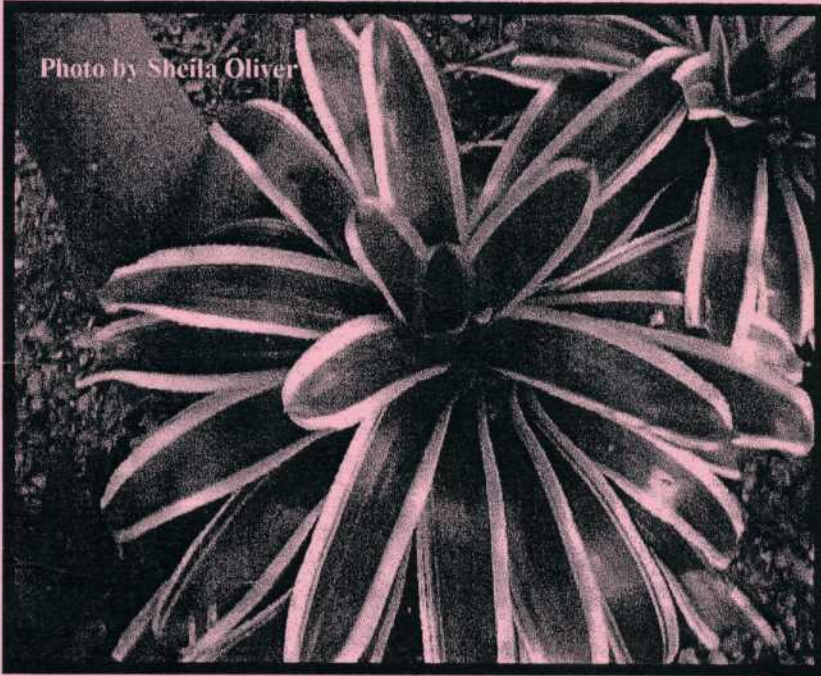


FLORIDA COUNCIL
of BROMELIAD
SOCIETIES INC.
Newsletter



Photo by Sheila Oliver



Sheila sent me this photo from Rob Branch's in an email, but unfortunately didn't get the name of the plant. It looks to me like *Neoregelia Yin*.

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The FCBS Minutes as written below are in draft. The full Council has not as yet approved them. Any substantial changes will be published in a future Newsletter.

**Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
Minutes D R A F T (071502)
July 13, 2002**

Societies Present: Mark Havlik (Boca), Tom Wolfe and Don Nores (BGTB), Eloise Beach and John Boardman (BSCF), Nat DeLeon (BSSF), Vicki Chirnside (Caloosahatchee), Calandra and Jay Thurrott (FECBS), Carolyn Schoenau (JGBS), Terrie Bert and Inez Dolatowski (Sarasota), and Nancy Hall and Ed Hall (Seminole).

Others Present: Peggy Nuse (Treasurer), Leonard Dolatowski (Newsletter), Karen and Michael Andreas (Webmasters), Dr. Howard Frank and Barbra Larson (Weevil Research) and Ron Schoenau (Extravaganza Sales).

Societies Not Represented: Broward, Florida West Coast, and Treasure Coast.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Terrie Bert at 1:10 p.m.

Chair Requested Introduction and Brief Report from Representatives: Ed Hall reported

Seminole's upcoming Fantasy (081802); Eloise Beach reported on their recent field trip to Russell's Bromeliads and upcoming trip to Color Zone in July, BSCF's 65 new members since their Extravaganza (their total membership is now at 170), and their revamped meeting format and supply store. Ron Schoenau gave a short history of how the Fantasy and Extravaganza names were acquired. Don Nores reported BGTB's association with Camp Wekiva and teaching wild flower identifications. Vicki Chirnside reported that the Caloosahatchee B.S. Sale will be November 9 and 10, 2002 (no show this year). Dr. Frank reported that the JGBS last meeting had about 30 attendees and the presenter was Kyle Brown. Nat DeLeon reported that Karl Green will be the BSSF Show Chairman for 2003.

Secretary's Report: Only one correction was noted. Pat Crocker's name was written as Pat Cochran (incorrectly) under **Gulfstream** Grant heading. Ed Hall moved and Vicki Chirnside seconded that the minutes be approved with that correction. All present approved.

Treasurer's Report: Peggy Nuse distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report as of January 1, 2002 through July 1, 2002. FCBS balance was \$2,179 and the Weevil balance was \$20,497.

Peggy reported that the Broward and Treasure Coast clubs had not paid their dues. She was unsure whether or not BGTB's dues had been received. The rate is as follows: \$10 per society plus \$3 for each member of that society. Peggy asked that all unpaid societies please pay their dues at their earliest convenience.

Webmaster's Report: A written report as of July 12 was distributed. Karen Andreas pointed out that the month of May set a record with 534,863 internal hits to the site.

Activity has also increased since posting of the World Conference pictures to the site. The FECBS Newsletter has been posted and other societies are invited to send their Newsletters to Webmaster. More than 100 pictures from the BSCF show are posted. Michael Andreas stated that the site probably has about 8,000 pictures at this time. Ed Hall moved and Tom Wolfe seconded that the 2002 and 2003 website domain fee of \$239.10 be approved for payment. Unanimously approved.

Weevil Report: Barbra Larson distributed a written Weevil report. Drs. Frank and Larson have received a grant from the USDA in the amount of \$105,000 for the

next 3 years and a Florida Division of Forestry grant in the amount of \$7,000; in addition, the Bromeliad Society International has donated \$3,000 in support of a student to work in the field on the weevil. Dr. Frank reported that the fly is a natural predator has not worked as well as they had hoped but they are continuing to explore this avenue. They are also looking for other predators on the weevil.

Extravaganza Report: Jay Thurrott gave a brief report of the upcoming plans for the 2002 Extravaganza. Location is the Daytona Beach Resort and Convention Center; room rate is \$69 (this rate is good one week before and one week after the Extravaganza); dates are September 6-7, 2002. A free parking garage is available although it has a very low clearance. Tentative plans include a Hawaiian Luau on Friday evening. The usual Sale, Auction, and Banquet will be Saturday. The banquet will cost \$20 per person and a cash bar will be available during banquet and Auction proceeds will go to the FCBS and the Sales proceeds to the FECBS and the Seller. Plant sale ven-

dors may contact Jay for a seller number. Any color tag is acceptable but writing must be on only one side of the tag. Please encourage your club members to stay at the headquarters hotel and use the Extravaganza name to receive this special rate. FCBS will handle the bulk mailing for the notices which will be sent out soon and appear on the website.

WBC 15: Hattie Lou Smith provided a written summary of the conference (she was not present at the meeting). Since the finances are not final at this point, no financial data was included. Approximately 357 attendees from 22 states and 15 different countries were registrants. There were 64 Show awards given out. There were 20 exhibits in total: 6 Commercial floor exhibits, 7 Affiliate Society floor exhibits and 7 tabletop exhibits, which included special organizations and affiliate societies. Plant and exhibit entries numbered 385. There were 85 plants entered in the commercial Section and 280 entered in the hobbyist section of the show. Nat DeLeon suggested that the exhibit plants should be labeled with proper names.

BSI Board Meeting: Tom

Wolfe reported on the May BSI Board meeting. A Bromeliad Society International World Headquarters Fund was approved to be located at Selby Gardens. Possibly this location might house the membership secretary and other BSI activities that are now geographically far apart. Chet Blackburn has resigned as Editor; his last issue will be the July-August 2002. Bruce Holst (who is located at Selby) is the new Editor and he will take over with the September-October 2002 issue. Tom Wolfe commended Barbra Larson for the Weevil presentation that she gave to the BSI Board of Directors.

Encourage Societies to Promote BSI Membership: Eloise Beach pointed out that BSCF gives away a free BSI membership to non-BSI members at each monthly meeting. She suggested that other societies follow suit if they are not already doing so.

Bylaws Vote: One minor Bylaws revision in Article 4 to use the wording "current year" was moved by Vicki Chirnside and seconded by Carolyn Schoenau and was unanimously approved.
Standing Rule Revision:

Standing Rule 4 was amended to read: FCBS will annually review at its January meeting a donation of \$200 (annual) to the Bromeliad Identification Center, to be dispersed in \$50 increments each quarter. The motion was made by Nat DeLeon and seconded by Mark Havlik. The motion passed unanimously.

Roster for FCBS members:

Inez Dolatowski distributed a listing of members in each club and an additional listing of individuals belonging to more than one society. She requested that each representative review this listing with his or her membership person and return to her prior to August 13.

FCBS Special Award: Terrie Bert proposed that the FCBS provide an annual award to a worthy recipient. A Committee of Terrie, Tom Wolfe, Inez Dolatowski, Jay Thurrott, and Karen Andreas will review the draft proposal written by Terrie. The Committee will determine whether or not this requires a Bylaws change or an addition to the Standing Rules only. Once this process is written it will be brought back to the FCBS for approval and implementation.

Proposed Judges School in Florida: Terrie Bert reported that there is a possibility of having a judges school in Florida. A minimum of 15 attendees is required prior to consideration for conducting this school. The schools are six sessions of one day each and take about 3 years to complete. Anyone interested in attending should contact Betty Ann Prevatt immediately at bprevattpcc@aol.com.

Publication of FCBS Minutes:

FCBS Minutes will be published in the most recent issue of the Newsletter without the full approval of the Board. The following disclaimer will appear: *The FCBS Minutes as written below are in draft. The full Council has not as yet approved them. Any substantial changes will be published in a future Newsletter.* The Minutes will be drafted by the Secretary and approved by the Chair prior to forwarding to Newsletter Editor for publication. After the draft minutes are sent for publication in the FCBS Newsletter, the Secretary will also forward a copy to the Webmaster for publication on the web site.

Future FCBS Meetings: BGTB is scheduled to host the October 12 meeting. Since this date conflicts with other BGTB responsibilities, Tom Wolfe will possibly negotiate

with the Broward County club or another club to exchange meeting dates. FCBS members will be notified later.

Notification of FCBS Officers for 2003: Terrie Bert will notify in writing each of the societies that is responsible for FCBS Officers for next year. Scheduled are: President – FWCBS, Co-Chair -JGBS, Secretary-Seminole.

Extravaganza Site for 2003 and 2004: Possibly the Sarasota Bromeliad Society will volunteer for one of these years depending on availability of Selby Gardens. Another possibility is that the BSSF, Broward club, and Boca Raton club will work together to provide the site for one of these years. Each will report back at the next FCBS meeting.

Donation to Bromeliad Society International World Headquarters Fund: Tom Wolfe moved and Eloise Beach seconded that a \$100 donation be made by the FCBS to this fund. Unanimously approved.

FCBS Minutes to Webmaster: The FCBS Secretary was asked to send the FCBS Minutes to the Webmaster. The January and April 2002 minutes will be sent immediately and the July minutes will be sent as soon as they are reviewed by the Chair.

Adjourn: Carolyn Schoenau moved for an adjournment and Ed Hall seconded. the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Schoenau
Secretary

Weevil Report July 13, 2002

Biological control research:

Howard Frank has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, T-STAR (Tropical-Subtropical Agricultural Research) program for \$105,000 over the next 3 years (\$35,000/yr.). The grant will pay post-doc salary, supplies and travel to conduct the non-target testing and releases of the biological control agent.

The Florida Division of Forestry has provided an additional \$7,000 toward the project.

The Florida Park Service (FPS) is interested in supporting the implementation of biological control in state parks, particularly in the Fakahatchee Strand. Details are being worked out.

Howard Frank will be traveling to Mexico in the fall to look for another potential biological control agent.

Julio Torres will again collect *Lixophaga* sp. flies in Honduras

and send shipments to Gainesville starting in the fall. Support from the FPS will allow Ron Cave to participate in the research in his new position at UF's Indian River Research and Education Center. There he will have access to the new quarantine facility in Fort Pierce once it is completed.

The Bromeliad Society International (BSI) has donated \$3,000 toward the research, expressing a preference to use the money to support student field work on the weevil.

Combining the BSI contribution with support from the Florida Park Service, Teresa Cooper will be able to continue her monitoring of weevil and bromeliad populations in state parks. She has also worked with volunteers at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (Palm Beach Co.), who have begun to monitor bromeliads there. Teresa has posted guidelines for monitoring aimed at volunteers at <http://savebromeliads.ifas.ufl.edu/filed/volunts.html>.

Seed Collecting:

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following volunteer seed collectors for their time and efforts this spring: Inez and Len Doltowski, Moyna and Ed Prince, and Mark Havlik. They collected seeds of *Tillandsia balbisiana*, *Tillandsia pruinosa*, and *Tillandsia utriculata*

in Everglades National Park and of *Tillandsia fasciculata* and *T. balbisiana* in Palm Beach County parks.

Permits are now available for the following:

Florida State Parks (except Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties), Charlotte Co. Parks and Recreation, Collier Co. Parks and Recreation, Everglades National Park.

Education/Outreach:

We would like to extend a special thanks to Karen and Michael Andreas and Paula White for their help in reviewing and improving educational materials. After final reviews by FPS biologists and education coordinators, the materials are ready for printing.

A table-top display about the weevil problem and field work was set up during the World Bromeliad Conference in St. Petersburg, May 14-19.

A presentation on the weevil and need for seed collecting in state parks was given at the Florida Park Service biologists' meeting in Apopka, May 2.

The Miami Beach Botanical Garden (2000 Convention Center Dr., Miami Beach) will again be setting up the display on the weevil this fall, with updated posters.

The weevil is included in a new exhibit on invasive species that opened on Memorial Day weekend at the Florida Aquarium in Tampa.

Upcoming Events:

Bromeliad/Orchid Identification Workshop, Selby Gardens, Sarasota, September 21. Several spots will be open to FCBS members, with preference given to seed collectors. For details and to register, contact Barbra Larson (tel: 352-392-1901 ext. 122; email: BCLarson@mail.ifas.ufl.edu).

Bromeliad weevil education days, Daggerwing Nature Center, Boca Raton, November 1-2. For details, see <http://www.florallove.org> (<http://florallove.nposite.org/> until new domain name is established this week) or contact Heidi Aspen Rhoades (tel: 561-243-1642; email: FLScrubJ@aol.com).

Native Bromeliad/Orchid Identification and Conservation Concerns

Date: September 21, 2002
Time: 10am - 4pm

Location: Marie Selby Botanical Gardens
811 South Palm Ave
Sarasota, FL 34236
Phone: 941-366-5731
Map and directions: see <http://www.selby.org/geninfo/direct>

ions.htm

Cost: Free (lunch on your own)
Registration for FCBS members: email BCLarson@mail.ifas.ufl.edu or call Barbra Larson (352-392-1901 ext. 122). Space is limited. Preference will be given to volunteer seed collectors until Sept. 1.

The workshop will provide an overview of the Bromeliaceae and Orchidaceae plant families, with an emphasis on identification and natural history of Florida's native bromeliads and orchids. Following discussions of each family, participants will have the opportunity to observe specimens in the Selby Gardens collections. This workshop serves as an instructor training opportunity for the Florida Master Naturalist Program (<http://www.masternaturalist.org>) as well as for anyone who will be collecting seeds for the Save Florida's Native Bromeliads project. It will be of interest to anyone concerned about the identification and conservation of native bromeliads and orchids. A limited number of spaces are available to FCBS members, so please register early.

Schedule:

10:00 - 11:30
Presentation on Florida's Native Bromeliads (Harry Luther)

11:30 - 12:30
Lunch break (on your own)

12:30 - 2:00

Presentation on Florida's Native Orchids (John Beckner)

2:00 - 2:15

Break

2:15-4:00

Observe orchids and bromeliads in gardens with instructors

During the lunch and break periods, a display on the weevil threat to Florida's native bromeliads will be available for viewing.

PRIOR REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY AND SPACE IS LIMITED.

Bromeliad Weevil Education Days

The Weevil Slam! Peril in Our Treetops

Dagger Wing Nature Center, Boca Raton, Palm Beach County
November 1, 2002

This exciting symposium is designed to educate land managers, plant enthusiasts, and concerned citizens about the evil weevil that is eating its way through Florida's native bromeliads.

**Weevil Slam Family Day
Daggerwing Nature Center
November 2, 2002**

Enjoy a family day full of activities and educational opportunities! We will be focusing on the evil weevil, the invasive exotic species that has been chomping on our native bromeliads. Games, workshops, and boardwalk tours abound! Join us for a day of outside entertainment and education!

Details will be posted at the Florida Love Web site:

<http://www.floridalove.org>
(<http://floridalove.nposite.org/> until new domain name is established).
Contact Heidi Aspen Rhoades (tel: 561-243-1642; email: FLScrubJ@aol.com) for more information.

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Web Report July 13, 2002 <http://fcbs.org>

As of July 12, 106,767 visitors have come to the site. The month of May set a record, with 534,863 internal hits to the site. Activity has picked up since the posting of the World Conference pictures (see below).

Two new searchable databases created by the webmaster are now available on the site: The FCBS Bromeliad Species Online Database and The FCBS Bromeliad Natural Hybrids Online Database. They can be accessed from the

Classification Page as well as from the Photo Index.

Thanks to Manny Lorenzo of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida, the web site is now listed by Miami-Dade Community College as a reference for bromeliads. Dr. Armando Escobedo of the Library Faculty wrote the following review: "The Bromeliad Encyclopedia of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies is an excellent site for Bromeliad enthusiasts as well as anyone who needs to learn about this family of plants. This site includes classification information, advice, links, a photo index, book reviews, etc. It also offers information on the FCBS and its member societies." Because all public libraries in the state are now accessible online, this has the potential to reach all library users throughout Florida. The link appears at: M-DCC North Campus Library - Reference Resources:
<http://www.mdcc.edu/north/library/links.asp?pagedid=21>.

The May newsletter of the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society has been posted. Any society that would like its newsletter posted online can contact the webmaster.

More than 100 pictures from the annual show and sale of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida are online. All pictures of society shows and sales are always welcome. More than 450 pictures from the World Conference are also now available online.

Most pictures posted since the last report were taken by the web-

master. In addition, the following people also contributed pictures to the site: Sharon Peterson; Peter Tristram; and Derek Butcher. Currently the webmaster is working on a backlog of pictures, including many sent by Herb Plever.

Keith Dawson of the Bromeliad Society of Queensland, Inc., sent email to the webmaster asking about becoming a member society of the Council. The email was referred to Chairman Terrie Bert but may need to be discussed today.

The bill for the website has been paid by the webmaster and covers the site until July 22, 2003. The cost is still a bargain, given that the provider allows the site unlimited space. The webmaster respectfully requests reimbursement in the amount of \$239.40. The Council paid a discounted rate for the domain name (fcbs.org) when it renewed for ten years; that bill will not come due again until July 24, 2009.

As always, articles, photographs and announcements for the web site are welcome. Pictures can be emailed to the webmaster who also can scan photographs and slides. All materials sent via snail mail will be returned to the sender.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Andreas
Webmaster

webmaster@fcbs.org

Karen Andreas
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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4-6 Tropiflora
Fall Festival, Sarasota
800-613-7520
www.tropiflora.com

October 21st Bromeliad
Society of Broward County Annual
Auction, contact Maureen Frazel
for info at 954-474-1349.

October 28th Bromeliad
Society of Central Florida 30th An-
niversary

Nov 9th & 10th
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Annual Sale, Terry Park, Palm
Beach Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL. For
more info contact Betty Ann Pre-
vatt 941-334-0242 or Brian Weber
941-591-4268.

Affiliated Society News

Florida West Coast Bromeliad So-
ciety reports there were 385 entries
in the conference. 123 different
people entered in the Show. There
were 44 Show awards not including
the exhibit awards (which were not
judged but were all awarded with a

Conference award. There were 6
Commercial floor Exhibits, 7 Affili-
ate Society floor Exhibits, and 7
tabletop Exhibits which included
special organizations and Affiliate
Societies for a total of 20 exhibits.
There were 85 bromeliads entered
in the Commercial Section of the
Show and 280 entered in the Hob-
byist Section.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad
Society members Betty Ann Pre-
vatt, Eleanor Kinzie, Mary
McKenzie, Buddy & Judy Single-
ton, Brian Weber, Ross Griffith,
Steve Hoppin and Larry Girioux
have spent their time and energy
rejuvenating the Harborside Brome-
liad Garden.

The Bromeliad Society of Central
Florida has new newsletter editors:
Leighan Hanson and Eloise Beach.
They also report sad news as life
member Beverly "Mac" McKinney,
83, one of the founding members of
their society recently passed away.

Slugs, Snails and Coffee

The following two articles reprinted
without permission. Hope I don't
get caught.

From: www.cnn.com

Snails and slugs prefer decaf
June 27, 2002 Posted: 10:25 AM
EDT (1425 GMT)

By Bill Davis

Special to CNN

(CNN) -- Morning coffee won't pick up a snail's pace. In fact, caffeine may be poisonous to slugs and snails -- a finding that may lead to the development of more environmentally friendly pesticides, researchers said Wednesday.

A study in this week's issue of the journal *Nature* found that slugs and snails are killed when sprayed with a caffeine solution, and that spraying plants with this solution may prevent the slimy mollusks from eating them.

Scientists in Hawaii came upon the results almost by accident.

"We were looking for a solution for frogs," said Earl Campbell of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Honolulu. Campbell and colleagues were testing caffeine sprays to control coqui frogs, a problematic invasive species, when they noticed snails and slugs were also affected by caffeine. Researchers found that when they sprayed an area of soil with a 2 percent caffeine solution, slugs and snails would either crawl away from the treated ground or die.

Further research showed that slugs preferred to eat plain cabbage leaves rather than leaves treated with a caffeinated spray.

Similar studies found that more snails left planted areas treated with caffeine when compared to areas treated with a standard snail repellent.

The findings "aren't something that surprises me," said Campbell. "There's data in frogs, fruit flies, and mosquitoes" that suggest caffeine may be toxic to these animals. The researchers found that large doses of caffeine slowed the snails' heart rates and made contractions irregular.

But don't go pouring coffee on your garden; the average cup of joe contains only about 0.05 percent caffeine -- much less than what did in the snails. Caffeine offers promise for snail and slug control, the researchers said, because it is labeled GRAS (generally recognized as safe) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Commercially available slug sprays contain strong chemicals that are regulated by the FDA and are not allowed in food products, they said. This means that these sprays cannot be used on any plant that humans will eat.

The researchers said the caffeine solution did not damage the foliage on some of the plants used in the experiments, although it did yellow the leaves of other plants, including lettuce. They said adding an agricultural polymer to the solution may

help alleviate the problem.

Although two caffeine-containing pesticides have been developed, neither is on the market yet.

From www.bbc.com

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/sci/tech/newsid_2067000/2067214.stm

Caffeine 'repels slugs'

Caffeine: A lethal neurotoxin to garden pests

Scientists have stumbled on a secret weapon against snails and slugs. They have discovered the garden pests are poisoned by caffeine.

A strong cup of coffee is enough to send the creatures into a writhing frenzy, followed soon by death. Scientists think caffeine acts as a potent neurotoxin against the pests.

The finding may be of use to gardeners and commercial growers. Slugs and snails are notoriously difficult to deter from attacking plants.

The chemicals currently used to control them are not permitted as residues on food crops. Caffeine - regarded as safer and more environmentally acceptable - could be very useful in pest control. Special brew

The discovery was made by scien-

tists at the US Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Hawaii. They were testing a caffeine spray against frog pests when they noticed slugs were dying.

Follow-up studies showed that a 1-2% caffeine spray was enough to kill snails and slugs. Even at concentrations about 100 times weaker, the slugs lost their appetite. A cup of instant coffee contains about 0.05% caffeine, while brewed coffee contains more. Lead researcher Dr Robert Hollingsworth says because caffeine is a natural product and is classified by the US Food and Drug Administration as safe, "it has potential as an environmentally acceptable alternative toxicant for the control of slugs and snails on food crops." Natural high

There is a catch. Caffeine at 2% concentrations can damage the foliage of plants or cause yellowing. It may be possible to overcome this by mixing caffeine with a polymer, say the researchers, who report their findings in the journal Nature.

But not everybody is convinced that caffeine is environmentally friendly.

Dr David Bohan, of the UK agricultural research institute IACR-Rothamsted, told BBC News Online: "1-2% is a very high concentration of caffeine. "That might

be potentially damaging to plants and invertebrates other than slugs such as insects."

PLANT WANDERINGS

We had finally got our permit for collecting seeds in the Everglades. The permit is actually several pages long and lists the specific areas you can collect in, as well as the particular Tillandsias that you may collect the seed of.

We were so excited that we would have the opportunity to finally collect and hoped that it wasn't too late. The flowering season was over and we knew that seeds were already "blowing in the wind".

The weekend we decided to collect was the second weekend in June which coincided with our 27th Anniversary. This was appropriate, as our very first trip to the Everglades was when we married.

There have been many changes since our first trip. Flamingo Hotel is still there, along with their little restaurant and bar, however; these are no longer open during the summer season. They do have cottages now which is where we stayed. The cottages are very nice. They basically are two rooms, bath and small kitchenette with all the utensils.

Since it is a 40 mile one way road in, you don't plan on going out to eat. There used to be a gas station

that is still there but is now only for storage purposes. You can still buy gas but it is sold at the Marina.

There is also a campground, however, diehard campers that we are, have never been able to pitch our tent and actually camp there. We tried once, but that is another story.

Upon arriving we checked out the first visitor center. We were amazed at how large the center was as well as the nice exhibits and book store. There is a boardwalk that extends in back of the center that overlooks a pond. There is also a pond in front and if you look closely, I'm sure you'll see an alligator, we did.

There are quite a few places that you can stop and go on trails, walk by the water and view the wildlife, of which there is a great deal of.

Since we were limited to two areas to collect the seeds from, we stopped first to check out the two areas.

The first collecting sight had nice trails and the mosquitoes didn't know we were there yet. There were quite a few Mangrove trees along the path which was on the edge of a small lake. We got all excited when we finally seen some broms with seeds. Unfortunately, all the plants with seeds were growing on trees in Mangroves at least 12 to 15 feet away from the boardwalk on which we were on. Strike one.

After checking in at the cottage, we

decided to go on several more trails just as tourists and not as collectors. Now I forgot to mention that May is normally when the rainy season would have started, but the rains had just started the week before we arrived and the mosquito population was just beginning to build.

We would drive along the road, just enjoying the view and looking for bromeliads and when we seen something from the car we would pull over and take a closer look and maybe take some pictures. At one of these stops, it was really pretty, there was beautiful clear water that was streaming out from under the road out into the marsh with some crinum and other aquatic and marsh plants with a lot of small trees making it nice and shady.

So we pulled the car over, walked towards the water, and all of the sudden a very large splash occurred right in front of us, scarring the shirt out of us. You never know where you are going to find alligators.

On Saturday, we went to the second collecting sight. Here we found quite an assortment of *Tillandsia flexuosa*. We didn't see any of these in seed, but there were many gorgeous specimens. There were also *T. utriculata*, *T. fasciculata*, and *T. baileyi*.

We were in the search of *Catopsis berteroniana* at this sight besides any other *Tillandsia* seeds we could col-

lect. We were told by Dr. Frank there were a numerous quantity of them in the 80's but they hadn't been seen in recent years. He had asked us to see if we could find any of these *Catopsis*. The area of that sighting were in a somewhat marshy area across the parking lot from a lake. Most of the plants in this area were Mangroves with some assorted other vegetation, but the ground was somewhat bare because I assume of the rise and fall of the water table. It was a rainy day. We had our ponchos on as we climbed in and out of the roots of the mangroves. We did climb the mangroves to get some of the seeds of *T. pruinosa* and *T. balbisiana*. We searched this area pretty thoroughly and did find two small *Catopsis berteroniana*

On the other side of the parking lot by the lake in one of the trees we noticed several *Tillandsias* in bloom including a *Catopsis*. This was a sizeable plant and appeared to have numerous seeds. However, this plant was on a branch over the water and was not a branch in which I could climb the tree and get at. I decided that maybe I could reach it from the water. Off came the shoes and the poncho and, in I went. It didn't seem to deep until I got in. The *Catopsis* was some 20 feet from the shore line. As I inched my way into the water, it kinda got deep quickly. I was only about 4 feet out and the water was 4 feet high. Normally, I

would have tried to just hold onto the branch and make my way out to the end, or maybe swim out there, but there was a rookery of cattle egrets on the other side of the lake and I think I remember hearing that alligators like to hang out in places like that eating any of the babies that might fall out of the nest. Needless to say I didn't want to be on the alligators menu as a fallen egret so I chickened out.

We were surprised as there were no other *Catopsis* anywhere around. We were successful in collecting seeds from several species but unfortunately not *Catopsis*. We plan on going back next spring to see what we can find and look forward to another adventure.

Catching Up Staying Even

This has been a busy bromeliad year, with the World Conference in Florida, numerous local shows, permits finally coming through to collect seeds for the "evil weevil" project and now with the Extravaganza just ahead of us. We hope that some if not all of you have participated in some of these bromeliad events. If you haven't, I don't know why you

are a member. We would like to thank those who have participated and who will participate in the future for all their hard work and support.

I hope you noticed that there are some articles in this issue and that you find them somewhat enjoyable. We hope to do more of this in the future.

As always the roster is available upon request, either directly from us or your local rep.

There will only be three newsletter issues this year due to funds available.

We'd like to see more people participate in the Extravaganza, especially the auction, as those monies go directly to the Florida Council. In the past the Florida Council paid for the evil weevil, but now with more grants coming in, hopefully that will be sufficient funding.

Len & Inez Dolatowski



If you would like to send us something for this Newsletter, please do. You could use snail mail

to :

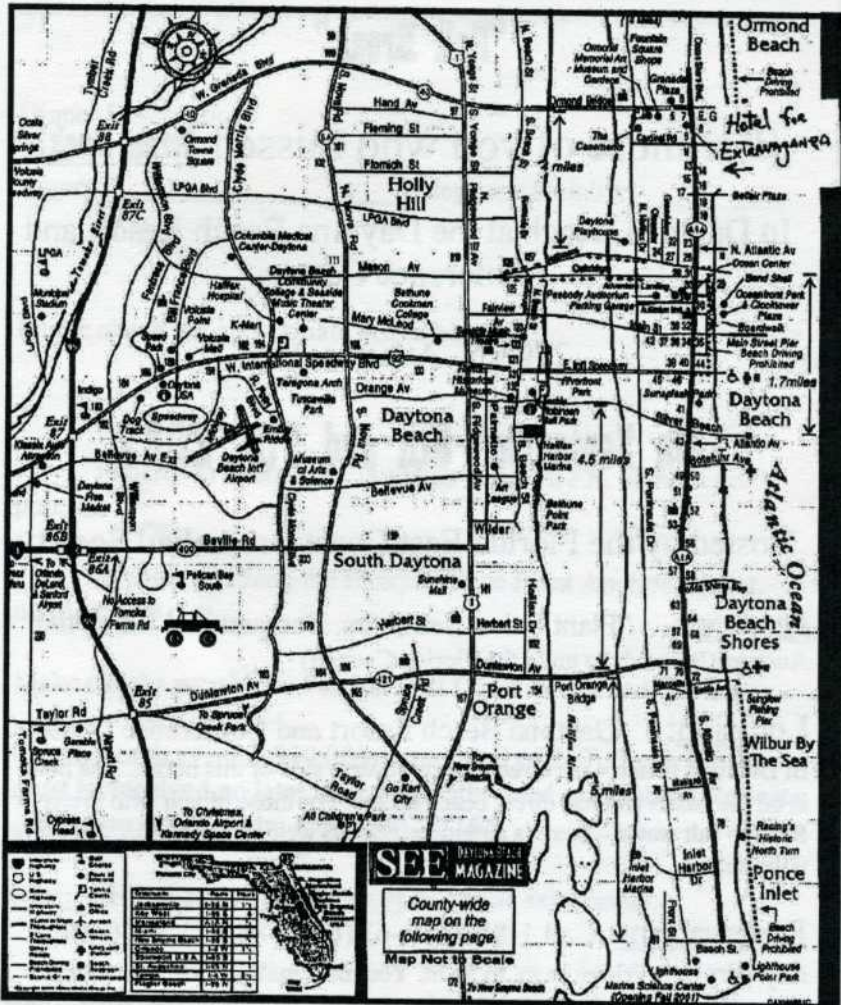
POB 1657 Tallevast, Fl. 34270-1657

OR

E-mail to: ldolatow@tampabay.rr.com



**How to get to the 2002 Extravaganza to be held in
Daytona Beach on Sept. 6th and 7th at the Daytona Beach
Resort and Conference Center, located at 2700 N. At-
lantic Avenue.**



The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

Invites You to Attend the

2002 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA

"Fall Break"

(For those of you who missed Spring Break)

In Daytona Beach at the Daytona Beach Resort and
Conference Center

2700 N. Atlantic Ave.

On September 6th and 7th, 2002

Hosted by the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Features: Plant Sales, Seminars, Banquet and Rare Plant
Auction (Proceeds to go to the Florida Council)

Location: Daytona Beach Resort and Conference Center
in Daytona Beach - see directions on reverse side of this notice. The hotel
is on the beach and has direct beach access. For those of you who prefer
fresh to salt water - there is an indoor pool as well (fewer sharks, but more
wildlife!).

Reservations: Call 1-800-654-6216 or 386/672-3770 Mon-
day through Friday 9a.m. to 5p.m. You must make mention of Extrava-
ganza '02 to take advantage of the low rate of \$69 plus tax/per night. These

rates are good for the week prior and the week following – make this a mini-vacation! Check in time 4:00p.m. - checkout 12 noon. Make your hotel reservations now! Cut off date is August 25th. Make reservation directly to the hotel. Don't be left out!

Questions? Call Jay Thurrott at 386/761-4804 after 6p.m. or leave a message.

Dinner Reservations

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Please check the appropriate boxes below:

_____ in party to attend the Hawaiian Luau on Fri. night at 6:00 p.m.

_____ in party to attend the Banquet/Rare Plant Auction on Sat. night at 6:00 p.m.

Make checks payable to Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Cost for each event is \$20.00/person (total of \$40). Reservations must be received no later than Aug.25th. Send to: **Robert Roberts** – 87 Rose Drive, Palm Coast, Fl. 32164

Note: Hotel reservations must be made separately.

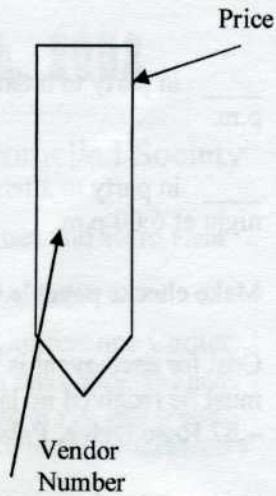
LABELING OF SALE PLANTS FOR EXTRAVAGANZA '02 SALES

For everyone who is interested in selling plants at the upcoming Extravaganza, each plant must have two tags. One tag (generally white, but can be any color except red) is to have the name of the plant on it. The second tag must have the price at the top and the seller's identification number below it. Pricing must be in whole dollars only (please, no \$0.99 specials!). Everyone who wishes to sell plants will need to contact Jay Thurrott at 386/761-4804 in advance to obtain a vendor number. Please don't delay in obtaining this number. Numbers will only be assigned before the Extravaganza and no one will be allowed to sell without a vendor number.

- (1) Plant tag to have name of plant on it.
Species, hybrid, etc.
- (2) Sales tag should have the price of the plant at the top of the tag and the vendor number below the price.

If you write on the rough side of the tag (as opposed to the shiny side) with a #2 pencil, it will last through many sales.

This rule will be strictly enforced.
Do not use both sides of the tag!



On behalf of the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society I would like to invite you to be a vendor at the 2002 Extravaganza to be held in Daytona Beach on Sept. 6th and 7th at the Daytona Beach Resort and Conference Center, located at 2700 N. Atlantic Avenue. I've attached information on the hotel accommodations and banquet and luau registrations. Please contact me at 386/671-8806 to obtain a vendor number if you intend to sell plants.

Sales will generally be handled as at past Extravaganzas –

All plants should have two tags. One must have the plant name (this stays with the plant), the other must have the price on the top portion of the tag (whole dollar amounts only) and the vendor number below it. **Please do not put the price on one side of the tag and the vendor number on the other – use one side of the tag only!**

All plants must be disease and pest free. They will be inspected to ensure that no undesirables (scale, etc.) are brought into the sales area.

75% of the proceeds go to the vendor and 25% to the host society. The host society pays the sales tax.

I think this should be a lot of fun – hope to see you there!

Jay Thurrott
Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society