

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc.



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**Bromeliad Sources
The Bromeliad Exchange
Extravaganza Sales Rules**

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(continued on the inside back cover)

2009 Bromeliad Extravaganza

Sponsored by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
Hosted by Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

November 13-15

Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel

5445 Forbes Place, Orlando

(just north of the Orlando International Airport,
off SR 436/Semoran Blvd.)

Special Room Rate of \$109 per room

24 hour shuttle service from Orlando International Airport

Reservations by phone at (407) 240-1000 or (800) 545-1985
or online at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mcora>
Group code: bsobsoa. Be sure to ask for the rooms under
Bromeliad Society CF. Cut-off date is October 14, 2009.

Friday night

8:00-9:00 pm Dessert Social

9:00-10:00 pm Plant Sales

Open to Conference Registrants Only

Saturday

Plant Sales, Seminars, Raffles, Silent Auctions,
Banquet, Rare Plant Auction

Sunday

Home tours

**More information, page 20;
Extravaganza Sales Rules, page 21**

Betsy McCrory, Chairperson

Betsymccrory@aol.com

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Catching Up ... Staying Even



As spring eases into summer, most of the Council's member societies are winding up their bromeliad shows and sales. Congratulations to one and all on your successful events. It takes many hours of dedicated effort to put on a show and sale. By undertaking these events, you all reach out to your communities and introduce so many people to our favorite plants. You all are on the front lines of bromeliad education and promotion – which makes our bromeliad world go round. After a summer hiatus, there will be more bromeliad shows in the fall, including the big one for our state, the Extravaganza.

Speaking of shows, through the Florida Council, member societies have been asking the BSI to start another round of Judges Schools. Fifteen people are needed to register – you will find information about this on page 31. It's a great learning experience and, by learning the standards of cultivation, it also will help you grow bromeliads even better in your own back yard.

The range of the dreaded Mexican bromeliad weevil has moved further north on the east coast of Florida into Volusia County. The effort to find a biological control continues; there is an update in this issue.

In addition to our bromeliad societies and the Bromeliad Society International, there is another organization dedicated to bromeliads – The Cryptanthus Society. You will find a link to its home page on the opening page of the Council's site (fcbs.org). If you have ever read The Cryptanthus Society Journal, you know there is a lot that goes on in that terrestrial world. If you have an interest in Cryptanthus, consider joining The Cryptanthus Society. Better yet, consider writing an article for the Journal. Did you grow a particular Cryptanthus well? Take a picture of it and write a description of how you

raised that pup. Do you collect Cryptanthus cultivars created by a one person? How did you find Cryptanthus and what made you decide to grow them? What potting soil mix did you use and how did you figure that out? These colorful terrestrial bromeliads are fun to grow – share your experiences with other Crypt growers and write an article for the Journal. You can contact Larry Giroux, the editor, at DrLarry@comcast.net.

The members of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida are hard at work on the next Extravaganza which will be held in Orlando in November. The Florida Council held its quarterly meeting at the Extravaganza's hotel in April, and everyone was delighted with the arrangements. At the July Council meeting, we will be discussing which society will host the Extravaganza in 2010. Who wants to volunteer?



**Thank you,
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society!**

For two decades, the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society has held an annual auction to benefit the Florida Council Weevil Fund. This year's auction raised \$933.00.

The members of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies thank the members of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society for their long-term, dedicated support.

News from FCBS Affiliated Societies



Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Steve Provost reported that the Master Gardeners Sale gets bigger and bigger each year; 4000 plants sold at this half-day event this year. FEC member Alan Bennett donated 150 plants for the society to showcase in the “Secret Garden” of the garden center where they meet.

Seminole Bromeliad Society

Jerry O’Keefe said that members had been hard at work, preparing for the annual show and sale in April.

Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society

Mark Peters reported that 40 people attended their meeting in January. In February, society members had a Bromeliad Day at Heathcote Gardens. They held three seminars as well as lectures, tours and sales. In May the society was planning a trip to Valkaria Gardens in Brevard.

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Sara Donayre told the Council about their annual show which not only was quite beautiful but also a great success. They partnered with the Plantation Women’s Club to put on the show and sale. Ron Cave was a great help at the show, presenting information about the Mexican Bromeliad weevil. Kids loved the display and brought their parents over to see it. In February, they had a work shop with the Federated Garden Club on pupping bromeliads. Sara recommends advertising in the AAA magazine, Florida Gardening and local newspapers. Those three sources have provided the best coverage for Broward’s events.

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Tom Wolfe reported that the society participated in the Tampa Federated Garden Circles Show this spring. There was a large

bromeliad section in the show, including educational displays. It was a successful event for the Guild.

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Betsy McCrory said that the society's main focus this month is preparing for and putting on the annual Mothers Day Show and Sale at Orlando Fashion Square Mall. This will be the society's 34th show.

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

Dave Johnson said that an aggressive marketing campaign, including handing out lots of flyers, resulted in the largest turnout and sale the society has ever had. The society recently honored Harry Luther for his 30 years of service to the bromeliad world through his work at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and the Bromeliad Identification Center. Sarasota also has a new website: <http://sarasotabromeliadsociety.org>.

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Jose Donayre reported that he and Lyn Fieber had a program on how to prepare the bromeliads for the sale. The society recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and sponsored its 30th annual show at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.



**Thank you,
Bromeliad Society of Central
Florida,
for hosting the April quarterly
meeting of the Florida Council of
Bromeliad Societies.**

Florida Bromeliad Sources



ACME Bromeliads

David Smith

14818 Shaw Rd., Tampa 33625

813-962-6279 (home); 813-241-5009 (cell)

Evenings and weekends, call for appointment

Email: dsmith46@tampabay.rr.com

Growing Neoregelia and landscape Aechmea

Boggy Creek Bromeliads

Betsy McCrory

3615 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee 34744

407-348-2139 By appointment only

Specializing in landscape bromeliads (Aechmea and Neoregelia).

Bromeliads Galore

Dave Johnston

6399 90th Avenue, Pinellas Park 33782

Home: 727-544-9187; cell: 727-481-5962

Call for appointment

e-mail johnston28@tampabay.rr.com

Approximately 2000 different species and hybrids in pretty much all genera across the board, including bi-generics.

Country Garden Nursery

15403 SW 200 Street, Miami 33187

(305) 233-9033

Open Monday-Friday 7:00 - 4:00

sales@bromeliadworld.com; www.bromeliadworld.com

We specialize in landscaping bromeliads, many being full sun tolerant. We carry more than 200 varieties, and we mainly offer Neoregelias, Aechmeas, Tillandsias and Vrieseas.

Floridana Tropicals, Inc.

Beth Glover and Coddy Williams

6630 Floridana Ave, Melbourne Beach 32951

321-726-0800 By appointment only

beth@bethglover.com

www.floridanatropicals.com

Landscape Bromeliads. Large stock of *Ae. blanchetiana* and other sun loving bromeliads.

Force's Greenhouse

Butch Force

2812 Kelly Park Road, Apopka 32712

407-886-4814 Call for appointment

LFORCE6766@aol.com

10:00 – 5:00 Monday to Saturday

Numerous types including large landscape

Lobo Landscaping

Tom Wolfe

(813) 961-1475 By appointment only

bromeliadsociety@juno.com

A collector bromeliad nursery specializing in full sun and landscaping specimens.

Michael's Bromeliads

Michael and Donna Kiehl

973 First Dirt Road, Venice 34292

941-488-4011; cell: 727-415-7276; fax: 941-488-1002

By appointment only

info@michaelsbromeliads.com; website:

michaelsbromeliads.com

We specialize in *Neoregelia*, *Billbergia* and foliage *Vriesea* varieties and also offer a wide range of other bromeliad types. Visitors are always welcome, please call or email for an appointment. You can find our current catalog on our website at michaelsbromeliads.com.

The Nature Collection

Shirley and Richard Konefal
2319 Taylor Street, Hollywood 33020
954-922-5582

By appointment only
grillskonefal@aol.com
www.thenaturecollection.com

A retail Bromeliad Nursery ranging from small collectibles to large landscaping specimens shipped across the USA.

Plants N Things by George

George and Irene Aldrich
746 NE 35th Street, Ocala 34479-2712
352-629-1913 By appointment
plantsnthings5@cox.net
Specialize in bromeliads and ferns.

Powell's Nursery

1002 Bay Vista Drive, Tarpon Springs 34689
727-938-0831

Hours: 8:00 – 5:00 daily – call first

Bromeliads and many tropical foliage plants including a variety of ferns, philodendrons, nephtytis, spathaphyllum, corn plants, etc. Powell's sells many tropicals in one gallon pots, 3 for \$5.00 (wholesale or retail).

Russell's Bromeliads

15100 Lost Lake Road, Clermont 34711
Tel: 407-656-5541; Fax: 407-656-7640
Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00
Specializing in quality Tillandsias.

Sunshine Bromeliads

Jorge Rodriguez
14601 Old Sheridan Street, Southwest Ranches 33330
Office: 954-252-3330 Fax: 954-252-2811

Sunshine Bromeliads continued next page.

Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00; Saturday 10:00 – 3:00
info@sunshinebromeliads.com; www.sunshinebromeliads.com

Sunshine Bromeliads is a family owned nursery which was started by Jorge's grandmother, Josefa Leon, over 24 years ago. What first started out as an amazing private collection has grown to an amazing nursery with 25,000 square feet of shade house and the largest selection of bromeliads in Broward County. Sunshine Bromeliads tailors to both the retail customer as well as to commercial landscape companies. Come visit our incredible selection of bromeliads. We promise you will not be disappointed.

T & C Tropical

Tim and Colleen Hendrix

21 Holly Lane, Plantation 33317

954-931-1711 or 954-530-0076 By appointment only

timbo-169@comcast.net

Our nursery is located in the heart of beautiful historical Plantation. We have hundreds of different varieties of Neoregelia and Tillandsia.

Tropiflora

Dennis and Linda Cathcart

3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota 34243

800-613-7520/941-351-2267; fax 941-351-6985

sales@tropiflora.com website www.tropiflora.com

Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 5:00; Saturday, 8:00 - 3:00

Established in 1976, our nursery specializes in collectible plants such as bromeliads, but includes orchids, succulents, aroids and many more. Our bromeliad collection includes 4,000 varieties of species and hybrids, with an inventory of over 1,000,000 plants housed in 6 acres of greenhouses and shade houses. We are primarily a mail order nursery, but visitors are welcome. The Cargo Report, a color catalog-newsletter, is published several times annually and is available free of charge.

Culture Tips: Choices

by Jay Thurrott



I don't think there will be much of an argument about this – 2008/2009 was a cold winter and it is wonderful to see spring finally arrive. I know there are those who will reminisce about winters long since past and how the manatees had to break the ice just to take a breath one year...or how there was a winter when all you could get was frozen orange juice for breakfast because all of the oranges were frozen. Well, I don't remember any of that, but I'm telling you – it was a cold winter. Four consecutive nights with the temperature plunging to the lower 20s is not typical for Port Orange and if it wasn't for the frost cloth that I've been hoarding, I'd be in the market for a new collection of bromeliads. This is probably a good time to assess the effects of last winter and to begin planning on a course of action for the upcoming 2009/2010 winter.

There were a number of surprises (some good, some not so good) when I finally worked up the courage to look under the frost cloth and began putting my plants back on the benches... and let me just say - frost cloth is one terrific innovation for those of us who persist in trying to grow plants that have difficulty surviving in cold weather. Moving one or two plants indoors and then back outside again after the danger of frost passes is fine, but it doesn't take long for the serious bromeliad collector to amass so many plants that moving them on short notice to a protected area is really out of the question. Frost cloth can be spread over a group of plants to trap residual ground heat around the plants, effectively insulating them from sudden drops in temperature and it can even be left in place for weeks without any harm to the plants – just marvelous stuff!

For the new bromeliad hobbyist, probably the best advice

concerning cold protection is to try restrict your selection of plants to those that do well in your area. If you grow cold sensitive plants, don't be surprised when they're damaged by cold weather. There is a tremendous variety of bromeliads to choose from - choose wisely! I think frost cloth was really developed for those of us who will never be accused of being overly smart in our plant selections. Frost cloth is great, but it makes more sense to grow plants that you don't have to cover whenever a cold front arrives.

Which plants should you choose? Although many different lists of cold hardy and cold sensitive plants have been published through the years, these are always very subjective in nature and often conflict with each other. What is listed as cold sensitive in one area of Florida is considered cold hardy in another and vice versa. I suspect that this has a lot to do with the various clones of plants that are in circulation, some having greater cold tolerance than others. Regardless, you don't really need a list - after a few rotations of the seasons you begin to learn by trial and error which bromeliads are well suited for the area that you live in and which ones are not good choices for your collection. You can learn a lot by discussing this with your other club members to learn what their experiences with cold weather may have been. This is a great way to avoid some of the mistakes that they, no doubt, have made. For example: many of the big (and some of the small), tough-looking *Aechmeas* turn out to be real wimps when it comes to cold weather and probably aren't good choices for North or East Central Florida. Even those protected by frost cloth in my yard often are either severely damaged or killed by those sudden waves of cold weather that we seem to be afflicted with each year. An interesting exception to this rule that I've found has been *Aechmea blanchetiana* - I had always assumed this plant to be cold sensitive. I was given my first plant of this species some years ago by a woman who had grown it in her yard in Daytona Beach for many years, but without ever seeing it bloom. It turned out that she went away

each summer before the bloom started, and her gardener was the only one around to appreciate the bloom while she was gone throughout the summer and fall. Being a conscientious gardener, he removed the fading bloom spike so she wouldn't have to look at a faded bloom when she returned in late fall. Finally, she gave the plant to me before she left one summer, exasperated that it never bloomed, and it promptly put up a bloom spike in my yard! Anyway, this particular clone of *Ae. blanchetiana* seems especially well adapted to cold weather, surviving this past season's 20 F degree nights in Port Orange with only some leaf damage. Those blanchetianas of the same clone lucky enough to have been covered in another portion of the yard emerged completely unscathed without so much as a burned leaf tip! I can't speak for other varieties of this plant, but the one in my yard is quite cold hardy. Members of your club are a great resource when it comes to past experiences in growing bromeliads. Ask questions at your meetings. Most members will be glad to help in choosing the best plants for you. You may find that you can avoid discouraging failures by better matching plant selection with your specific growing conditions.

Now is a good time to be replacing those plants in your collection that did not survive the winter. This time, try to purchase plants that don't require a great amount of protection when the cold weather returns. Consider adding some Vrieseas in your yard – they may look delicate (and, certainly, some are more sensitive to the cold than others), but many varieties are extremely cold hardy. This past winter I had overlooked a very large *Vriesea fosteriana* when I was covering everything else before the cold weather arrived. When I finally remembered it, we had already experienced several freezing nights, several hot days and several more freezing nights. The result? The plant survived with very little damage! There were a few damaged leaves and a great looking bloom spike that emerged a few weeks later. This past winter was a difficult one for many of us, but it also

has provided an opportunity to evaluate what cold protection measures were effective, what ones weren't, and what plants are able to tolerate periods of cold weather. Now is a good time to make use of what we've learned and to begin preparing for the next winter!...and, by the way – this same advice holds true for choosing heat tolerant, drought tolerant, and flood tolerant bromeliads.



The Dr. Pepper Factor

by Mike Michalski

A little experiment that I did. I took six identical seedlings and fed three of them Diet Dr. Pepper and the other three, I gave them Nutricote. After two months, the Dr. Pepper plants were a little bigger but the leaves were softer in texture. After six months, the Dr. Pepper plants were 50% larger and the leaves were as hard as the other three. The plants were an *Andropogon distachyoides* hybrid.



Clone Preservation Update

by Alan Herndon



Due to the demands of the BSSF Annual show in April, little was accomplished in the clone preservation project during the past month, so this update will be relatively brief.

Enough interest has been expressed in the project to justify moving to some of the operational facets of the project. Two areas, setting up procedures for verifying the identity of 'forgotten' clones and establishing a network of volunteers to maintain the various clones in cultivation, are of primary importance.

We now know of several older collections that need to be studied with care. However, as much as I might want to visit collections throughout the state, it is hard enough for me to visit all of the important collections in the Miami area. Also, my ability to recognize all of the potentially desirable clones is limited. I depend on people with wider experience, such as Nat DeLeon, to provide guidance on the older plants (pre-1970s) and the plethora of hybrids produced since the 1980s. We can also use any available literature (articles in BSI or local newsletters, the Cultivar Registry, FCBS Photo Index, catalogs, etc.)

We need volunteers from throughout the state who can conduct surveys of collections in their own localities. Initial surveys do not need to be exhaustive, but it would be especially useful if the surveyors were prepared to provide labels for plants they recognize. A person familiar with many of the commonly grown bromeliads could perform an invaluable service identifying the plants in a collection that require further study. As a first step in further study, it would probably be useful to try photographing the plants in detail, and distributing the photos to knowledgeable people

throughout the state. It may turn out to be feasible to identify many plants through this means alone. Plants that require even further work can be dealt with on a case-by-case basis until we are able to come up with a formal process.

In order to start working on the identification process, I requested that BSSF members bring (labeled or unlabeled) clones of *Aechmea chantinii* to the May meeting. There we can discuss some of the characteristics that can be used to distinguish among various clones.

Finding clones is, of course, just the first step in the process. Clones that are widespread in cultivation will require no immediate action, but need to be monitored. The database developed for this project (in the future) will support the monitoring function. As a first approximation, we can say ‘widespread in cultivation’ means found in more than 10 collections spread throughout the state. (Here, we would like to solicit input from all interested parties on the best way to define ‘widespread in cultivation’. What characteristics should be included in a formal definition?)

Clones that are rarely found in collections need more active care. We would like to recruit a group of volunteer growers, each willing to undertake the cultivation of some endangered clones. Volunteer growers can expect to get access to plants that are not otherwise available and support in growing those plants. In return, they will be expected to follow our requirements for labeling (to minimize the chance of plants losing labels) and to return some offsets for the use of the preservation project (ie, distribution to other growers). The return of offsets will, of course, depend on the plants involved. Given a plant that would usually produce (say) four offsets per year, we might request that 2 offsets be returned to the project each year. Volunteer growers would be able to select classes of plants most suited to their interests and growing conditions.

Growers are not restricted to endangered clones, of course. It would be great if someone would like to collect and grow all of the Nat DeLeon hybrids, for instance. In fact, I would strongly encourage this because Nat DeLeon is available to confirm the identification of his hybrids. The same is true of Gary Hendrix hybrids, Herb Hill hybrids and Bullis hybrids. In all of these instances, several of the hybrids, at least, are widespread, but the clone preservation project could help ferret out and make available hybrids that are not easily found. Collections could also be built around plant groups rather than hybridizers. For instance, the various *Aechmea* subgenus *Ortgiesii* species form a group of reasonable size. You could expand the group by including hybrids involving the species.

The possibilities are endless. Whether you are interested in species, hybrids or both, you can participate in the clone preservation project. If you have ideas for a way to participate that has not been mentioned, bring them up. The project is still in a very early developmental stage, and all contributions are welcome.

Contact Alan Herndon at Alanherndon@aol.com.



The Bromeliad Exchange

Seeking *A. tillandsioides*, *A. moorei*, *A. romeroi*, and *A. retusa*. If you have a pup from any or all I will trade or purchase. Steve Seal 239-768-9279

~~~~~

Plant rings for sale. 3 sizes: 12" (\$3.25); 16" (\$3.50); 20" (\$3.75). Rings hold 5" pots, hang on  $\frac{3}{4}$  pole. Pole end dipped in rubber, plant end black. Marty Baxley: susiebaxley@verizon.net 727-504-8951

~~~~~

Looking to buy Neo. 'Valentine'. Contact Mike Michalski at pgonza7782@aol.com, 305 2792416.

~~~~~

Billbergia hybridizing stock needed. Want to purchase following Billbergias: Black Gem, Cherry Bomb, Distachia var. Straussiana, Tinker Bell, Incendiary Delight, Vicky Chirside, Curlew, Xmas Cheer, Oeser's Bigeneric Hybrid, Cherry Fizz. Ben Sill - bsill2007@charter.net

~~~~~

Looking for older *Cryptanthus* cultivars from Grace Goode, Bello, John Laroche, etc. Contact me with what you have available. Will trade or purchase. Also looking for articles for the *Cryptanthus* Society Journal. Larry Giroux 239-997-2237 DrLarry@comcast.net

~~~~~

Available to a good home: *blanchetiana*, *eurycorymbus*, *smithiorum* and *squarrosa* (formerly *cariocae*). Contact Beth Glover beth@bethglover.com

~~~~~

The Bromeliad Exchange is for members of FCBS affiliated societies only; you must be included in the roster on file with the Council from your society. Commercial growers and retailers may not use this service for commercial purposes or promotion.

Bromeliad Exchange items will be accepted on a first-come

first-served basis and will be published on a space available basis.

Submit your listing for the Bromeliad Exchange by email to bromexchange@fcbs.org. Include your name, conventional mail address, and phone number. Keep your listing to 35 words or less.

The Bromeliad Exchange will be published again in the November issue of the newsletter; submit your items for that issue by October 17.

The Florida Council of Bromeliad societies warrants no claims; the Council does not derive any financial benefit from the Bromeliad Exchange.

Upcoming Events

August 14-15

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale
Sanford Garden Club
200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford

November 13-15

Bromeliad Extravaganza
Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Renaissance Orlando Hotel Airport
5445 Forbes Place, Orlando

November 21-22

Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society
Clinic and Sales Booth 10:00-4:00
Heathcote Botanical Gardens
210 Savannah Road, Ft. Pierce 34982

December 4-6

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show and Sale
Terry Park, Ft. Myers
Judged show on Friday, December 4. Show and sale open to the public, Saturday 9:00-5:00; Sunday, 10:00-4:00.

Orlandiana

2009 Bromeliad Extravaganza

Wear your pineapple clothes and spend the weekend of November 13 at Orlandiana, the 2009 Bromeliad Extravaganza. This year's event is hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida and will be held in Orlando at the conveniently located Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel, just five minutes north of Orlando International Airport. Shuttle service between the airport and the hotel is available.

The weekend starts off on Friday evening with the Dessert Reception from 8:00 to 9:00 for Extravaganza registrants. Everyone will have time to check in, have dinner at one of the many restaurants in the area, and then return for sweet treats and socializing. At 9:00, the doors to the sales room will open for one hour for registrants to work off the sugar they have consumed and snag those coveted bromeliads.

The sales area will reopen at 9:00 a.m. Saturday. You can shop all day long, until 4:00. A holding area will be available while you are shopping so you can drop off your treasures and return for more! Seminars will be hosted in the amphitheatre; two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Auction preview will be at 5:30 during the cocktail reception. At the banquet, you will have your choice of Citrus Chicken with a Cilantro, Pineapple and Cucumber salsa; Rum-Glazed Pork Loin with Mango Chutney; or Penne Pasta with Seasonal Vegetables and Marinara. Look for the Extravaganza registration form on line at fcbs.org, from your Florida Council representatives, and in the mail this summer. Fill it out and mail it in – Extravaganza reservation deadline is October 31.

After the banquet, of course, is the Rare Plant Auction. Enjoy the excitement and fun of seeing rare and unusual bromeliads. Catch bromeliad fever and bid for these beauties to join your own collection. It's always a fun evening. Early check out

will be available again this year.

Hotel reservation deadline is October 14. Be sure to specify you are coming for the Extravaganza when you make your registration. The hotel is in a great location – just north of the intersection of SR 528 and SR 436/Semorán Blvd. There are numerous restaurants in the area, with several within walking distance to the hotel. The hotel does charge for parking (all of them do in this area). The rate is \$5.00 for the day.

Come for a great weekend of communing with our favorite plants and some of our favorite people!



Extravaganza 2009 Rules for Selling

1. There is no charge for sales space, cubicles, booths or tables.
2. Vendors (commercial or society members) must be members of a society affiliated with the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS). All Societies are encouraged to bring their plants and participate in the Members Section of the sale.
3. All vendors must have an Extravaganza ID number. Call or email: Georgia Orser 352-589-1385 or (cell) 352-250-3571 or email georgia@lexisparents.com to obtain an ID number. Please use Extravaganza Vendor number in the subject line when addressing emails. Whenever possible previously used numbers will be assigned to vendors who have sold in previous years.
4. Plants must be clean and free from disease, insects, etc.

Potting material should be clean and weed free and all water removed before entering the hotel.

5. Only bromeliads and bromeliad articles can be sold.

6. All plants, including bare root specimens **MUST** have two (2) tags. One must have the plant name (this will stay with the plant); the other must have the price on the top portion of the tag (whole dollar amounts only) and the assigned vendor number below it. Please do not put the price on one side of the tag and the vendor number on the other side of the tag - use one side of the tag only. Price tag should be a color other than white if possible. The exception to this rule is for vendors that have pre-printed commercial labels that include plant name, price and vendor's name/number.

7. We will have ample vendor space. Additional plants can be brought into the sales room as space becomes available.

8. Plants will be received Friday, August 29 from 1:00 to 6:00 PM ONLY. Vendors can be present in the sales area to set up or just leave their plants to be arranged by our designated members in the space allocated. Only vendor staff and designated members will be allowed to enter the sales room on Friday and before 9:00 AM on Saturday.

9. Once the plants are deposited in the sales room, no plant holding, or transactions can be carried out between vendors or with others. All plants are to be sold through the Extravaganza cashiers.

10. Sale hours will be:

Friday evening, November 13, from 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Saturday, November 14, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

11. The Bromeliad Society of Central Florida (BSCF) shall retain twenty five percent (25%) of the gross sales of each

vendor. Sales tax will be collected as patrons check out. Patrons will be able to pay with credit cards, checks, or cash.

12. Bromeliad related items (art, t-shirts, crafts, etc.) might be offered for sale, subject to the preceding rules. These items should be labeled the same as plants (Rule #6).

13. All unsold plants must be removed between 4:00 PM and 4:30 PM, Saturday, November 14. Plants remaining in the sales area after 4:30 PM will be considered a donation to the BSCF.

14. FCBS and BSCF will not be responsible for loss of plants or craft items. However, all reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure their safety. Security will be provided during nighttime hours.

15. Growers are encouraged to donate a bromeliad or bromeliad related article to the Florida Council's Rare Plant Auction.

16. The unauthorized use of photographs from the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website is strictly prohibited. When permission from the author of such a photograph has been granted, the original photograph must be used and not the one posted on the Council website.

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352-589-1385 or email: Georgia@lexisparents.com

Carolyn Schoenau, Co-Chairman, 2009 Extravaganza
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Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report

January – March 2009

by Ronald D. Cave¹, J. Howard Frank², and
Teresa Cooper²

The production of *Lixadmontia franki* pupae improved significantly after the down period of the previous six months. Average weekly production of pupae was 118, with a maximum of 210. In January, 546 pupae were produced, in February 430 pupae, and in March 533 pupae. The trimestral total was 1,419, up 56% from the previous trimester.

Field releases of *L. franki* are now being scheduled at more frequent and regular intervals than in 2008. Field release information from the reporting period is:

Fakahatchee Strand Preserve SP	16 January	19 ♀♀	18 ♂♂
Collier-Seminole SP	13 February	23 ♀♀	25 ♂♂
Collier-Seminole SP	5 March	29 ♀♀	26 ♂♂
Lake Rogers SP	24 March	22 ♀♀	19 ♂♂
TOTAL		93 ♀♀	88 ♂♂

The sentinel pineapple crowns were put out at the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve SP site on 20 February and retrieved on 5 March. From these, 97 weevil larvae were removed and held in the laboratory. None were parasitized by *L. franki*.

Field trips were made to the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary in all months. A few bromeliads were found fallen from the canopy and killed by the Mexican bromeliad weevil and no weevil specimens were found. In March, the living medium-size and large-size bromeliad populations in the canopy were counted and totaled 64; this is 3% of the population that was censused in March 2007.

On 9 January, Howard Frank and Michael Thomas visited Hickory Bluff Preserve, east of Osteen in **Volusia County** and

found *M. callizona* (an adult, a pupa, and a large larva) in fallen *T. utriculata*. This is the most northerly record yet, and the first for Volusia County.

Laboratory Research

The *L. franki* colony in Gainesville was systematically exposed to six different host densities to assess whether the female fly is able to distinguish between host densities. Early results indicate that the female may be able to distinguish between host densities and deposits a variable number of maggots relative to the assessed density. To determine whether the outcome is a result of female choice or maggot mortality (after larviposition but before parasitism), maggots were artificially larviposited in Petri dishes prepared in the same manner as they were for exposure to the fly colony. Results from this study are pending.

Several upcoming studies will require artificial larviposition so attempts were made to isolate females once mated in order to dissect them when the maggots are mature. Females did not survive well in isolation. A new method was devised by marking mated females on the back of the thorax with non-toxic paint and allowing them to remain in the population. This method works well and will be used.

Studies on fly mating behavior, development time, effects of multiple maggots per host, and fly survivorship in the field are under analysis or being prepared in Ft. Pierce.

Publications

Frank, J. H., and Lounibos, L. P. 2009. Insects and allies associated with bromeliads: a review. *Terrestrial Arthropod Reviews* 1 (2008): 125-153.

¹Indian River Research & Education Center, UF, Ft. Pierce, FL

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Dyckia – Light-Loving Bromeliads

by Karen Andreas



Found mostly in central Brazil (some are also in Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentina and Bolivia), these members of the Pitcairnioideae family are terrestrial or saxicolous (grow on rocks). Dyckias grow in dry, open and rocky climates where they are exposed to extremes in drought and wet conditions as well as to very bright or direct sunlight.

There are 145 species and varieties of Dyckia. Their size ranges from several inches to five feet across. Dyckia leaves look succulent; they are stiff, have spines and are green, rose, maroon, tan or silver, often with heavy scurf (the white or silvery powdery substance often seen on bromeliad leaves). Their growth habit is generally a dense or tight rosette form and most grow easily into clumps.

The Dyckia inflorescence does not come from the middle but appears laterally, from among the leaves. It is either simple or only has a few branches. Flowers range in color from yellow to orange to red.

Because Dyckias are terrestrial and develop large root masses, they need larger pots than normal for this size bromeliad. They also do very well when planted in the ground. Use potting media that drains well; plant only the root area, do not plant too deeply. While they are drought tolerant, do not allow them to remain dry to the point that their leaves start to shrivel. If your Dyckia gets to that point, water frequently or replant it in a soil that retains more moisture, at least until it recovers.

When repotting, it is best to wear gloves. You may have to remove the entire clump from the pot in order to get pups or break up the mass.

Don't pamper these bromeliads. They do best when grown hard. Use slow release fertilizer when repotting your Dyckia.

Go to the Florida Council website to see pictures of Dyckias: <http://fcbs.org>. Click on Photo Index, then Dyckia, then Species.

D. marnier-lapostollei v. *esteve* is able to tolerate drought conditions. It requires well-drained potting media and needs to be well ventilated. For best results, keep the soil barely damp in the winter. This is a slow grower.

One of the pictures of *D. microcalyx* var. *ostenii* is a great habitat shot. This Dyckia is found on rocky banks in hard sun. Its inflorescence is simple, with yellow flowers.

D. minarum grows on rocks or on open rocky ground in its native habitat. It has a succulent appearance, with leaves edged in curved spines. Its flowers are orange.

Be sure to check out the cultivars of this hardy genus, also under the Photo Index, Dyckia, Cultivars.

Dyckia 'Artic Summer' is dramatic with its heavy scurf.

Dyckia 'Brittle Star' is stunning with its snow white teeth!

Dyckia 'Naked Lady' has no spines.

For a red and spiny Dyckia, look up 'Toothy'.

And for something entirely different, Dyckia 'Yellow Glow' can't be beat!

So be bold and give Dyckias a place in your collection.

Roberto Burle Marx

by Dr. Jose Donayre

All throughout this year there will be a number of events and celebrations honoring Roberto Burle Marx around the world. In fact, one is already taking place at the New York Botanical Gardens and another one at the Paco Imperial Museum in Rio. His name is part of a distinguished generation of outstanding Brazilians dedicated to nature of which he was the seniormost member. They are people like Roberto Menescal, Roberto Kautsky, Luiz K. Correia de Araujo, Renato Bello, Elton M. C. Leme and Luiz Felipe Nevaes de Carvalho all of whom we will recognize because of their involvement with bromeliads. This famous Brazilian creative genius of white mane and ample moustache, best known for his monumental garden and landscaping work, was born 100 years ago this year, precisely on August 4 1909. A self-taught botanist, he will be celebrated as an artist of nature having had the privilege of been born in a country synonymous with tropical flora. It is said that while studying painting, one of his early avocations, in Berlin in 1928, he frequently visited the Dahlem Botanical Gardens, where he came to the full realization to what his country really was as one possessed of the most varied species of plants in the world. He devoted the rest of his life to explore and protect the natural grandeur he was born in.

He died on June 4, 1994, at 84 years of age after having been involved in about 3,000 large landscaping public and private projects in 20 countries, including the famous undulating promenade at Copacabana Beach in Rio and a redesign of a section of Biscayne Blvd. in Miami for which, unfortunately, I have not found reference as to the exact location. Soon after returning from Germany he was enticed by noted architect Lucio Costa to contribute to the building of Brasilia, the extraordinary new capital where he designed a series of magnificent gardens including his spectacular Itamarati hanging gardens at the modernistic Ministry of Foreign

Relations building. He also excelled in the visual arts transferring some of his major design works to colorful paintings and tapestries as he developed his signature gardens of bold curved forms mixing plants and local materials. He exhibited his art widely in many countries, including a show at the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan in 1991 “The Unnatural Art of the Garden” which I had the curiosity to attend when I worked there at the UN. Unaware as I was about bromeliads at that time I was attracted by his new approach to gardens and landscaping but I came out of the experience thinking that the New York area could not ever be a place for tropical plants.

Two years prior to his death he attended the 1992 World Bromeliad Conference in Tampa thanks to the fine work and perseverance of Herb Plever of New York where he had an engagement. The event Chairman was Tom Wolfe who recalls Burle Marx delivering the keynote address and later holding a seminar for a selected group.

Although his work was characterized by the artistic mix of large groupings of tropical plants, Bromeliads had a special place in his designs. He collected and brought into cultivation numerous Brazilian species and his name has been given to bromeliad species in nine genus. We can find a “burle-marxii” in *Aechmea*, *Dickya*, *Cryptanthus*, *Hohenbergia*, *Neoregelia*, *Neoglaziovia*, *Orthophytum*, *Pitcarnia* and *Tillandsia* genera.

His memory lives in his exuberant estate of Sao Antonio de Bica, 250 acres of what was previously a plain coffee plantation. He converted it into a magnificent naturalistic landscape creation that cannot be defined simply as a botanical garden where his architectural genius and his sense of arrangement of diverse plants live. His warm friendship with the superb plant illustrator Margaret Mee (“In search of Flowers of the Amazon Forest”, “Bromeliads”) who lived nearby made him dedicate a section of his garden to her. He is

destruction of natural habitats, a resistance that in Brazil has claimed many lives.

If and when a World Bromeliad Conference takes place in Brazil, not a far fetched thought now that the BSI is searching for another international location after Cairns, his estate now under the protection of the state and named “Sitio Roberto Burle Marx” will be the greatest attraction we would never miss.

This article was originally published in the BromeliAdvisory (April 2009) and is used with permission.

Speakers List

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Steve Hoppin

Pup Removal, Plant Division and Potting of Terrestrial Bromeliads Including Cryptanthus, Orthophytums and Pitcairnia

Mike O’Leary

Bromeliads for Sun or Shade

Florida West Coast

Dennis Giardina

The Search for an Alternate Parasite for the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil

Dennis Cathcart

Terrestrial and Lithophytic Bromeliads in Their Habitats

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Tom Wolfe

The Judges Dilemma

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Steve Hoppin

How to Succeed in Growing Cryptanthus

Seminole Bromeliad Society

Jay Thurrott

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Dennis Cathcart

Who Wants to Become a BSI Judge?

By Vicki Chirnside



If 15 people are very serious about becoming BSI judges and register by June 1st, the BSI Judges School will be held on Saturday, September 26.

Requirements to begin Judges School are:

- Be a member of BSI;
- Be a member of an affiliate society;
- Own a Judge's Handbook (available through the BSI);
- Be committed to attend all schools;
- Be willing to travel to schools and shows;
- Prepay schools 1 and 2.

Schools 1 and 2 are required attendance. The fees for these schools are \$25.00 each (\$50.00 total) and must be prepaid when registering. There will not be make-up schools for these first schools.

There are six schools plus final exam. There will be make-up schools for schools 3 - 6. A student is only allowed to make-up two schools. The fees for schools 3-6 will be determined by the number of students. Location of schools will probably be in Ft. Myers and/or Fort Lauderdale.

Schools are held approximately every 6 months until finished. Students are required to bring plants to each school for discussion and judging. After successfully completing schools 1 and 2, students will begin to student judge. If you need anymore information, contact Betty Ann Prevatt, BSI Judge's Certification Chairman (bprevattpcc@aol.com, 239-334-0242) or Vicky Chirnside, Eastern Judge's District Registrar (vickychir@aol.com, 941-493-5825).



Next Florida Council Meeting

July 11, 2009

Hosted by the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society
See your Council representative
for more information.



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(continued from inside front cover)

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