsioideae, 7 Tillandsioideae in flower or spike, 10 *Aechmea*,
 13 *Nidularium*, 16 Bromelioideae in flower, 19 Other Pitcairnioideae, 21 Novice,
 24 Miniature Display, 25 Novelty Display, 27 Floral Display Inflorescence.

Combined Show 2000 Report

By MIKE SYMMONS, Show Steward

WE HAVE SEEN THE END of another Combined Show which must be a relief for those who put in such long hours and hard work — not just in setting up and pulling down but also attending committee meetings through the year.

As usual, the display was a great success and a credit to Bob Cross and his workers. Such colour, variety and imagination, one cannot help picturing the even greater marvels they could perform with more space. And they managed to get through with none of their props mulched.

Unfortunately the competition side of the Show was another matter. In fairness I must say it has been a funny season (I know I had less to show) and it is true there were some great plants for the public to view. Everyone would have coveted Bob Paulsen's *Hechtia rosea*; been impressed by the colours of *Neophytum* 'Galactic Warrior' and *Neoregelia* 'Thelma's Choice'; and admired the *Billbergias* and *Guzmanias* along with the well represented miniature *Neoregelias*.

The number of entries were, however, such a disappointment the very future of competition must be considered. We had only 58 entries and of the 27 sections, 10 were unrepresented and four had only one entry each. There are some of us who prefer non-competitive displays and I would suggest that if the judged Show is to continue there **MUST BE GREATER PARTICIPATION** from the members.

We have 12 months to improve the situation so I hope we see full tables at our next four mini-shows followed by a much improved Combined Show.

I am sure that those who put in the hours of work, but most importantly, the general public, would not like to see such sparsely filled tables next year. The Show is, after all, put on for the public. #

How Good Are Your Plants? PART 6

BECAUSE of the number of pages allocated to the coverage of the Combined Show, this article had to be held over until the September/October edition.

Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc.

Society **BADGES** are now available. \$5.00 each

CONTACT SECRETARY, Mrs DOROTHY CUTCLIFFE, Ph (07) 3386 0505

Potting Media and Phytotoxicity

From PERRY CRAWFORD

Information from Growing Media (For Ornamental Plants and Turf)

by K. A. Handreck and N. D. Black, 1999, Uni. NSW Press

MOST OF THE BARKS and sawdusts used in potting media contain natural chemicals that are toxic to most plants. Phytotoxins occur in many plants/trees to protect against attack by animals and microorganisms.

Different barks contain different levels of phytotoxins. *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) and *E. diversicolor* (karri) as examples are relatively free of toxins. However most other tree barks in Australia need composting to reduce levels of phytotoxins and to reduce nitrogen drawdown.

Pine barks are detoxified by moist storage in windrows no higher or wider than approx. 1.5 metres for approx. 6 to 8 weeks. Adding to pine bark heaps regular moisture and a nitrogenous fertilizer (e.g. urea) to reduce drawdown and turning heap over weekly for 6 to 8 weeks, generally ensures a completed composting has occurred.

Note, however, that if hammer milled pine bark was bulk stored in heaps greater than 3 metres high and wide prior it, can be VERY TOXIC due to organic acids, ions and compounds and can become a major problem to plant health. This bark will generally have an obvious sour smell.

If buying bark in quantity and its storage method is unknown, a controlled composting is probably required. Radiata bark, if freshly hammer milled and aerated steamed, will generally have an initially increased toxicity and requires further composting. Damage to roots by phytotoxins increases the chance of harmful pathogens successfully attacking the potted plant. #

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Contact **LIBRARIAN, Mrs MAVIS PAULSEN, Ph (07) 5493 3677**



Report of May Meeting

THOSE MEMBERS who attended the May meeting were treated to an excellent talk on Tillandsias by Neville Ryan. Bob Paulsen reported the arrival of new books both for the library and also for sale. Neville Ryan gave the plant commentary on the Popular Vote competition which resulted:

NOVICE: 1st Cheryl Basic, *Billbergia* 'Las Manchas'.

INTERMEDIATE: 1st Ivan and Dawn Hole, *Guzmania wittmackii*.

ADVANCED: 1st Bob and Mavis Paulsen, *Billbergia meyeri*; 2nd Mike Symmons, *Neoregelia* 'Green Apple'.

Report of June Meeting

A GOOD ROLL-UP attended the monthly meeting on June 15. Four new members were welcomed and there were several visitors. Reports on the Combined Show were given (see details elsewhere in this issue). Noel Weir led the discussion on Billbergias, the featured plant for June. Cheryl Basic and Olive Trevor also showed and talked about their Billbergias. Bob Cross gave his comments on the plants entered in the Popular Vote competition which resulted:

NOVICE: 1st Phil Kesby, *Vreisea saundersii* X *bituminosa albomarginata*; 2nd Meryl Windsor, *Guzmania* 'Candy Corn'.

INTERMEDIATE: 1st Patrick O'Dea, *Tillandsia tectorum*; 2nd Patrick O'Dea, *Tillandsia atroviridipetala*.

ADVANCED: 1st Bob Cross, *Quesnelia marmorata* 'Tim Plowman'; tie for 2nd N. Ryan *Tillandsia cyanea tricolor* and M. Ryan *Neophytum* 'Galactic Warrior'.

Report on the June Field Day

MORE THAN 30 members and visitors attended the Field Day at Mike Symmon's home at Ormeau. Seven new members joined the society during the morning.

Mike's conducted tour through his vast shadehouses proved a real "eye-opener" with his fine collection of bromeliads and orchids. ➔

Neville Ryan demonstrated care and maintenance of Tillandsias. John Higgins spoke on the anatomy of the bromeliad in relation to watering and fertilizing. Doug Upton showed and explained his methods of clumping. Phyl Hobbs told members about bromeliad landscaping.

The only disappointing aspect of this successful outing was the non-attendance of members who asked us to hold day meetings. Hopefully we will see them at Bob Cross's home on August 26.

July 20 Meeting

THE PLANT ROSTER for July is Mike Symmons and Neville Ryan. There are four classes in July's Mini Show: 1. Billbergia, species and hybrids; 2. Vriesea, species and hybrids; 3. Pitcairnioideae, species and hybrids; 4. Any other bromeliad. Each class has three sections: Novice, Intermediate and Advanced. Len and Olive Trevor will give their report on the San Francisco World Conference.

August 17 Meeting

AUGUST'S COMPETITION is Popular Vote, any genus, any species, in sections for Novice, Intermediate and advanced. The plant commentary will be given by Bob Paulsen. There will be a showing of slides from various sources. Plant roster: Doug and Joy Upton and Chester and Dorothy Cutcliffe.

Study Group

LEN AND OLIVE TREVOR will host the Study Group Meeting at their home, 232 Canvey Road, Upper Kedron, on July 29. There will be no meeting in August because of the field day.

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Committee Meetings

JULY'S COMMITTEE meeting will be at Secretary Dorothy Cutcliffe's new home, 11 Lorimer Street, Springwood, at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 (phone 3386 0505). The August meeting will be at the home of Doug Upton, 101 Jerrang Street, Indooroopilly (phone 3378 3511) at 7.30 p.m. on August 16.

Field Days

AUGUST 26 is the date for the next field day at the spacious gardens of President Bob Cross, 23 Queenstown Avenue, Boondall, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. The last field day for the year will be at Olive and Len Trevor's home, 232 Canvey Road, Upper Kedron, immediately after the Study Group meeting on October 28.

Exhibition Display

ONCE AGAIN, the society will have a display in the Horticulture Pavilion at the Ekka from August 10 to 19. If you have plants available for the exhibit, please contact Bob Cross (3265 4364). Volunteers are still required for the stewards' roster (morning, afternoon and night shifts); phone Joy Upton (3378 3511) to share these duties—and receive a free pass to the Ekka.

Proposed Bus Trip

A PROPOSAL has been put forward for an overnight Saturday-Sunday bus trip to Bundaberg later on in the year. Expressions of interest are called for—please phone any committee member (phone numbers on page 1).

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Plant Labelling for Sales

THE HARD-WORKING sales team requests that all members comply with the society's rules for labelling plants for sale. As the general public (with no knowledge of bromeliad names) buy plants, the normal in-pot plant label must be printed IN FULL (no abbreviations). A fine black waterproof pen must be used on both the in-pot label and the society's sales label. These conditions apply to the Mount Coot-tha shows as well as the normal meetings and field days.

Secretary's Change of Address

PLEASE NOTE: Secretary Dorothy Cutcliffe and husband Chester have sold their home at Coorparoo. Their new address is 11 Lorimer Street, Springwood, Qld 4127 — phone 3386 0505.

Bromeliads – Next Generation

MEMBERS' ATTENTION is directed to the insert in this issue re Shane Zaghini's new book, *Bromeliads – Next Generation*. The society now has stocks of Shane's latest work which will be on sale at the Librarian's table at the July meeting.

Plant Roster for Remainder of the Year

- JULY: Mike Symmons and Neville Ryan.
AUGUST: Doug and Joy Upton, Chester and Dorothy Cutcliffe.
SEPTEMBER: Douglas Wallace and Ray Nicholson
OCTOBER: Bob and Mavis Paulsen, Cheryl Basic.

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Neoregelia carcharodon

RE "PUZZLED'S" identification query of *Neoregelia carcharodon*: It is impossible to be absolutely certain on the plant in question without seeing it. It's an old problem at least partially "solved" some years ago and possibly ALL Australian "versions" grown as *N. carcharodon* prior to 1993 are in fact *N. pascoaliana*, but obviously some growers never change their labels. Certainly "Puzzled's" description suggests the plant is the tougher, leather-leafted *N. pascoaliana* and that as some specimens originated from the USA and Australian (and possibly Brazilian) seed banks, you can expect to see slight clonal variations, influenced also by culture, climate and particularly light intensity.

As Harry Luther was a consultant on the Baensch book photos, I would say the true *carcharodon* featured on page 112 is correctly named, although it's a spasmodic bloomer with softer, glossier leaves and more cold sensitive than *pascoaliana*. Luther wrote (*BSI Journal*, '91) re the confusion between plain-leaved *carcharodon* and cross-banded *pascoaliana* in the US collections.

Derek Butcher debated their differences (*Bromeletter*, July '93) as grown in Australia and quoted Elton Leme as saying *N. zonata* and *N. carcharodon* were very similar. Luther replied (*Bromeletter*, →

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September '93) to this debate with descriptions and a reprint of the original illustration of *zonata*, pointing out an anomaly in the scale drawing, hence the confusion.

Olwen Ferris and Marj McNamara (*Bromeletter*, July '91 and September '93) have written commenting on these species.

There are only two recognised botanical varieties of the true *carcharodon* (Bromeliad Binomials List, 1998): var. *carcharodon* and var. *atroviolacea* but maybe the Qld Society's Study Group can investigate if both are cultivated locally. The label "chacharoden Skotack hybrid" is mislabelled and misspelt. — GEOFF LAWN.

THANKS also to Derek Butcher who answered "Puzzled's" letter in similar fashion (in fact, almost identical—same references too) to the above letter by Geoff Lawn.

Combined Show

THE YEAR 2000 COMBINED SHOW is now good memories with some points which come to the fore. While the displays in the front foyer and main hall were the most beautiful collections of bromeliads I have ever seen, for which much credit and congratulations go to our seemingly never-tiring President Bob Cross and the usual group of eager and enthusiastic people who toiled for long hours to make the combined show happen, I was of the opinion the competition and show tables were a little lean. The sale tables were very well stocked, almost to bursting point, I thought.

Now for some sums. There are about 34 categories each allowing three entries for the competition . . . that's 102 possible entries per ➔

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member. Going by my small collection, I could never enter anywhere near that number but even after a very poor year for my plants, six were entered. Using that as a minimum base, I would estimate that from members who regularly attend our monthly meetings there could/should be at least 180 plants entered for competition.

Mind you, some members could easily enter three each per *Neoregelia*, *Aechmea*, *Vriesea*, *Guzmania*, *Tillandsia*, *Billbergia*, *Cryptanthus*. That's 21 per those members without considering the other categories. But alas, that did not happen at the Combined Show!

So come on, enter your plants in the competitions so that everyone can see the best, and more importantly, learn how to grow and present a quality/beautiful bromeliad. I know I have improved my knowledge, plant growing ability and enjoyment simply by keeping my eyes and ears open at these competitions. This year I enjoyed some success in the show, especially with my receiving the Grace Goode Award, *Cryptanthus*—a very pleasing honour (an understatement).

If I can grow my bromeliads even half as well as Grace Goode has done — and still does — I will be one very satisfied bromeliad grower. — PERRY CRAWFORD.

Plant Names or Opinions?

IDENTIFYING PLANTS is a very tricky subject and relies on the opinions and experiences of growers. Who's to say one grower is correct and another is wrong? I will be solely concentrating on growing my broms to my ideals of perfection rather than spending countless hours on figuring what to put on the label. — BEAUTY BEFORE OPINION.

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Plant Names

IFULLY AGREE with Derek Butcher's seeming "obsession" (for want of a better word) in his quest for everyone to adopt a standard system for naming plants, but . . . How does one follow his lead when writing labels: italics, capitals and single quotes! I have been through all the remaining original hand-written labels on all my plants and, even though most have come from reliable growers, not one in 264 is written as Derek says they should be. As far as re-naming plants according to his suggestions: how do novices really know if, in fact, we are really re-naming the correct ones when "experts" have difficulty? As a new collector, I get more confused every time I read an article on this topic. But I do agree: it is imperative that plants are correctly named. Good luck, Derek! — *MORE Confused 'THAN EVER'*.

More on Plant Names

THE ONLY WAY Derek Butcher will achieve his aim in "correctly" naming and labelling bromeliads is to hold a world conference where EVERY grower takes ALL their bromeliads and the conference discusses, compares, and names (and/or renames) EVERY plant in the world! Totally impractical, isn't it? But, assuming after such mythical conference, every plant in the world is correctly named, it would only take someone in a hurry to make a simple mistake and we're back to where we started from! Humans are not infallible and we've just got to live with it, no matter how confusing and frustrating it may be. I support Derek in his quest — we've got to trust the growers to label plants correctly — but all I really want to do is learn how to grow perfect broms no matter what names are on the labels. — *NOVICE*.

M. J. PATERSON

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