

Far North Coast Bromeliad Study Group N.S.W.

Study Group meets the third Thursday of each month

Next meeting December 16th 2021 at 11 a.m.

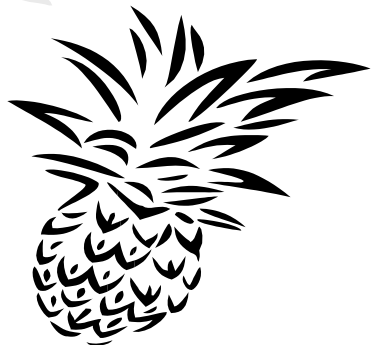
Venue: PineGrove Bromeliad Nursery
114 Pine Street Wardell 2477
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Discussion: November 2021
General Discussion

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Meeting 21st October 2021

The meeting was opened at approximately 11.00 am
The 12 members present were welcomed.
Four apologies were received.

General Business

Christmas is in the air, yes it's that time of the year again to start organising our Christmas get-together food arrangements, remember it's an alcohol free event. Our Popular Vote Competition trophies will be presented on the day, it's been a good competition again this year with some top quality plants tabled.

Show, Tell and Ask!

As many of our Group live in rural or semi rural areas mice and rats seem to be a bigger problem at the moment eating everything they can get their teeth into. Preventative care is the best measure, keep around your growing area as clear as possible, rodents don't particularly like tracking across open areas in view of predators e.g. owls, tawny frogmouths, cats and hawks. Snakes are enemies of rodents so don't be their enemy and kill them. If you see a snake, stop, assess, step away from it and leave it alone. Snakes we mainly encounter are relatively harmless e.g. carpet pythons and green tree snakes. However we do see the occasional eastern brown snake, *dangerous*, extreme caution required, leave them alone. If it's deemed an issue don't try to remove it yourself, call a snake catcher or just go and work in another area until you are sure it's moved out of the area. Remember they eat rodents not humans. If rodents are not too big a problem use traps, baits are an alternative on farms but be mindful of bi-kill, read all the 'material safety data sheets' prior to handling.

To keep areas clear the use of glyphosate based weed killers was discussed to be used with caution around other plants, however its use around structures was suggested. Keeping weed grasses at bay in these areas removes a path for rodents to travel along to get to your fresh young delicacies, seedlings. There are frog friendly products available also. Debbie suggested using Bioweed as an alternative product, "While many weed killers use synthetic chemicals including glyphosate, Bioweed is made from 100% natural hand tapped pine oil as its active ingredient providing a sustainable weed control solution. Most importantly, it is safe for use even when children or pets are in the area".

To protect seedlings use rodent proof wire netting to cover seed trays, grow mint and lavender or place sachets of these about which keep stored garments fresh as they also help to repel rodents.

Quite often when selecting a plant/s to enter in our Popular Vote Competition the one that catches your eye may be a clump, a multi headed grouping of a plant. We were asked this month "Is it OK to enter these clumps into the competition". In our Groups competition YES as we are not big enough to have segregated sections for both 'Individual Specimen' or 'Multiples/Clumps'. Providing multiples are all 'interconnected', meaning all plants in the clump must still be connected to the original plants root stock, be it two in the one pot, four, ten or twenty four they must all still be connected to the base of the original root stock. Multiple plants individually planted in a pot or tied to a mount to create the look of a clump are not encouraged here for open competition except as an entry into the Decorative section.

To clump or not to clump is personal preference, size and variety of plant being grown. Billbergias are definitely more attractive as multiples, being of upright tubular growth habit many individuals will fill a single pot and save space. Many of the smaller growing plants like *Vriesea carinata*, *Vr. delicatula*, *Vr. flammea* and others are attractive grown as clumps. *Quesnelia marmorata* and its related cultivars, *Aechmea nudicaulis* and of course the mini Neoregelias all make good clumping plants. To maintain a good clump, old mother plants are best removed to allow good air circulation through the clump to minimize rot. If you're not a clumper and prefer a single specimen plant that's fine, many single plants use more space. Neoregelias make nice single stand alone show stoppers and very colourful clumps in the garden. *Aechmea blanchetiana* is very spectacular when over a dozen spikes appear at once in a mass planting. It's your choice.

Another question raised was location for your plants and best light. Often this comes down to personal preference. Low light situations are good for Guzmania, some Nidulariums and Pitcairnia, but not all of these prefer low light so observe your plants characteristics over time. If the leaves become uncharacteristically long, strap like, then maybe your plant is in too low a light situation, move it to a brighter location may remedy the issue, this is referred to as cultural conditions. Should I cut the long strap like leaves, no, the new growth will improve the plants cultural appearance allowing the strap like leaves to be removed at a later date if one desires to. Shape and colour preference of a plant is up to the individual and governed by the amount of light it receives. *Neoregelia kautskyi* grown in bright light turns a brilliant golden yellow, grown in a lower amount of light, one can almost maintain the shape of the plant while the foliage turns to a more apple green colour. Either way it is still a spectacular plant, it's your choice. *xNeophytum 'Galactic Warrior'* grown in bright light turns red all over hiding much of its 'perfect white margins', back the light off a touch, tone the red down and gain the contrast off the white margins with the red centre is my preference.

Root bound plants, fallen over plants turned at 90°/right angles to the root base, old plants grown off centre in the pot.

Q: Can you cut the roots back to better fit into a suitable/preferred sized pot ?

A: YES, most Bromeliads roots are predominantly hold fasts and can be cut off with little ill effect to allow a plant to be centred into a pot. Even though most Bromeliads can absorb nutrients through their root system, absorption through their leaves is more effective.

The non tank forming members of the family like the Pitcairnia, Bromelia etc. feed via their roots just like any other terrestrial feeding type plant species do. With these species care should be exercised in not removing too much of the existing root system, re pot into a larger pot would be preferential.

An interesting fact about Bromeliad roots made by David H. Benzing in his book *The Biology of the Bromeliads*:

“Bromeliad roots are always adventitious - they arise from stems rather than from a single primary tap root. As the rosette grows and produces new leaves and stem tissue at its apex, roots develop progressively farther up the shoot. Each bromeliad root has a limited life span, usually no more than a year or two. Viability much beyond a maximum of 3 - 4 years would be impossible since the stem dies and decays at one end as it grows new leaves and eventually an inflorescence at the other.”

Therefore cutting the elongated stem of your overgrown Bromeliad shouldn't be a problem. We often encounter this issue with *Goudea ospinae* and *Goudea ospinae* var. *gruberi* and *Vriesea elata* and others which seem to be perpetual growers. So cutting the stem and resetting the plant deeper into a fresh pot should be treated much like taking a new pup off any other plant and potting it.

To cut or not to cut: the discussion was about seed or pups. An often discussed topic for mass production of a plant, seed is the greater option albeit a much slower method. In a nursery situation where seed is not the required option from a highly sort after plant with an attractive inflorescence that we don't want to sell, the inflorescence gets cut off, what one doesn't see one doesn't want. Cutting the inflorescence spike off in its early stage of development encourages the plant to develop pups earlier, also the energy to develop the inflorescence can now be directed into the pup growth.

Doug wowed us all with his pot of *Orthophytum eddie-estevesii* that he brought along for Show and Tell. He talked about the area where the plant grows in its natural habitat and how he has tweaked his potting mix to be closely similar. This clump is quite a few years old as it is a slow grower but worth the wait.

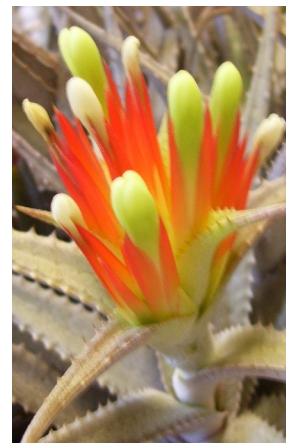
Orthophytum eddie-estevesii shown and written by Doug Binns 2021

Orthophytum eddie-estevesii was described in 2000. It is known only from a small area in the vicinity of the town of Monte Azul, in the northern part of the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

With its compact habit, and reddish-orange sepals which contrast with the green flowers and white-scaled leaves, it is among the most attractive of all species of *Orthophytum*.

Although I have identified my plant as *Orthophytum eddie-estevesii*, it differs from the description and associated image in the protologue in several respects. My plant has sepals which are orange

rather than reddish-orange, the leaves are shorter, thicker and less strongly channelled and the leaf marginal spines are shorter. Despite these differences, other characteristics are a good match. The protologue description is based on a single plant which flowered in cultivation and is unlikely to encompass the range of variability of the species. I attribute the discrepancies between my plant and the type specimen to within-species variability and possibly, differences due to cultivation. *Orthophytum eddie-estevesii* belongs to the subgenus *Clavanthus*,



which comprises species informally referred to as the *Orth. mello-barretoii* group. These differ from the most commonly grown species of orthophytums (which belong to subgenus *Orthophytum*) in a number of characters, most notably that the petals are hooded with incurved tips, in contrast to the petals of subgenus *Orthophytum*, which have spreading tips. Members of subgenus *Clavanthus* also differ because they very rarely produce adventitious offsets in the inflorescence. *Orthophytum eddie-estevesii* is the most northerly occurring member of its subgenus. Although the names may be confusing, it is a very different plant to *Orth. estevesii*, which was originally

described as *Orth. fosterianum* subsp. *estevesii* and belongs to subgenus *Orthophytum*. I have found my plant easy to grow and it offsets readily, but has taken a few years to develop to the clump pictured.

Photos by Ross Little

Mitch lead a discussion on staking Bromeliads. The purpose of staking your bromeliad offsets or newly planted specimens in the gardens is to stabilise the plant to allow root formation and anchoring into the substrate or pot. Staking is also beneficial for the large growers or species that develop huge spikes such as Alcantarea and Tillandsia to stabilise the plant for the enjoyment of the bloom or further hybridising work.

There are a few types of stakes available on the market:

Metal (metal rods, galvanised or stainless-steel wire or star pickets)

Bamboo or Hardwood

UV stabilise fibreglass

My preference is to use metal or UV stabilise fibreglass. Both provide durability, flexibility and the ability to be recycled. Both come in varying lengths and sizes to withstand various applications or spike weight and size. Fibreglass and metal provide a safeguard in disease and pest prevention control with the ability to sterilise.

The most commonly used stakes are bamboo or hardwood with the majority imported or from by-product of the timber industry. These are short lived, rot easy in my opinion and are a gateway for pests and diseases. Especially moulds and fungi's that are prevalent in the imported products that the fumigation process does not eliminate.

The effects of these natural products especially in humid or wet environments trigger spore formation and infection. Therefore, can infect freshly harvested offsets and induce rot or other pathogens. This can be a costly exercise in treatment and recovery of prized and valued plants.

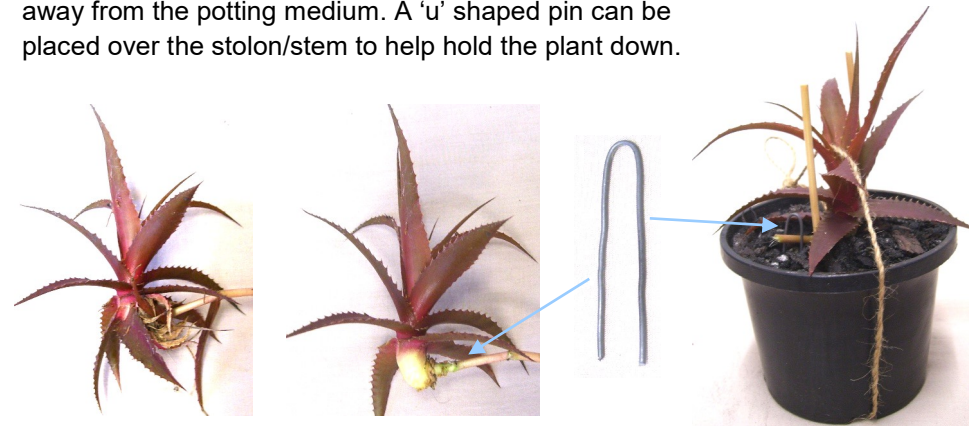


The natural products are not versatile or flexible in many applications due to the rigidity of them and have an extremely short-lived life span. This can be seen in the left photo here where a bamboo stake failed allowing the plant to topple over. The star picket in photo right will last for years and be reusable many times.



Stakes - bamboo vs fibreglass vs steel rods, which is best depends on longevity required. When potting small pups some growers like to use wooden or bamboo skewers to assist in holding a plant in place until it develops roots. This is a short term method as the skewers will eventually rot away as shown by Mitch.

For difficult to hold in place plants such as Dyckia, Cryptanthus or Orthophytum perhaps try tying them down onto the surface of the potting medium may help. There are a couple of options here, one: use a rubber band over the plant and the pot, the second: use twine and tie the plant down wrapping the twine over the plant and under the pot. Both methods work well, by the time the plant has established itself the ties have broken down and fallen away and not inhibited plant growth. Clean some of the bottom leaves away from the plant to expose a clean base/heel of the plant where the roots will develop from, this will also help prevent those downward turned leaves from wanting to push the plant up away from the potting medium. A 'u' shaped pin can be placed over the stolon/stem to help hold the plant down.



The inflorescences of some plants can become top heavy, staking may be preferred to keep them erect, straight or to save them from getting broken off. Recently a developing Tillandsia spike was uncoupled from a pot hanger to allow the spike to fully develop, the plant was sat on a bench in what was deemed to be a 'safe' location. Perhaps one should've realised that the hanger was supporting the spike, maybe it should've been staked for that extra support and protection offered by the hanger before the wind blew something over and broke the spike off.





Neoregelia 'Black Opal'
1st Open Keryn Simpson



'Springtime'
1st Decorative Helen Clewett



Neoregelia 'Orange Supreme'
grown by Kayelene Guthrie



Neoregelia 'Lilac Dream'
grown by Dave Boudier



Tillandsia geminiflora
= 1st Tillandsioideae Helen Clewett



Tillandsia streptophylla
= 1st Tillandsioideae Keryn Simpson



Neoregelia 'Lani' grown by Michelle Hartwell

Encholirium
viridicentrum



Judges Choice
Mitch Jones



'Jungle Glow'
by Mitch Jones



'Baby Basket for Our Miracle'
by Keryn Simpson

Following on from our discussion of “to cut or not to cut” is seed raising a good option, when large quantities of a particular plant are wanted yes it is a good option if growing species. When growing mass amounts of seed you’ve collected yourself from a known hybrid you should be aware of the mixed bag to be had and be prepared to handle them appropriately regards naming.

BUT, when receiving seed from a source other than your own collecting you are relying on that source to have identified their plant correctly, such is the issue we have. Seed supplied to us from a local grower as *Alcantarea* ‘Silver Plum’ aren’t appearing to be so as they have been grown on and moved up in pot sizes. Many of these seedlings were sold in 50 mm tubes at 100 mm size believing they were ‘Silver Plum’, what are they ?? Only time will tell, this is an issue one has with garden collected seed, who did the pollen come from, who was dad ?? If those who acquired *Alcantarea* ‘Silver Plum’ seedlings from PineGrove keep a notation on their labels of ‘from Pinegrove’ their history can be traced back.

Neoregelia ‘Takemura Grande’ clump shown by Helen Clewett seems to have had similar issues in its past. Import records and available sales lists from the 1980s and 90s indicate seven ‘Takemura’ variants came to Australia. Are there more ?

- Takemura Grande
- Takemura Grande ‘Compact’
- Takemura Grande ‘Crimson’
- Takemura Grande ‘Giant’
- Takemura Grande ‘Silverado’
- Takemura Princeps
- Takemura Red Devil



Neoregelia ‘Takemura Grande’ - a cold case or is it?

This name came on the scene in the early 1960’s when apparently seed of a hybrid was sent to Takemura in Japan from Richter in Germany. Takemura in turn shared seed or seedlings with Davis in Florida.

Ever since 1978 when James Elmore wrote on the ‘Fabled Takemuras’ in Grande Vol.1 #1, I have wondered what a ‘true’ Takemura Grande’ should look like. It is a pity that after all that investigation, James Elmore did not bite the bullet so to speak. For example pages 18 and 20 show photographs without captions. What does the nicely laid out photo on page 18 represent? So, already there are questions.



‘Fabled Takemuras’ page 18
in Grande Vol.1 #1

In any cold case investigation you always return to the scene of the crime. Therefore all references outside Florida are considered to be anecdotal only.

While the searching for similar names is easy, the problem is in plants with wrong labels. Thus ‘Takemura Grande’ can be shortened to either ‘Takemura’ or ‘Grande’ or added to such as ‘Takemura Grande Silverado’ AND have been!

This whole exercise is just another example of the problems caused by changing names. How many times have you heard the cry “ Why are the taxonomists changing names again?” AND yet here we have a system of registration of cultivars where it is unnecessary to change

names but growers and sellers do so when they make on-the-spot judgements on identity without referring to the official record!

One big problem that will never be solved is where old nurseries are purchased and mistakes made in the past are inherited and passed on as gospel. For example at the Florida West Coast Show in October 2004, Penny Bullard from Orlando bought a plant just called ‘Grande’.

My plea is that registration of hybrids should be at front of the mind of any hybridist and especially those who are commercial.

This is just an abbreviated version of the whole story but if you are really keen you can read the full version under ‘Uncle Derek Says’ on fcbs.org with LOTS of pictures.

What is going to happen to the other ‘Takemura’ references in the register? Well, nothing! Remember that reported parentage is not expected to be completely accurate and as with humans, it does not matter what your parents are, you are what is on your birth certificate. Without photos it is hard to make decisions but I’ll be using Takemura Grande Group in the register to link similar looking plants. This is the topmost box for those who do refer to the on-line Cultivar Register in Cultivar Corner in <http://BSI.org> . At the moment these are ‘Takemura Grande’, ‘Takemura Princeps’, ‘Deep Purple’, ‘Ninja’, ‘Silverado’, ‘Silver Heel’ and ‘Southern Pride’. If you have plants you cannot identify at cultivar level you can call them Takemura Grande Group.

Taken from the BCR Notes: Takemura Group: written by Derek Butcher



Tillandsia ehlersiana
grown by Mitch Jones



Tillandsia fasciculata var. *uncispica*
grown by Gary McAteer



Tillandsia concolor
grown by Dave Boudier



Tillandsia rodrigueziana
grown by Kayelene Guthrie

Treetop Aquariums

by F. C. Hoehne

Many plant and animal lovers find great pleasure in keeping aquariums. However, they never realize that in nature in addition to the refuges for aquatic life afforded by brooks, rivers, lakes and ponds, there are aquariums on rocks and in tall trees. These are made and distributed by marvelous plants and are much more interesting than the man-made product because they are automatically aerated and are so constructed that the water which they contain remains fresh and drinkable without being circulated or chemically purified. In the midst of hanging gardens composed of hundreds of species of plants, these bizarre aquariums provide the habitat for many more plants which could not otherwise exist here. In these aquariums, many species of plants reproduce and animals of various classes breed there and live in partnership or competition like mankind over the face of the earth. The life of these funnel-shaped receptacles has been a field of constant research for biologists. Some of these study their contents in order to gain knowledge of small frogs. Others empty them to find new species of algae, bacteria, fungi, etc. Entomologists search in them for insects: new species of beetles, mosquitoes, flies and such. There are also botanists who discover in these water containers new species of mosses and even carnivorous plants that function there as controls, eliminating small insect larvae, eating minute algae and worms, and finally, thanks to such excellent nourishment, finding the energy to produce a scape with marvelous big red-purple flowers that much excel the products of an artificial aquarium.

Without doubt the reader has already guessed the identity of the plants which we are discussing. If he still does not recognize them we will tell him that they are members of the great family to which belong the "Abacaxi" (pineapple), "Caroa" (Neoglaziovia), "Macambira" (Bromelia), "Caraguata (Bromelia), and also the "Barba de Pau" (tree-beard or Spanish moss) that the wind sways as it hangs from the branches of old trees and the metal wires of telegraph and telephone lines.

There is not included in the above, however, those related species that grow on rock faces and on the trunks and branches of trees, and that form aquariums. These last although less useful to man, are more important in the scheme of nature and make a greater appeal to the eye once the stomach is satisfied. They triumph like queens when placed beside the marvelous orchids from which man has derived so much pleasure. After the rains and the clouds cease, they provide the orchids with an atmosphere saturated with humidity, and give them hospitality even as far as admitting their roots to the wells which they form. Often they prosper and grow to such an extent that the weight of their aquariums imperils the stability of the trees that carry them and then the unexpected occurs for them. A rupturing of the tree's roots or the sudden cracking of a limb tumbles them into the abyss spilling everything that was hiding in the liquid medium. They suffer great damage thus, but if they are not completely buried, they realign themselves and continue growth where they have landed.

These interesting plants belong to the family *Bromeliaceae*, which, with the exception of a single species recently discovered in Africa, are native to America and especially well represented in Brazil. Their family name is derived from that of the genus *Bromelia*, founded by Linnaeus in the 1737 edition of his "Genera Plantarum" and referred to in his "Hortus Cliffortianus". A citation used by some authors and barely alluded to by Linnaeus, credits the Franciscan Brother, Charles Plumier, with having published this genus. This was discredited by Carl Mez, although it had been upheld only the year before by Wittmack. Perhaps it would be interesting to record the fact that this genus was named in honor of the Swedish physician Olof Bromel, who lived from 1639 to 1705, practicing medicine and studying the plants of the region around his home. As he had published several botanical works including the "Chloris Gothica" which appeared in 1694, and since he was a contemporary of Plumier, the Frenchman who lived from 1646 to 1704, it was natural that he should be well regarded by the latter and his memory perpetuated. Linnaeus, however, must have had his first contact with a bromeliad between September 13, 1735 and October 7, 1737, when he was employed as medical assistant and prefect of the famous private botanical and zoological garden of Clifford, the wealthy Dutch lawyer and merchant. There he learned so much about foreign floras that he produced more important publications than he achieved in any other period of his very active life.

The bromeliads impressed the first immigrants to our continent in the sixteenth century, but no settler ever succeeded in getting from them the products that the aborigines did. They perfected the syncarps of *Ananas*, making from them the tastiest most exquisite fruit in the world, and they always used in their diet the berries of "Caraguata" a member of the genus *Bromelia*. They eat them raw, boiled, or roasted. We have seen Borobo Indians spend a whole night eating "Caraguata" that they had gathered during the day's excursions. From the leaves of the "Caroas" and "Macambiras," *Bromelia* and *Ananas*, they make fibers equivalent to those that they obtain from the leaves of the "Tucum" palm (*Astrocaryum*) and when they are hunting on sunny days, the fresh water in the tanks of epiphytic and terrestrial bromeliads assuages their thirst. The writers of the sixteenth century referred to pineapples with great enthusiasm. They said that nothing in the world could be compared to them. Anchieta, Garbriel Soares de Souza and various other authors whom we noted in our work "Agricultura e Botanica do Seculo XVI, no Brasil," never forgot to mention this admirable compound fruit of unequalled aroma and flavor.

The glistening hummingbirds that are the most regular visitors to the bromeliads when they celebrate their nuptials also know how to take advantage of them. They take slender strands of *Tillandsia usneoides* from the branches and weave their curious nests from them. But the bromeliads owe their increase to them, since it is these tiny birds which effect the pollination of their flowers, which in return offer them sweet nectar and aphids and other small insects hidden within. The bromeliads prove interesting and useful to many forms of life on this planet.

But the bromeliads do not hold water in just their rosettes alone. Some of them have ample enough bracts in their great inflorescences to maintain a regular supply of water in their axils. Thus the botanist, Ernesto Ule, relates in his paper published in the "Berichten der Deutschen Botanischen Gesellschaft," vol. 17: fasc. 1: pp. 1-2. 1899, in the State of Rio de Janeiro, he had found a great *Vriesia* and on bending over the inflorescence to collect the flowers he had been surprised by a deluge of water coming from the bracts. Being a new species, he named it for this reason: *Vriesia hydrophora*.

Ernesto Ule, who was a great student of the Brazilian flora, appears to have been the first to record the appearance of *Utricularia reniformis* St. Hil. var. *Kromeri Ule* in the epiphytic bromeliads of the Organ Mountains, where George Gardner had already discovered *Utricularia nelumbifolia* Gardn. in such conditions. At our Biological Station of Alto da Serra, in Paranapiacaba, S. Paulo, we have many bromeliads tenanted by *Utricularia reniformis*. However, we had not been able to find *Utricularia nelumbifolia* in similar conditions, and lacking the opportunity to visit the Organ Mountains were losing hope of seeing it. But in 1921 on an excursion to the high ranges of Minas Gerais, we had the thrill of finding these in great plants of *Vriesia* on the high cliffs of the Serra do Garimpo near Cocais. The spectacle was dazzling. From between the great leaves of the bromeliad hung the orbicular peltate leaves of the plant carnivore and the tall stapes bore great red-lilac flowers 4 cm. across, as if the bromeliads were vases in which they were displayed. The pile of great stone blocks appeared to make access impossible, but by running the risk of losing our legs in the crevasses masked by vegetation we reached the specimens and were able to study how they extend their fleshy rhizomes in the leaf-aquariums of the *Vriesia* and spread their bladders in each axil. The vigor of the specimens indicated no lack of nourishment. The liquid in the tanks, however, remained full of larvae and small worms.

It is also surprising to see the number of hepatics and frondose mosses that thrive in the bromeliad tanks. *Philophyllum bromeliophilum* and *tenuifolium* and *Eulejeunea desciscens* are some of the native species that we have recorded at the Biological Station of Alto da Serra, S. Paulo, where along with the aquatic plants in the bromeliads many species of tree-frogs complete their larval state.

To sum up we can state that bromeliads as representatives of our hemisphere should be included among the plants to be protected and cultivated in all localities where they are hardy. For good growth they need a constant supply of organic matter in their tanks. Liquids containing vegetable and animal matter can be given them to advantage. A temperate environment with adequate heat are indispensable for their growth.

Director of the Instituto de Botanica S. Paulo, Brazil

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Open Popular Vote

1st	Keryn Simpson	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Black Opal'
2nd	Mitch Jones	<i>Encholirium viridicentrum</i>
2nd	Helen Clewett	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Takemura Grande'
3rd	Kayelene Guthrie	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Orange Supreme'
3rd	Michelle Hartwell	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lani'

Tillandsioideae

1st	Helen Clewett	<i>Tillandsia geminiflora</i>
1st	Keryn Simpson	<i>Tillandsia streptophylla</i>
2nd	Kayelene Guthrie	<i>Tillandsia rodrigueziana</i>

Decorative

1st	Helen Clewett	'Springtime'
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Judges Choice

1st	Mitch Jones	<i>Encholirium viridicentrum</i>
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Web Links for Checking Correct Identification and Spelling ?

Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR): <http://registry.bsi.org/>

Refer to this site for correct identification and spelling of your hybrid or cultivar.

New Bromeliad Taxon List : <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/taxonList.php>

Refer to this site for latest species name changes and correct spelling.

Bromeliads in Australia (BinA) <http://bromeliad.org.au/>

Refer to this site for its Photo Index, Club Newsletters, Detective Derek Articles.

Keep these web sites set as desktop icons for quick reference access.

Where do I Find the Dates ?

www.bromeliad.org.au then click "Diary".

Check this site for regular updates of times, dates and addresses of meetings and shows in your area and around the country.