



Bromelcairns

Bimonthly Newsletter of Cairns Bromeliad Society Inc. 2015 # 4
P.O. Box 28 Cairns Queensland 4870 Australia

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Honorary Life Member - Grace Goode O.A.M.

Honorary Life Member - Kay Edington

Life Member - Lynn Hudson

Life Member - Robert (Bob) Hudson

Aims of the Society

Promote and Develop Interest in Bromeliads through Friendship

To Co-operate with similar Clubs throughout the World

Membership Fee: \$15 Single, \$25 Family, Country Member \$25.

\$7.50 junior (if not in family membership)

Meetings start at 1.pm sharp first Saturday of the month.

Please bring a cup and a chair.

Library: All books & magazines borrowed are to be returned in good order to the following meeting. If not on wait list, they may be rebooked.

Plant Display/Sales: To participate, a member must be financial and circumstances permitting, have attended at least three meetings in the past six months.

Where the society is charged a stall fee - 20% of sales are deducted for club funds.

No charge venue & meetings - 10% of sales is deducted.

All plants to be clean, free of disease, named and price tagged.

Show Plants: Must be the property of and in the custody of the entrant for the past three months. For Society Shows the entrant must be financial and have attended at least three meetings during the past six months.

Pens, Plant Tags & Pots: available at each meeting.

If reprinting article, wholly or in part, please acknowledge Author & Newsletter.

Any article &/or Bromelcairns will be Emailed on request to

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or

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Club Activities & Around the Members



JULY: I was very happy to see the novices entries, well done, keep them coming. From Jodie, my avid assistant - As Bob was in Deniliquin, Vice President Brendan stepped up and did a great job, even brought his own bell! Mini Show and Popular Vote plants were excellent, varied and a good learning display for members. Some members are finding the colder weather is bringing out the good colour in their bromeliads.

*Dave gave an update on the Botanic Gardens site visit and asked members to compile a list of available bromeliads to plant in all day sun at the entrance of the new conservatory

MINI SHOW - Vriesea, Guzmania, Werauhia *Vr.gigantea*

1st *Vriesea gigantea* – Dave Weston

2nd *Vriesea* ‘Splenet’ – Frances Boyd

3rd *Vriesea* ‘Evita’ - Marguerite Sexton

1st *Guzmania musaica* - Brendan Leishman

2nd. *Guzmania* ‘Sir Albert’- Steven French

1st *Werauhia kupperiana* - Dave Weston

POPULAR VOTE: C. ‘Rainbow’

NOVICE Bromeliad

1st *Neoregelia* ‘Golden Chalice’ - Kelly Knight

NOVICE Tillandsia

1st *Tillandsia palacea* - Matt Wilson *Vr. ‘Splenet’*

2nd. *Tillandsia stricta* ‘nigra’ - Glenn Jodner

OPEN - Bromeliad

G.musaica

1st *Vriesea* ‘Splenet’ – Frances Boyd

2nd *Vriesea gigantea* – Dave Weston

3rd *Neoregelia* ‘Deep Glow’ Brendan Leishman

Cryptanthus

1st *Cryptanthus* ‘Rainbow’ – Dave Weston

2nd *Crypt.* ‘Anne Collings’ – Marguerite Sexton

3rd *Cryptanthus* ‘Elaine’ – Brendan Leishman

3rd *Cryptanthus* ‘Black Mood’- Lynn Hudson

Tillandsia

1st *Tillandsia stricta* clump – Paul Venturi

2nd *Tillandsia tectorum globosa* - Lynn Hudson

3rd *Tillandsia tenuifolia* black - Lynn Hudson



‘Deep Glow’

stricta



tectorum

tenuifolia





The Beautiful Plants you brought in.



by Jodie & Lynn

So good to see the novices bringing in plants! Novice Kelly showed a clump of *Neoregelia* 'Golden Chalice' a cultivar of *wilsoniana* x *kautskyi*. This plant does not colour as deeply as *kautskyi* and the only influence I see of *wilsoniana* is in the first of the offset leaves - they are thin and long. Kelly has grown it well, she said it gets good light and midday shade from the palm trees but she has to watch it for pinspot scale.

Novices - Matt showed a well grown *Tillandsia palacea* that he has had for 3 years, it gets 1-2 hours sun each day and watered once a week. Glenn was justifiably proud of his *Tillandsia stricta* nigra, he will be delighted when it flowers.

Dave brought in two large plants - *Werauhia kupperiana* and *Vriesea gigantea* var. *seideliana*, both were healthy, big, bold and beautiful. It is not easy to grow these large plants without damaging them. My only complaint was the part removal of bottom leaves. For showing they should be completely removed, plus creatures like ants etc will not be provided with an easy home. Correct leaf removal – remove all leaves by splitting leaf vertically in half down to the base and then tear them off sideways. This cleanly removes the entire leaf. Once you have removed all of the old and/or damaged leaves ensure when applying fertiliser to keep it well away from the newly exposed base of the plant as it may burn/damage it.

Frances showed *Vriesea* 'Splenet' she has had for "3 or 4 years, I had to learn to grow it, it doesn't get much food but it gets gecko shit". It was looking good and will probably flower soon. 'Splenet' a *splendens* cultivar is from Corn. Bak's wonderful nursery. The leaves are green with chocolate bandings and a simple tall bright red inflorescence & yellow petals. It usually gives just one offset in the *splendens* tradition.

Brendan's *Guzmania musaica* came first as it was perfect. *Guzmania musaica* has few leaves, there is a small and large form and also has three varieties - concolor = same colour referring to the inflorescence; discolor = having green on one leaf side, maroon on the other; rosea = leaves red at the base. The inflorescence is shaped like a mace with orange petals, colour deepening at the centre and white flowers. Variety concolor has white petals changing to yellow at their base. In habitat it grows high in the canopy and moves on stolons - therefore it does not really need roots to hold and is loathe to form them in cultivation.

Steven showed *Guzmania* 'Sir Albert' a real eye catcher, as the pink in this plant is delightful, but the plant is slow and marks very easily, we look forward to flowering.

Brendan grew *Neoregelia* 'Deep Glow' from a raffle table offset, it is now 3 years old and our cooler weather has brought out great colour.

Paul's *Tillandsia stricta* clump with over 15 inflorescences was just magic. Paul said he had this plant for 3 years now and the stink bugs use it as home. He water sprays it most days, kept under 70% shade cloth and fertilises it every couple of months.

Lynn's 3 year old *tectorum* was the envy of most at the meeting.

Nalda's *brachycaulos* had flowered and appeared on fire it was so red. An excellent contrast to the green offset growing alongside.



Thank you Jodie for your notes, you are a big help to me. [Lynn]
You have all done very well!

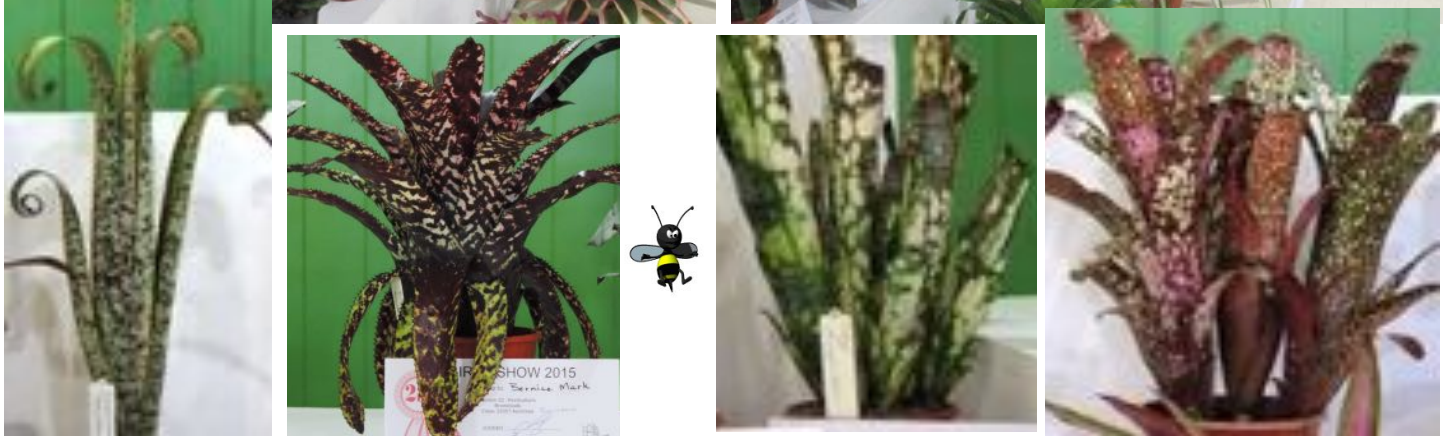


4 Cairns Show Report 2015 by Lynn

With 173 entries we certainly put on a good show of the wonderful plants we grow
Congratulations to the winners and also to each member who entered.

Congratulations Dave Weston - Champion Bromeliad - *Werauhia kupperiana*

Congratulations Steven French - Reserve Champion





CAIRNS SHOW 2015



Club Activities & Around the Members



Dave received his hat & all day sucker!
AUGUST: Attendance was down but spirits were up. We had two happy visitors, Lee and Alan from South Australia. They came up to visit relatives and for some decent weather. They left with as many raffle table plants as they had purchased on their trip! They said "C U next year"!



The major part of the meeting was taken up discussing the Show, so many well grown plants were entered, 173 by 12 members, excellent! So pleasing to see novices Kelly and Glenn enter - and take placings! Again Bernice and John made the long trip with excellent plants and then returned to collect them - at least 4 hours on the road! Show points added to annual total - Lynn 44, Dave 33, Bob 20, Steven 17, Lesley 11, Bernice 9, Brendan 7, Marguerite 6, Gloria 6, Frances 4, Kelly 4, Glenn 1.

* Mini Show we managed the fewest entries in neoregelia but they were well grown.

* Kelly's *Vr. corcovadensis* had excellent colour. 'Sexy Pink'v

* The cryptanthus had good winter markings.

MINI SHOW

Mini Neoregelia

1st *Neo.* 'Dyn-o-Mite' - Steven French >>

2nd *Neo.* 'Palmares' - Brendan Leishman

3rd *Neo.* Greg's Dilemma - Sharron Miller

Neoregelia

1st *Neoregelia* 'Rays of Pink' - Steven French

POPULAR VOTE:

NOVICE - Bromeliad

1st *Vriesea corcovadensis* - Kelly Knight >>>>>>

2nd *Aechmea nudicaulis* 'Xavante' - Kelly Knight

3rd *Neoregelia* 'Ritzy' - Kelly Knight

Tillandsia

1st *Tillandsia* 'Hydes silver' - Glenn Jodner

OPEN - Bromeliad

1st *Neoregelia* 'Rays of Pink' - Steven French

2nd *Neoregelia pendula* - Lynn Hudson

3rd *Neoregelia* 'Sexy Pink' - Steven French

Cryptanthus

1st *Cryptanthus* 'Volcano' Dave Weston

2nd *Cryptanthus* 'Elaine' - Brendan Leishman

3rd *Cryptanthus* 'Marion Oppenheimer' -
Marguerite Sexton

Tillandsia

1st *Tillandsia tenuifolia* black - Lynn Hudson

2nd *Tillandsia rothii* - Marguerite Sexton

3rd *Tillandsia bulbosa* - Paul Venturi

3rd *Tillandsia distichia* grey - Bob Hudson





Intergeneric Bromeliad Hybrids by George Stamatis

[At Bloomin Broms 2015]

There are now so many, and more coming all the time.

Bi-generic vs. Intergeneric

Intergeneric vs. Intrageneric

Inter – between different genera e.g. *Vriesea* x *Tillandsia* = *xVrieslandia*

Intra – within the same genus e.g. *Vriesea* x *Vriesea* = *Vriesea*

Bred from genera within the same sub-family,

but there are now exceptions (inter-familial hybrids)

Names written with an 'x' in front to denote a hybrid intergeneric

Bromeliaceae subfamilies

VC 'Dimitra' >

Tillandsioideae

Bromelioideae

Pitcairnioideae

by George >

Alcantarea

Aechmea

Dyckia

Catopsis

Ananas

Deuterochonia

Guzmania

Androlepis

Encholirium

Racinae

Billbergia

Hechtia

Tillandsia

Cryptanthus

Navia

Vriesea

Hohenbergia

Pitcairnia

Neoregelia

Quesnelia

Puya



Part 1 – Tillandsioideae

xGuzvriesea = (*Guzmania* x *Vriesea*)

xVriecantarea = (*Vriesea* x *Alcantarea*)

xVrieslandia = (*Vriesea* x *Tillandsia*)

xRacindsia = (*Racinaea* x *Tillandsia*)

Not all were considered inter-generic hybrids until some genera were reclassified.

In the future, some inter-generics may no longer be considered inter-generic.

It all depends on future changes in classification.

< The late **John Arden** has pioneered and excelled in the production of *xVriecantarea* and *xVrieslandia* hybrids as below.

Herb Hill and others have excelled in the production of *xGuzvrieseas*.

xVriecantarea (VC) = *Vriesea* x *Alcantarea*

These are large plants, strong growers and voracious feeders.

Alcantarea dominate the appearance of the spectacular inflorescences.

They are well suited to the tropics and subtropics.

xVC 'Bursting Wings' *xVC* 'Golden King'

xVC 'Inferno'

xVC 'Tired Wings'



[More of George] **xVrieslandsia (VL) = Vriesea x Tillandsia**

Depending on the parentage this group can have small and large plants and are moderate to large growers. Good feeding produces spectacular inflorescences.

Usually the vigour from the Vriesea parent exaggerates the appearance genes of the tillandsia. Generally they are better suited to the subtropics. Use the tillandsia parent as an indicator - e.g. *Tillandsia multicaulis* flowers on the Tablelands but seldom in Cairns.



xVrieslandsia 'Twin Brother' photo by John Arden



xVrieslandsia 'Blazing Tropics'

photo by John Arden



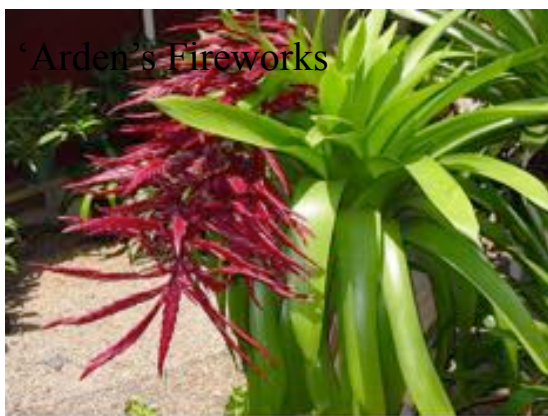
xVrieslandsia 'Harmony Too'

photo by John Arden



xVrieslandsia 'Magic Wings' photo by John Arden

xVL 'Twin Brother' xVL 'Blazing Tropics' xVL 'HarmonyToo' xVL 'Magic Wings'



'Arden's Fireworks'

xVrieslandsia 'Arden's Fireworks' photo by John Arden



xRacindsia 'La Mano Magica'



xGv. 'Happa'

xRacindsia = Racinaea x Tillandsia Use of tillandsias that are most closely related to Racinaea - these tillandsias will probably be named racinaeas in the future.

This xRacindsia 'La Mano Magica' (magic hands) was bred in Japan by Hiro Takizawa.

xGuzvriesea = Guzmania x Vriesea The guzmania dominates the appearance, they are generally strong growers but need good feeding to perform well.

Many are available in Australia, many are bred overseas and several in Australia.

Summary Tillandsiodeae intergenerics

- * They are bred for brilliant and exaggerated inflorescences.
- * They mostly involve the genus vriesea crossed onto another closely related genus.
- * When vriesea is crossed with another genus, usually the other genus dominates in the appearance of the offspring but the vriesea passes on vigour and colour to floral bracts and foliage.
- * Most intergeneric have been bred overseas but many Australian breeders have been starting to work on these in recent years with some excellent results.
- * There are many more amazing bromeliads to come.



Growing Tips

Most need very good feeding if you want massive, heavily-branched blooms.

Recommended fertiliser is Osmocote lo-start (lasts 16 – 18 months)

Most need shadier conditions

xVrieslandsia and xGuzvriesea should be potted and elevated on a bench for good drainage and airflow

xVriecantarea potted, drainage not as important as above

Most are trouble-free and easy growers.



Part 2 – Bromeliodeae, Pitcairnioideae and other spiny stuff

There is a huge variety and are well suited to the tropics and warm subtropics.

There are many options available with gorgeous foliage and/or inflorescences.

Many are great landscape plants.

xHohenmea (HM) = Hohenbergia x Aechmea or Aechmea x Hohenbergia

These have been bred overseas and in Australia. They are generally very hardy.

Using *Hohenbergia leopoldo-horstii* and the *Aechmea chantinii* types have been very popular

Breeders are now experimenting with other parents, so future xHM will be different.

The xHohenmea 'Ninja' series bred by Australian Ross Draper

Ross produced an excellent grex with several outstanding clones that have been registered. They are very hardy plants that persist for a long time after flowering.



xHM 'Ninja Star Wars'



xHM 'Shintaro Casper'



xHM 'Psycho'

xPortemea = Portea x Aechmea

Various portea and aechmea have been used to create some very attractive and some not attractive plants. Most are very large and mainly suited to landscape use.

xNeomea = Neoregelia x Aechmea

Various neoregelia and aechmea have been used, producing some beautiful plants. Neoregelia tends to dramatically reduce the inflorescence in size and shape.

xNidumea = Nidularium x Aechmea eg 'Midnight'

XNeophytum = Neoregelia x Orthophytum

Several crossed exist, they are very hardy.

Some are variegated, some marbled.



xOrtholarium = Orthophytum x Nidularium

3 are listed on BCR. They are hardy, excellent landscapers and hold their colour.

xOrtholarium* = *Orthophytum* x *Nidularium

3 are listed on BCR. They are hardy, excellent landscapers and hold their colour.

xQuesmea* = *Quesnelia* x *Aechmea

Several are listed in BCR *xQuesmea* 'Jigsaw Puzzle' is grown locally.

Hardy tall tube, ash in colour.

xQuesnea* = *Quesnelia* x *Neoregelia

***xNeotanthus* = *Neoregelia* x *Cryptanthus* eg 'Cardboard'**

***xPucohnia* = *Puya* x *Deuterochonia* suits to dry & cool climates.**

xDyckohnia* = *Dyckia* x *Puya

Inter-familial hybrids So far only 2 exist

xEnchotia* = *Encholirium* x *Hechtia* & *xBillya* = *Billbergia* x *Puya

Genetically, they are not very happy pairings resulting in the very odd appearance, especially the *xBillya*

Summary - There is a huge variety of intergenerics for all tastes and climates

Generally, use the parents as an indicator of what will grow well for you. Some are

versatile whilst others are better suited to pot-culture, others to epiphytic culture, some to landscape use.

All should grow well in the tropics except for *xVrieslandsia* - due to parentage.//

The Bromeliad Cultivar Register has pics of many intergenerics, <http://registry.bsi.org>



Vale John Arden



Last month we were very sad to learn of the death of John Arden. Yes, the hybridiser George mentioned in his talk. George Stamatis was a very special friend to John, this is what George wrote -

Mr John Arden was one of the world's very best bromeliad hybridisers and he has left us with many of his magnificent creations to remember him by. He was a kind and remarkable man. His work inspired me from an early age. I was lucky to have met him in person after knowing him for many years.

Rest in peace John, and thank you for all you have given to the plant world. George.

John Arden died on Saturday 25th July we have lost another Bromeliad Gem. He gave us so much - friendship, beautiful plants, information.

That sweet smile, it made his beautiful eyes twinkle - I often see them in my mind.

A lovely human being who did not complain although he suffered so much pain for so long. He will always walk with me among the beautiful bromeliads that he created and are now in my garden. I am still amazed that he named two vrieses for me. A Very Special Person who made me think and coloured my life.

Rest in Peace My Dear 'Uncle'. At last you are free of pain. Lynn

From Grace's blue book...



- * A drunk was in front of a judge. The judge said, "You've been brought here for drinking." The drunk said, "Okay, let's get started."
- * The restaurant waiter told a woman her husband had just collapsed under the table. "No" said woman "my husband has just come through the door."
- * A passerby asked the householder why he had a 'Beware of the Canary' sign on the gate. 'Is your canary vicious?' he asked. "No, but when he sees a passerby he whistles the dog."
- * Woman complained how unhappy she was in her marriage. 'Why don't you leave him?' asked a friend. "I would but I don't want him to be happy".
- * Church Parson said "Miss Jones has regularly attended church for years, one of our greatest supporters. In gratitude she can choose 3 hymns for this evening", "Oh goody" said Miss Jones "I'll have him, him and him".
- * Line dancing and mad cow disease look the same.
- * Paddy asked his carpenter friend if he could build him a box 2 inches wide 2 inches high and 50 feet long. 'I think it is possible but what do you want it for?' Paddy replied 'My next door neighbour moved and he forgot his hose and wants me to send it to him'
- * Diner, furious at getting a very rare steak "Waiter, I said well done". "Thank you sir, I don't get many compliments."
- * Flannigan changed his religion on his death bed. Priest arrived and castigated him 'A Catholic all your life you have been & now you change to Protestant' 'Well' said Flannigan 'we all have to die and better one of them than one of us'.
- * Pat and Mick were faced by a lion in Africa. Pat threw a stone and hit the lion on the nose & it came bounding toward them. 'Run' said Pat. 'No' said Mick 'you threw the stone, I'm OK'
- * Paddy was getting his car insured. Agent said 'Why not get your car insured for theft too?' Paddy said 'Don't be silly, who would steal a car on fire?'
- * Pimple on an Irishman's bum = a brain tumor.
- * 'Are you a tit mouse?' 'No I'm Mickey Mouse, mu brakes failed'

Ha Ha Ha!



Nothing just happens or just gets done,
Someone has to make it happen or do it.





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BSI World Bromeliad Conference

Houston, Texas 13-19 June 2016

- * Learn from the Best
- * Enjoy Time with Old Friends
- * Make New Friends
- * See & Buy amazing Plants.



Information & Registration Form

www.bsi.org



“Bromeliad Cultivation Notes” by Lynn Hudson

A little ‘how to’ book. Cultivation made easy. Basics in language anyone can follow.

John Catlan’s notes - “Bromeliads Under the Mango Tree”

Booklet prepared by Lynn Hudson

A ‘must have’ book to help you think and grow your bromeliads better.

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