

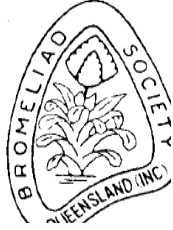
Bromeliaceae



VOLUME XLIII - No. 3

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May/June 2009



The Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc.

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Front Cover: *Ae. chantinii* - Len and Olive Trevor. Photo by Ross Stenhouse

Rear Cover : *Billbergia* 'Caramba' Photo by Ross Stenhouse

Contents

STRIKING OFFSHOOTS.....	5
PHOTOGRAPHIC SEQUENCE GROWTH OF NEO. 'JESSE' (UNREG)	5
THE BSQ WEB SITE	6
MOROBE MESS	7
BROMELIADS CAN BE FRUSTRATING.....	11
DOWN WITH FORMULAS	11
BLANCHETIANA OR NOT A BLANCHETIANA THAT IS THE QUESTION?	13
x NIDUMEA LOESENERI NOW xAECHOPSIS 'LIONESS'	14
NUTRITION NOTES	18
A NEOREGELIA NAME FOR EVERY OCCASION... ..	22
SOME SUGGESTIONS TO EXHIBITORS: WHAT! NO BLUE RIBBON?.....	23
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.....	26
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	26
PLANT OF THE MONTH PROGRAMME FOR 2009.....	27
COMPETITION SCHEDULE FOR 2009	27

Note from the Editor's Desk

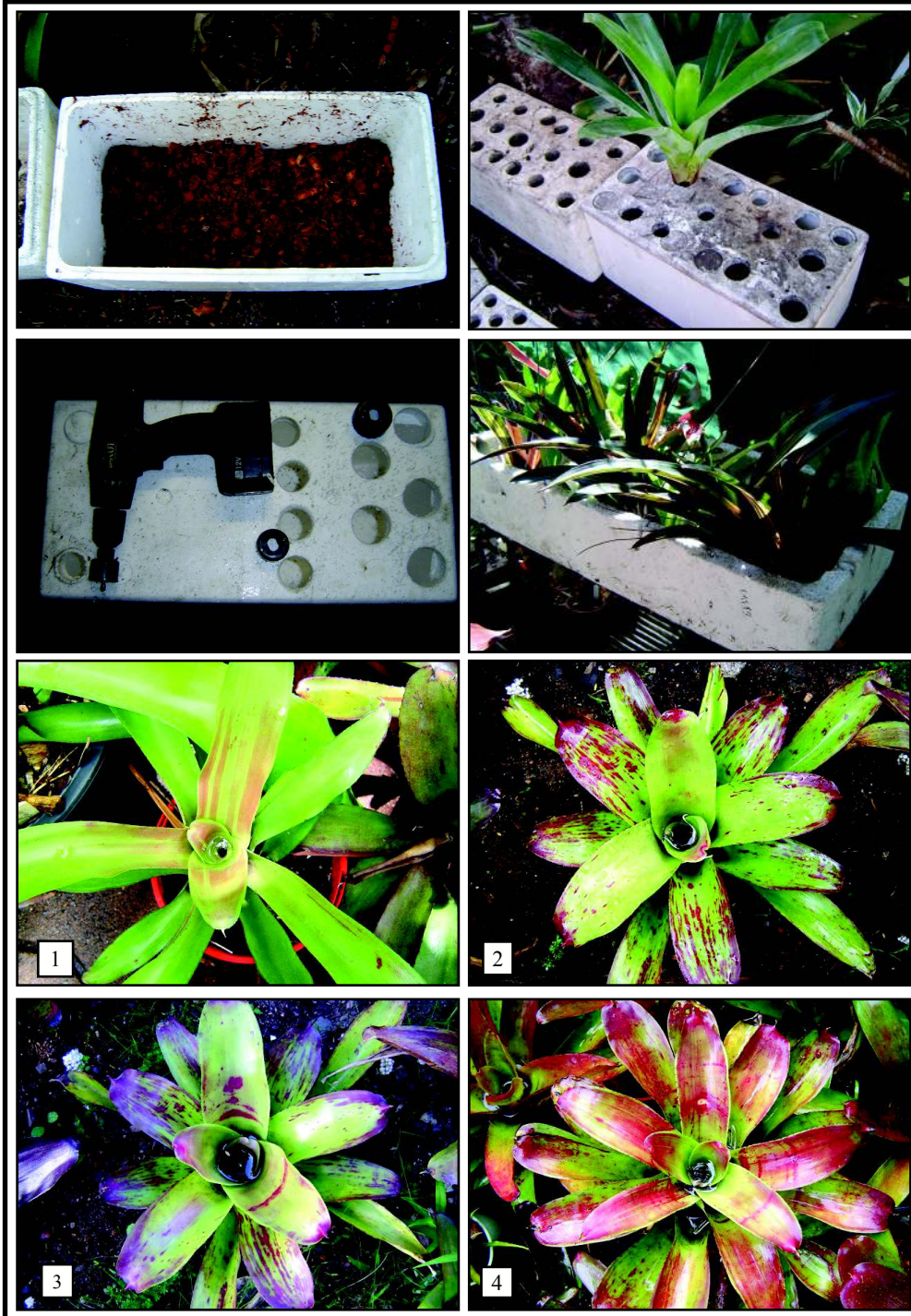
Well, this makes the 4th Bromeliaceae I have produced so far this year. Still about a month late, but my day job gets in the way.

I have a pet project under way and that is the production of a video that will inform the newcomer to the world of growing bromeliads how to undertake the basic steps. We cover many of those topics often in the pages of this journal and in the video I intend to utilise much of the knowledge I have gained through my membership of the society.

The target is to have it finished by the end of the year, but that target is a bit elastic because I have never undertaken a project of this nature before and it's a steep learning curve. We will be doing the shoot in one of my favourite haunts, the potting shed at "The Olive Branch", a large commercial nursery specialising in bromeliads. The nursery is owned by Olive and Len Trevor. Bob Reilly will also be involved. Bob and I have done a lot of photo shoots together. Bob will be providing some of the specialist technical advice on the horticultural aspects.

I am very interested to hear from people about topics that they think we could cover. Not to say that we will, but having the suggestions is a bit like having feedback from a market survey. The target audience for the video is the people who read this journal, both the hard copy and via the internet.

Speaking of the internet 6242 copies of Bromeliaceae were downloaded during the month of May. If you are an advertiser in this journal, about 40 percent of those are by Australians. The Society Web Site gets about 150 unique visitors a day, mostly from Australia and the US and a total of 25 different countries.



Bromeliaceae

4

May/June 2009

Striking Offshoots

Author: Rob Smythe MSc

At the Australian Bromeliad Societies 10th National Conference in Cairns in August 1999 I introduced bromeliad growers to three new horticultural methods which I had developed

1 The use of Canola Oil as an Oil based spray for scale that was without the hazards of conventional mineral based white oil. I wish I had patented it as it has gone world wide and across horticulture.

2. The use of mesocyclops as a predator control for mosquitoes. No company has taken this up commercially as yet.

3. The one everyone loved and I received many accolades for this as it was so simple practical and easily understood. Striking box for offshoots.

Why I am writing now is because even though I have been using this technique for 13 years and spoke of it as stated above, I attended a meeting recently and some people had not heard of it. In principal it is so simple and that is the beauty of it.

Requirements.

Coolite boxes with lids

Key Hole saw

Water

Rogor 40

Coarse Coir Peat or substitute.

Small saw

Photographic Sequence Growth

of Neo. 'Jesse' (unreg)

1. January 2007
2. September 2007
3. October 2007
- 4 August 2008

Method

With the keyhole saw cut many holes in the lid of one box and in the bottom of two others.

Let us deal with the box with holes in the bottom. This is for tropical growers like myself who are found striking pups in the wet season. Put the lid on the ground. Pile wet newspaper on top. Put the box upside down so all the holes are at the top. Put your offshoots in the holes at the top, the rain runs straight out but the paper keeps moist and provides humidity within the box.

For drier areas put the box right side up and put water inside. Put the lid with the holes in it on top. Put your plants in the holes. More later.

For both areas especially the wet areas it is a good idea to first harden the cut ends of the pups for a while. For this I cut the top from a box leaving 10 cm sides. Drill holes, as usual, in the base. Put four wire loops in the corners so that you can hang this on hooks.

Some things you can try.

Instead of water in the box you can use something with a higher surface area that will evaporate water faster than just water does, on dry days. My favourite is coarse coir peat but shredded newspaper is adequate. You could try bark chip in the south or scoria in the north. I change my coir very often as, at times, I use it wet from here for potting. With organics you may get fungal build up if you leave it too long.

Why the Rogor? Well the first of the month I give my dog its monthly worm tablet then go down stairs and give my water or coir three blasts from the spray. No mosquitoes.

How did I come about this method? Originally hanging pups around somewhere they dried and sat and sat. It rains for a few days and roots burst out everywhere. With the pup bases sitting in high humidity and touching nothing there are no fungal problems and

quick root initiation.

The hanging basket—this is always used for:

1. pups snapped off too high i.e. above the woody section.
2. Plants removed from diseased mothers.
3. Plants chopped off above root rot
4. Pups removed in very wet weather

As one of the pictures shows, all the vulnerable pup bases are poking out the bottom. Very convenient if you wish to treat with fungicide or hormone. I have seen no improvement with hormone.

One problem is if your pups are a bit thin they can dehydrate if you forget them. They will have to be rehydrated by a soaking for a couple of days in water covering about a third of the plant.

The BSQ Web Site

Don't forget that the society has a web site. We place urgent and general information and information on the site.

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Morobe Mess

by Derek Butcher

At the very end of April I was at Pine-Grove nursery discussing problems with Ross Little. We must have got on well because I spent two whole days there and didn't get kicked out.

Anyway, we found this label called *Nid* 'Souvenir de Casimir Madame Morobe' which I thought very strange indeed and needed investigating from my files at home in the den. It opened a can of worms and I asked Ross if he would look at the famous Buchanan Ledger, sometimes referred to as BBK. Under BBK#2017 he found (Dutrie) *Neolarium* 'Souvenir de Casimir Morobe' 8/85 from Sax (Qld member from way back) *Nid rutilans* x *Neo carolinae* 'Marechalii'. Now this name links up with the registered name when you realise that *xNeolarium* are now called *xNiduregelia*.

You can blame this name change on me because the BSI had blithely accepted *xNeolarium* for years purely because they did not like a chap called Alex Hawkes who was publishing his own papers. Regrettably rules are rules and *xNiduregelia* predated *xNeolarium*!

Alas, someone had added 'Madame' to the label. Because this is not the first time I have come across misnamings in these Morobe hybrids I felt I should write something on what we know or don't know. The article would be too complicated for the American Journal so I am planning it for <http://fcbs.org> under "Uncle Derek says" so we can link to the various photographs held on file.

I also feel that keen Queenlanders will be interested in this problem and details should be in their Journal with a few photos

to show the dilemma we are in.

The following is what is intended for Uncle Derek Says!

Ever since the BSI offered seed in the 1970's as *Nidularium* 'Madame Robert Morobe' I have wondered who is growing the correct plant of any of the Morobe's. Such was their belief in their own esteem all the hybrids were named after themselves. It is a pity this has not continued because the nursery is now defunct and the remaining family will not answer my emails. Perhaps they could not understand my schoolboy French! So we are on our own as to trying to check on identity. First we must refer to the Bromeliad Cultivar Register 1998 where Don Beadle did a great job extracting data from all sources. I say 'extracting' because Don did say that getting information was like extracting teeth.

This information follows

Nidularium 'Casimir Morobe' by Morobe <1964 cv. of unknown parentage - Padilla said, "A large plant - vigorous grower - generous with offsets - wide green leaves faintly dotted with darker spots make a handsome background for the rich rose rosette". Cole said, "Pale green rosette with darker green splotching - erect inflorescence in rosulate deep rose red".

JBS 14:14; 27:134; 30:275, PltShop-Cat1976, TF1981, KentCat1972

Nidularium 'Madame Robert Morobe' by Morobe, R. 1940 cv. of *innocentii* x *fulgens* - (See 'Digeneum', 'Francois Spae' & 'Chantrieri') - Dutrie said, "...frankly superior to 'Chantrieri'...numerous leaves, strong but without stiffness, well displayed...a beautiful bright brown color above - lustrous dark brown below...at bloom time, the center becomes scarlet over a diameter of 25 cm. Notable in every respect". Jungle Gardens said, "A vigorous plant with the underside of the green leaves a beautiful purplish maroon



Photo Above: *Nidularium Chantrieri*



Photo Above: *Nidularium Chantrieri* Painting



Nidularium Mme Morobe

- In flower the central rosette is a long lasting bright cerise”.

Registration Documents 1966, JBS 4:51,55; 14:14; 38:21, Zimmerpflanzen: Br.279, JG1973

Butcher’s note – Although Registration documents are said to have been lodged in 1966 none of the description comes from Morobe

Nidularium ‘Sir Charles Morobe’

<1978 cv. of unknown parentage

BSI-ICBH-1979, FL1978 “

Butcher’s note – does not appear to be in circulation

Nidularium ‘Souvenir Robert Morobe’

<1979 cv. of unknown parentage

BSI-ICBH-1979

Butcher’s note – does not appear to be in circulation

xNiduregelia ‘Souvenir De Casimir

Morobe’ by Morobe, M. <1945 cv. of *Nidularium rutilans* X *Neoregelia* ‘Marechalii’

- Large wide leafed rosette of bright green faintly mottled with inner rosette of brilliant shiny red. Dutrie said, “The appearance of this plant is that of *Nidularium rutilans* with the inflorescence well above the center. The bracteate leaves become colored with a beautiful cerise shade and are long lasting”
- Bromeliad Treasury 1983 said, “The 18” open rosette is composed of 2” x 16” leaves that turn a light lavender on the upper surfaces and a deep lavender on the lower if grown in 70% shade”.

BSI-ICBH-1979, BromsPadilla 126, JBS 33:73; 38:21, NJB1976, KentCat1972, FL1978

We have a photo of *Nidularium* ‘Casimir Morobe’ from Florida which seems to agree with Padilla’s description.

We have a photo of *Nidularium* ‘Madame Robert Morobe’ from Florida that also seems to agree with Dutrie’s description if you smile regarding the use of the colour

brown and the fact that the centre flowering is 25cm in diam. Also have a look at ‘Kamea Morobe’ where there seems to be tenuous links with ‘Madame Robert Morobe’

We now move to the puzzle of the parents of ‘Madame Robert Morobe’ which link us to ‘Digeneum’, ‘Francois Spae’ & ‘Chantrieri’. ‘Digeneum’ came into being in 1893 but nobody seems to be growing a plant under this name. ‘Francois Spae’ came into being in 1930 and photographs of this plant around the world seem consistent. ‘Chantrieri’ originated in 1895 and we have a painting of this plant on record, but has it survived 2 world wars? ‘Madame Robert Morobe’ originated in 1940 and it was not until after the War, in 1946, when Dutrie wrote about it. He said that this hybrid was more robust than ‘Chantrieri’ and I would suggest that it is most likely that the more vigorous form would have survived especially if the plant was then known by parentage! Thus, to my mind ‘Chantrieri’ and ‘Madame Robert Morobe’ are interchangeable names!

And now for the crunch where there are lots of questions to be asked. All *xNiduregelia* hybrids registered so far have shown that the *Neoregelia* parent has greatly reduced the size of the primary bracts but please check our photographs. The photograph from Singapore has links to ‘Shelldance’ and thus California. This shows clear traits of *Nidularium rutilans* but is it a watered down bigeneric having been grown from seed from the true *xNiduregelia* ‘Souvenir De Casimir Morobe’? The photo also from California shows a plant without strong links to *Nidularium rutilans* but looks typical *Nidularium*. In fact it looks awfully like what is currently being grown as ‘Chantrieri’ and ‘Madame Robert Morobe’

Could Morobe have back crossed *Nidularium rutilans* X *Neoregelia* ‘Marechalii’ with *Nidularium rutilans* so the hybrid shows more *Nidularium* traits? Dutrie’s descrip-



Nidularium 'Souvenir de Casimir Madame Morobe'



xNiduregelia 'Souvenir de Casimir Morobe'



O. sucrei



O. 'Warren Loose'



Left: Bottom Left: *Niduregelia* 'Souvenir de Casimir Morobe' at Singapore Bot. Garden

tion hints to this. We know that *Neoregelia* 'Medusa' as sold by Deroose has *Aechmea* in its make-up and should be a *xNeomea* but such are the hazards of a Registrar accepting names without quoted parentage.

Because of so many doubts, we must leave this name as a *xNiduregelia* 'Souvenir De Casimir Morobe' but are the plants more likely to be *Nidularium* 'Chantrieri' or 'Madame Robert Morobe'? I leave that for you to look at and decide. However, there are still problems when writing labels. Please note the names as registered and please don't add other combinations or delete words like 'Souvenir'. Things are bad enough as they are!

Bromeliads can be Frustrating

Author: Ross Stenhouse

If your place is anything like mine, you have far too many bromeliads for the space available. You reached the stage of swamping your friends with "Gifts" of surplus bromeliads - space has become a real problem.

You seem to have this aversion against throwing anything out, every pup is religiously removed from its mother and potted on. You peruse your collection, removing dead leaves and looking for bromeliads that have "Gone to God".

Ah, I thought, that *Orthophytum* mother seems to have passed on, There was a pup hanging on a long stolon growing through a drainage hole in the bottom of the pot. I put it at the back of the potting bench and it entered the phase, "I will do something about it one day soon".

Well the pup fell off and with all the rain, a number of pups grew from the old mother base, likewise a bit of *Orthophytum* stolon I left on the bench sprouted (See photos opposite right bottom) - Damm!

Bromeliaceae

Down with Formulas

by Derek Butcher

Towards the very end of April 2009, I was visiting Ross Little at PineGrove Nursery in northern NSW and we discussed problems caused by hybridists releasing hybrids under formula and the BSI accepting formulas as identifying plants in competition. Ross is sitting on a veritable time-bomb with records that go back 20 odd years. You see, the previous owners of PineGrove nursery kept great records of what plants had been acquired and from whom, in what is now lovingly called the Ledger. AND they had kept a separate record of the thousands of hybrids they had done but never formally registered. No deliberate culling had been done but the more

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Aechmea blanchetiana inflorescence



Guz. sanguinea 'Ecuador'

resilient ones have survived.

Many of the imported plants were identified by formula and were sold as formula suggesting that the hybrid had originated at PineGrove whereas in fact it had come from overseas. Many of these have been grandfathered into the Registration system as being of Australian origin!! Reference to the hybrid list shows that remakes of hybrids had also been made which is not too bad at F1 level but chaotic at other levels. This assumes that the hybridist knew the true identity of both parents and that foreign pollen was not involved. In my non-hybridising career of some 30 years I know that I am one of the few that never trusts the name on a label!

So now whenever I come across an identity crisis and there seems to be links to importation in the 1980's I get Ross to check his lists and this is why so many of my recent articles refer to the famous Ledger.

I am an archivist at heart and know that many of the prolific hybridists around the world keep records for their own benefit but that is all. The family just treat these as the whim of an ancient one. In the last 30 years I have contacted so many heirs around the world to get access to these records but to no avail.

Now you know why I believe the Ledger is great and hope that Ross continues to do the reference work!

So please name your hybrids because, if registered the name gets linked to the hybridist and its origin. As Sir Thomas Crapper would no doubt have written "The job is not finished until the paperwork is done."

Errata

In Vol XLIII no.2 I incorrectly labelled Vr. 'Jungle Jack' as grown by Mal and Michelle Cameron. (that was what was recorded in my notes), unfortunately the grower is unknown to me.

***Blanchetiana* or not a *Blanchetiana* that is the Question?**

By Rob Smythe MSc

There is a lot of confusion out there about *Aechmea blanchetiana* var. *rubra*.

Let me start off by saying no such plant has ever been described. Now for the red-leaved *blanchetiana*. I first saw this at Mission Beach in Australia and then as a photo of a single plant on a beach in Brazil.

It does not exist in collections in Brazil—that is from wild stock. The salt air, sun and lack of fertilizer probably creates this colour. One nursery clone out of Florida has been popularized as the red *blanchetiana*.

Its exact origin is uncertain. What collection it came from is known but its origin is unknown. I have not seen this plant in flower so I can't comment on it. A lot of plants circulating I believe are from my collection. I imported seed of what I believed to be, in my ignorance, *A. blanchetiana* var. *rubra* but it flowered and its different plants and flowers told me that the seed was a hybrid. Many are beautifully red leaved.

If you think you have a red form of *blanchetiana* the acid test is shown in the accompanying photo. At the base of each flower there must be a section of exposed stem. The reverse does not apply. You can say something is not *blanchetiana* using this tool but you can't say something is as a lot of my hybrids have exposed stem and therefore meet this criteria.

x Nidumea loeseneri
now *x Aechopsis*
'Lioness'

by Derek Butcher, May 2009

x NIDUMEA LOESENERI (Mez) L.
B. Smith, comb. nov. Brom Soc Bull. 18(3):
62-3. 1968

Nidularium billbergioides (Schult. f.)
L. B. Smith x *Aechmea calyculata* (E. Morr.)
Baker

Synonyms *Aechmea loesenera* hort.
ex Gentil, Pl. Cult. Jard. Bot. Brux. 9. 1907.
Nomen.

Nidularium loeseneri Mez,
Fedde Rep. Spec. Nov. 16: 5. 1919.

Cultivated in the Berlin Botanic Garden from material obtained from Brussels, 26 April 1911, H. Strauss s. n. (Berlin, type; Chicago phot. 11272).

It is doubtless a risky move to describe the above species as a bigeneric hybrid with no confirmation from the living record, but comparison with the two supposed parents leaves no character unaccounted. Furthermore the horticultural origin is a suspicion of hybridity and the badly malformed pollen a fairly positive proof of the same.

Comments

This *x Nidumea loeseneri* is an anomaly which is correctly named under the ICBN rules but how does a Cultivar Registrar deal with it? We know that a plant can be newly named just from a 100 year old herbarium specimen as in *Hohenbergia oxoniensis* Weber. How anyone could link this to a plant in the wild is problematical but the name appears in Harry Luther's Binomial listing.

We know from the above comments by Lyman Smith, the doubt about *x Nidumea loeseneri* being a man-made hybrid but this name does not appear in the Binomial listing.

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But three *xNiduregelia* with the same sort of history do appear! The ICNCP rules show that a plant must be alive and in circulation for it to have a valid cultivar name. This seems reasonable enough! *xNidumea loeseneri* does not pass this test which is why this name now occurs in the records on <http://fcbs.org> as a Natural hybrid!

Current problem

In May 2009 a plant called *xAechopsis* 'Loeseneri' cropped up at a meeting of the Bromeliad Society of SA. and caused consternation two weeks later when Derek Butcher returned from holidays!. As you will have read, this plant had been dead for so many years. How could it have been reincarnated?

Investigation showed that Kerry Tate from The Channon, NSW, had bought a plant under the formula *Nidularium billbergioides* x *Aechmea calyculata*. On reading "Growing Bromeliads" by the Bromeliad Society of Australia page 127 under *xNidumea*, she realised this had to be her plant and promptly changed the name on her label to *xAechopsis* 'Loesneri'.

It probably was her plant and it was supposed to have been imported to Australia during World War II. At that time it would have been known as a *Nidularium*! I maintain that this importation was a guess on someone's part because from the facts above, the plant probably died in Berlin in WWII.

Lists available to us of plants being grown by Bromeliad fanciers before the formation of the Bromeliad Society of Australia in 1963 do not reference this name. It was not alive when Lyman Smith looked at it in 1968 when he guessed the parentage to be *Nidularium billbergioides* and *Aechmea calyculata*.

A greater chance would be that it was a re-make. History shows us that hybridists have been known to re-make a hybrid using

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the same alleged parents and assume they had re-created it. Alas they did not realise that cultivars can only be propagated asexually (by offsets etc).

The only time it can be done by seed is that if the same clonal parents were used and AND progeny ruthlessly selected – this is what Bak does- so that the new crop of seedlings is the same as or very similar to, the previous batch .We know, that in Australia, Olwen Ferris crossed plants mentioned in previous hybrids because she did not have these hybrids herself.

I picked her up on some ‘old’ *Billbergia* hybrids she had done so we know that there are some of the old 1900 European hybrids with Aussie origins growing in Australia! I don’t know which ones! More recently I picked up Don Beadle doing the same thing but only because I got access to the original painting – see *Billbergia* ‘Vexillaria’.

Clearly the answer must lie in northern New South Wales. This means the trusted LEDGER of PineGrove nursery comes into play. Here we read

#913 *Nidumea* ‘xLoeseneri’ 2/84 Ferris (*Nid. billbergioides citrinum* x *Ae. calyculata*)

Now this interesting because the names are not exactly the same as those quoted by

Lyman Smith and suggest strongly a re-make. This plant does not feature in Ferris’s catalogue for the period so it could well be another hybridist. Investigation of catalogues in the USA draw a blank so the problem seems Australia made.

Let us now look at *xAechopsis* as known in Australia and where *Canistropsis billbergioides* features in every case. We know how variable this species can be because of the number of Cultivar names it has!

First to be ‘solved’ was *xAechopsis* ‘Angeline’, a variegated plant that seems to retain its variegations which was traced back to a strange name used by Kent. Next was *xAechopsis* ‘Karamea Sello’ that popped up in NZ and was really butchered in the interest of science.

We had it provisionally as an Andrea but revelations from the LEDGER made us move it to *xAechopsis*! It had blue flowers. Because the inflorescence kept elongating as it flowered, you will see that we resorted to a herbarium specimen! What prompted us to instigate the change to the nothogenus name was this entry

#3045 Ae. Santa Cruz 1/87 USA (Seaborne)

This plant had flowered for Ross Little and was not an *Aechmea* but a possible *xAe-*

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| • Pitcher Plants of the Americas | \$60 |
| • Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual | \$5 |
| • Back Copies of Bromeliaceae (2005, 2006 Editions) | \$4 |
| • Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden by Andrew Steens | \$36 |
| • Bromeliads: Next Generation by Shane Zaghini | \$33 |
| • Bromeliads: The Connoisseurs Guide by Andrew Steens | \$36 |

Postage and package extra. Unfortunately we cannot supply overseas orders. Please phone the Librarian, Mrs Evelyn Rees (07) 3355 0432 to order books.



xAechopsis 'Lioness' photo by K Tate



xAechopsis 'Lioness' photo by D Whelan



xAechopsis 'Lioness' photo by D Whelan



Bil. 'Risque' Greg & Narelle Aizelewood



Neoregelia 'Little Jewel'

chopsis. Because there was a registered plant of this name in *xNidumea* (now *xAechopsis*) but not in *Aechmea* we decided it had to be this bigeneric. Petals were white.

Now we come to a problem. How do you tell the differences between these plants? How many other *xAechopsis* have been done by others and not registered? Is the plant from Ferris way back in 1984 still alive? Does it have a label? As far as we can trace, the Buchanans did not do any similar crossings. You see, Ross is finding plants in this group flowering but without labels and so far we have only nailed three.

We can be fairly confident that we do have a *Canistropsis billbergioides x Aechmea calyculata* in Australia but we cannot link it directly to *xNidumea* 'Loeseneri'.

This name was made under the ICBN rules and can only be changed under the ICBN rules and I do not intend to do that. However, our plant can be named under the ICNCP rules. What better than *xAechopsis* 'Lioness'!

Acknowledgements

This article would not have been possible but for the active participation of Kerry Tate, Lainie Stainer, Sharon Song, Ian Hook and last but not least Ross Little.

Nutrition Notes

Author: Peter Paroz

Calcium and magnesium are essential elements required for good plant nutrition and growth; and are required in lesser amounts than N.P.& K.

Brisbane town water contains nutritionally useful –for plants- amounts of calcium and magnesium; but is variable depending on recent rainfall. If you have been using

Brisbane town water and have switched to tank water, you will probably need to supplement the calcium and magnesium in your plant nutrition program.

The available sources are Epsom salts –magnesium sulphate-; and calcium nitrate. Calcium nitrate readily absorbs water and liquefies. It is still OK to use 1 ml of solution approximately equals 1 gram of powder.

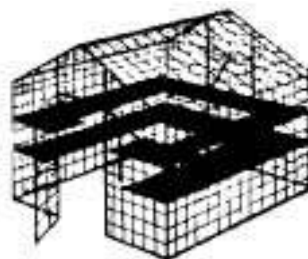
For members outside the Brisbane area, check with the local council for the analysis of town, bore or dam water.

If you are supplementing your nutrition program with extra potassium, use Sulphate of Potash (potassium sulphate) in preference to chloride of potash although it will probably be more expensive. When using potassium sulphate, add magnesium sulphate and Calcium nitrate at about 1/10 the addition of potassium sulphate.

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Vr. saundersii



Guz 'Ultima'



Neo. 'Little Faith'



The Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc.

MINI-SHOW

Date 21-05-09

MEETING RESULTS

ADVANCED

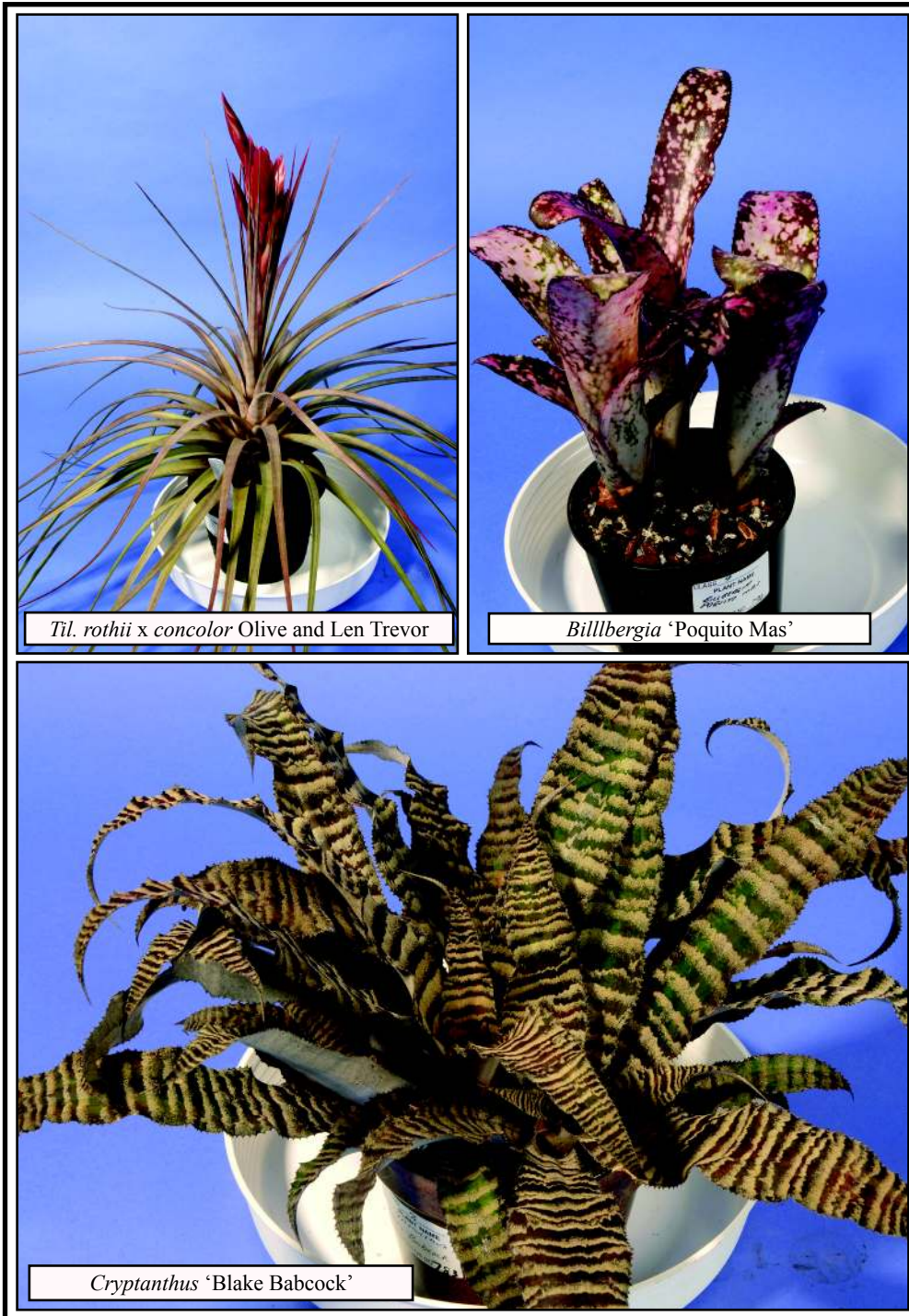
	ENTRANT	PLANT NAME
CLASS 1: First	<u>Anne Mc Burnie & Phillip Beard</u>	<u>Portea petropolitana</u>
Second	_____	_____
CLASS 2: First	<u>Len & Olive Trevor</u>	<u>Guzmania sanguinea tricolor</u>
Second	<u>Anne Mc Burnie & Phillip Beard</u>	<u>Guzmania sanguinea</u>
CLASS 3: First	<u>Anne Mc Burnie & Phillip Beard</u>	<u>Pitcairnia smithorium</u>
Second	<u>Len & Olive Trevor</u>	<u>Pepina sanguinea</u>
CLASS 4: First	<u>Anne Mc Burnie & Phillip Beard</u>	<u>Billbergia unknown</u>
Second	<u>Len & Olive Trevor</u>	<u>Aechmea Hybrid unknown</u>

INTERMEDIATE

	ENTRANT	PLANT NAME
CLASS 1: First	<u>Greg & Narelle Aizelwood</u>	<u>Cryptanthus fosterianus cv Elaine</u>
Second	<u>Greg & Narelle Aizelwood</u>	<u>Cryptanthus Black Mystic</u>
CLASS 2: First	<u>Greg & Narelle Aizelwood</u>	<u>Guzmania sanguinea</u>
Second	<u>Barry & Anne Kable</u>	<u>Guzmania Minnie Belle</u>
CLASS 3: First	<u>Pam Butler</u>	<u>Pitcairnia flammea</u>
Second	_____	_____
CLASS 4: First	<u>Barry & Anne Kable</u>	<u>Aechmea Frederika</u>
Second	<u>Pam Butler</u>	<u>Dyckia marnier-lapastolle</u>

NOVICE

	ENTRANT	PLANT NAME
CLASS 1: First	<u>No entries</u>	_____
Second	_____	_____
CLASS 2: First	<u>No entries</u>	_____
Second	_____	_____
CLASS 3: First	<u>No entries</u>	_____
Second	_____	_____
CLASS 4: First	<u>David Rees</u>	<u>Aechmea haltonii</u>
Second	_____	_____



Til. rothii x *concolor* Olive and Len Trevor

Billlbergia 'Poquito Mas'

Cryptanthus 'Blake Babcock'

A Neoregelia Name for Every Occasion...

Author: Anon.. OK well Leisa Driesener

G'day Ross,

Remember Me, you know I'm not Bashful, so here's a Tongue in Cheek article for Bromeliaceae – yep Just for Laughs – Ha Ha! (This article uses as many neo names as possible from <http://fcb.org/pictures/Neo.htm>.)

In choosing Expressive neo names, it's certainly Admirable to aim for Integrity, To Be Explicit and of course to Razzle Dazzle, but where do we draw the line?

We've got Jet Age names like Glacial Meltdown, Special Effects, Biohazard, 696, A New Earth, Andromeda, Underworld Starfish, Galactic, Exponential Expansion, Alien Ocean, Red Planet and Aeon Flux. There are some Hit and Miss names like Superbum, Mugwump, Blotches, Fiddle Faddle, Groundhog Day, Tom Tom and Apple Tart. And even a few for the kids like Winnie the Poo, Piglet, Bedtime Story and the Cat in the Hat.

And it doesn't take a FortuneTeller,

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Clairvoyant, Sage or even Nostradamus to predict Turmoil with naming of neos! Add the twist of Hanky Panky between plants, and we get names like Whosamedad! No Surprise we have to deal with a Red Herring or a Furphy or two - it may not happen overnight, but It Will Happen!

And in Awesome Aussie Anzac Spirit epitomised by Aussie! Aussie Aussie! and Oy! Oy! Oy!, we even Trifle with True Blue names in our Bonzer Sunburnt Country. But surely it's Nonsensical to Quibble with Blue Heeler; let's not be Fool Hardy with the great Australian Salute, or be Finicky with the Delightful Pavlova (Yum Yum)! Wouldn't we Flabbergast'ed in the Oz Sunshine if we didn't have both the Black Tracker AND the Blacktracker to help us find great places like Ferny Grove, Noosa, Gympie, the Barcoo even the Folk Festival and Ayers Rock? (Ummm should that neo be renamed Uluru?) There'd be Much Ado without the Bunyip, the Billabong, the Jackaroo or the Black Stump in the Outback! And where would we be without the Chook Raffle Jackpot - there'd be Bugger All reason to go out for a Bundy, Cabernet or a glass or two of A Good Red! By Golly, such Bullswool would cause Headlines for sure!

(Hmmm it's so EasyPezy to sound like a Flibbertigibbet...Much more of this Surreal Tomfoolery and I'll be in the Funny Farm, so I'd better get back to the Nitty Gritty!)

So despite the naming Folly, for many, other aspects of neos are the Temptress. For some, the Fascination comes from that Precious Result; they Daydream of being the Proud One, the Winner of Ravishing Red Ribbons, or to Swagger with the First Prize. But for the Die Hard neomaniac, Acclaim is not the Appeal, they don't Relish A Perfect Score, A Perfect Ten or even find the Booby Prize Appealing, but Enjoy a neo Just Because ItsaGoodie or gives a Flaming Lovely

Pleasant Surprise on First Blush! And yet others are quite Eccentric. Awakening like the Early Bird on a Rosy Morn, they Rise and Shine (like a Zombie with Blood Shot Eyes and still dressed in JimJams) to StickyBeak and stand Agog at a tiny Winter Bloom! Or after a long workday, they're out to Busy-Body by Candlelight After Dark, yes even when it's Pitch Black, Just Because they enjoy the Spice of Life!

So Rest Assured, as we Truly know that neos are Irresistible, the Best Bet is to just Focus on finding Impressive neo names that are as Unforgettable as the Absolutely Fabulous neos themselves!

Anyway, enough of this Fantasy, otherwise I'll be Renown for being an April Fool! So That's It at Lucky Last - Yippee!

Some Suggestions to Exhibitors: What! No Blue Ribbon?

(by Thomas U Linehan, Jr.)

Editorial Comment (Bob Reilly). The comments in this article apply to bromeliads shows all over the world. They are well worth considering when you are preparing plants for competition at the Autumn/Spring shows and the Society's Mini-shows. Reprinted, with permission, from the Journal of the Bromeliad Society, (1995), v. 45(3), pp 130-132. (This article was a summary of certain sections of the BSI publication: Handbook for Judges, Exhibitors and Affiliates 2nd ed.

Before the judges ever view the plant(s) exhibited in the show, every plant there has been judged by the plant's first and most critical judge – the exhibitor who selected it and deemed it worthy of competition. This section is written for you, the exhibitor to help

you to evaluate wisely which plants constitute your best candidates and to show you how you can increase their chances of winning.

Judges begin their evaluation of a plant by assessing condition. Condition is considered under Cultural Perfection and simply means that the actual physical state of appearance of the plant at the time of judging is evaluated. Under condition, judges penalize artificial plant shine, mechanical injury, bruising, immaturity, age, weather damage, insect damage, soil and uncleanliness of foliage, bracts, or pot, torn or brown-tipped edges, dried or old florets, cracked, dirty, salt-stained or algae-stained pots, pine needles, oak and other leaves protruding from cups, over-grooming such as trimming of leaves with no finesse, and lack of trimming of brown tips on leaves when, and if, needed.

The expert exhibitor can do much to improve and refine the appearance of his plant in advance. Start at least two weeks before the show. Look at the plants critically to find one that has symmetry, good sheen to its foliage, clear rich colour and markings, and is of a size and appearance that conforms to the description of that particular species or hybrid. Is it centred in the pot? Does a pleasing proportion exist between the size of the plant and the size of the pot? If not, repot into something suitable or set the pot into a larger one and cover the rim of the old pot with mix. Is the pot clean and intact? Is there damaged foliage? If so, can it be trimmed carefully so that the conformation of the plant doesn't suffer? For example, if it's a plant with white margins and you have to trim so many leaves to such a degree that very little white margin remains, conformation obviously will suffer and you would do better to take another plant to the show. If leaf damage is relatively minor use small scissors to trim the leaf so that its new shape resembles the leaves of that variety. Do the

trimming the day you enter the plant so that the trimmed portion does not appear brown for judging.

Be sure to wipe off the leaves, especially the dark, shiny, thin-leaved varieties. Hose them well to be sure that they are soil and dust free. Be sure that all spray residue is removed. Check for any agriculture aboard including scale, mealy bugs, fungus, caterpillars, grasshoppers, snails, slugs, and even the "friendlies", frogs and lizards. If your plant lives under trees, pick out needles or leaves. As the inflorescence opens and ages, remove the old florets and bracts that have become brown and shrivelled.

Many a ribbon is lost on the road to the show by the exhibitor who doesn't take time to pack his plants properly to prevent mechanical injury from a sudden turn or bump on the way. Pack your bromeliads carefully and tightly to prevent overturning. Don't bend or crease leaves. Use plant sleeves of paper or plastic. Place like plants together – spiny-leaved with spiny-leaved; smooth-leaved with smooth-leaved.

Sometimes a problem arises that perplexes the owner. Suppose you have a plant beautiful in every respect but on one of the inner leaves there is a big hole. What to do? Usually if plant form and symmetry will be important, it's better to leave the hole. The most points you could lose would be three but by taking it off you'd probably lose more. Another problem is deciding what bottom leaves should be trimmed and which should be removed in their entirety. Use your hand or a piece of paper and visually block out the leaf in question before removing it, for once gone it can never be replaced. A few trimmed and carefully reshaped leaves may cost you a point or so; a major gap will usually result in a 3-4 point loss. If several leaves at the base of a plant are removed and the caudex is exposed, repot the plant lower to hide the

light or white area. Another concern is size. If all things are equal, the plant that is bigger will win. Exceptions include plants that have rank growth and those grossly, coarsely over-sized from over-fertilization.

Give yourself enough time to make out your entry tags completely and accurately. Be sure that all tank types have water in their cups, particularly the blooming neoregelias. They always score higher when the cup is filled. If you have an artistic arrangement, you are allowed to put it in its designated area yourself. Be sure to place the entry tag at exactly the angle from which you want the arrangement to be judged. Remember that the judge is required to stand three feet (90cm) from the arrangement to judge it so that some mechanics within the design will never be seen.

Be a good competitor and don't get distressed over an award. This is your hobby and there's always next year.

M. J. PATERSON

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Cryptanthus 'Black Mystic'



Guz. 'Mini Angel'



Guz. 'Bahia'

Questions and Answers

Author: Rob Smythe

*Extracted from Brom Watch Townsville
June 2009*

Q. How do you attach plants to rocks?

A. The books give complex methods but I have found a simple way. Fasten using a fast set glue like Tarzan's Grip, Super Glue or even a hot gun. Keep the roots free.

If you glue the roots they push the plant off. If this is all we did the plants would fall off on hosing. After the glue has set I use a silicon glue covering the stem and adjacent rock.

One other provision is to wait till a new pup is forming before attaching and orientate the plant so that the new roots from the pup are pointing towards the rock.

I was told by a now retired bromeliad expert that the old plant won't grow new roots. He suggested I cut off the section of the plant with the roots, new roots will appear.

I can confirm this but can't say if it is necessary. At the time I was trying to fit, plants purchased, into a box to bring home on the plane.

My experience since has been that cutting root and stem off will cause new roots appear but I have not seen roots start regrowth and I have attached lots to trees. He may well be right.

Calendar of Events

11th July - 2009 Tillandsia Workshop

Interested in Tillandsias? Come to the 2009 Tillandsia Workshop at 71 Chelford St, Alderley 10am-3pm. This is a workshop, so all are invited to bring along a topic or plants for our discussion. Tea and coffee will be available but participants need to bring their own lunch. Book a place with John Olsen on 3856 0265.

29th August - Bus Trip to the gardens of Cheryl Basic & Nigel Thompson

Departing Uniting Church Hall, 52 Methyr Rd New Farm at 8am, or pick up at Gympie Rd Aspley at 8:30am. Cost \$20. Plant sales. Morning tea and lunch provided. For more information contact Ruth (after 4pm) on 32080546 or Bev on 32087417.

3rd October - Field Day to Greg & Narelle Aizlewood's Garden

15 Royal Palm Drive Woongoolba. Plant sales 9am-1pm. Guest speakers. Morning tea provided. Please bring your own chair. For more information contact Ruth (after 4pm) on 32080546 or Bev on 32087417.

7-8th Nov - BSQ Spring Bromeliad Bonanza at Mt Cootha Botanic Gardens Auditorium

Sat 8am-4pm Sun 9am-3pm. Spectacular bromeliad displays. Over 700 varieties/hybrids of bromeliads on sale. Monster bromeliad raffle. Wide range of bromeliad books on sale. Refreshments available. Admission: Adults \$3.00 Children under 14 years free.

Date Claimer: 3rd Dec - BSQ's Christmas Party

GENERAL MEETINGS of the Society are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month except for December, at the Uniting Hall, 52 Merthyr Rd., New Farm, Brisbane, commencing 7.30 pm. Classes for beginners commence at 7.00 pm.

Plant of the Month Programme for 2009

FEBRUARY:	Ananus, Intergeneric Plants, Tillandsias and Full-sun Neoregelias.
MARCH:	Cryptanthus, Tillandsias, Full-sun Aechmeas and Canistrums
APRIL:	Cryptanthus, Tillandsias
MAY:	Spotted Neoregelias, Orthophytums, Tillandsias and Variegated Bromeliads
JUNE:	Alcantareas, Foliage Vrieseas, Dyckias, Hechtias
JULY:	Billbergias, Pitcairnia, Nidulariums
AUGUST:	Billbergias, Foliage Vrieseas, Catopsis and Miniature Neoregelias.
SEPTEMBER:	Billbergias and Guzmanias.
OCTOBER:	Vrieseas, Neoregelias, Nidulariums, Guzmanias
NOVEMBER:	Not often seen Bromeliads and Succulents

Competition Schedule for 2009

Novice, Intermediate and Advanced in each Class of the Mini-Shows and in the Popular Vote.

January: MINI-SHOW

Class 1: Aechmea - species and hybrids

Class 2: Vriesea - species and hybrids

Class 3: Dyckia - species and hybrids

Class 4: Any Other Mature (flowering) Bromeliad - species and hybrids.

February : **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

March: **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

April: MINI-SHOW

Class 1: Bromelioideae not listed elsewhere in the schedule – species and hybrids.

Class 2: Guzmania - species and hybrids

Class 3: Pitcairnia and Peperomia - species and hybrids

Class 4: Any Other Mature (flowering) Bromeliad - species and hybrids.

May: **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

June: POPULAR VOTE: Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

July: MINI-SHOW

Class 1: Billbergia - species and hybrids

Class 2: Tillandsioideae not listed elsewhere in the schedule – species and hybrids.

Class 3: Neoregelia - species and hybrids – up to 200mm diameter when mature.

Class 4: Any Other Mature (flowering) Bromeliad - species and hybrids.

August: **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

September: **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

October: MINI-SHOW

Class 1: Neoregelia - species and hybrids – over 200mm diameter when mature.

Class 2: Tillandsia - species and hybrids.

Class 3: Pitcairnioideae not listed elsewhere in the schedule – species and hybrids.

Class 4: Any Other Mature (flowering) Bromeliad - species and hybrids.

November: **POPULAR VOTE:** Any Genus – species or hybrid, Novelty Bromeliad Display

Note 1: *Class 4 in each Mini Show schedule provides for any flowering bromeliad that would not be in its prime for the appropriate Mini Show.*

Note 2: Class 1 (April), Class 2 (July) and Class 3 (October) provide for plants from these subfamilies not elsewhere included in the Mini Show schedule.



Billbergia 'Caramba' grown by John Catlan and Genny Vauhkonen