

# KABBROM

## Caboolture and Districts Bromeliad Society Inc NO 6 November / December 2010

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings fellow brommers

October and nearly Christmas!! Does time go faster each year or is it just my imagination?

No meeting this month as you should all know we have our bus trip to 4 beautiful gardens on the southside of Brisbane. I hope you all enjoy the trip. You will see some beautiful Brom displays as well as the accompanying gardens. There will be plants for sale at each venue so take you money along. Unfortunately Deirdre and I are unable to join you all so those that are going have a great time.

Don't forget the November meeting is the Christmas party at the Bowls/Sports Club at Apex Park which promises to be a great day.

We are asking everybody to bring a present along up to a value of ten dollars for a Secret Santa. Those that bring a gift, will get a raffle ticket, however if you do not bring a gift you will not get a ticket and will not be able to participate in the raffle draw, in other words if you bring a pressy you will take one home. Additional to the Secret Santa raffle will be some lucky door prizes supplied by the Society.

Don't forget the Christmas party is a Christmas celebration so appropriate Christmassy dress will help set the tone. I might even wear my stupid hat again if I can find it.

See you all at the party!!!  
Bruce

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS** are held on the 4th Saturday of the month (except December) at The Combined Services Club, 21 Hayes Street, Caboolture. 1:30pm start.

#### MEETING DATES FOR 2010

October	23	NO MEETING: DAY BUS TRIP
November	27	CHRISTMAS PARTY

Take advantage of these wonderful opportunities available at each meeting

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * Knowledgeable and informative guest speakers | * Plant sales                                       |
| * Lending library                              | * Plant fertiliser, pots, hangers, pencils for sale |
| * Plant display and competition                | * Raffle  |
| * A chance to ask experts about problem plants | * Beginners session                                 |

### STUDY GROUP

*Study groups may be cancelled due to commitments by the Waites. Please check this newsletter for the dates.*

All members are welcome. Just remember to bring a notebook, a pen and a plate for Morning Tea.

**When:** 3rd Thursday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am  
November 21 *Last one for the year*

**Where:** Sheryl Waite's garden, Talbot Lodge, 4 Prudence Court, Upper Caboolture.

# POPULAR PLANT COMPETITION 2010

## AUGUST

### NOVICE SECTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

*Tillandsia tectorum*  
*Neoregelia 'Passion Play'*  
*Neoregelia brevifolia pendulous*

Jude & John Pullin  
 Barbara Murray  
 Gary May

JUDGES CHOICE



### ADVANCED SECTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

*Neoregelia 'Dream Baby'*  
*Orthophytum 'Warren Loose'*

Jeanette Robertson  
 Jeanette Robertson

JUDGES CHOICE



## SEPTEMBER

### NOVICE SECTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

*Tillandsia bulbosa*  
*Tillandsia fasciculata*  
*Neoregelia 'Orange Flush'*

Denise Storey  
 John Pullin  
 Barbara Murray

JUDGES CHOICE



### ADVANCED SECTION

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE]
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE]

*Canistrum triangular (Hawaiian Form)*  
*Tillandsia butzii*  
*Neoregelia 'Red Macaw'*

The Waites  
 Madge Jarvis  
 Jeanette Robertson

JUDGES CHOICE



## BROMMOMENTS



Jeanette demonstrated how to prepare plants for showing and displaying. It was an opportune moment as the Morayfield Sales and Display was happening in the next fortnight.

## WAITEYS WORDS OF WISDOM

- (1) Support your newsletter team which comprises of Barbara Murray. Without her hard work and dedication we would not have a newsletter of the standard that we can be proud of.
- (2) If nobody supplies articles for the newsletter they have to find something to fill the empty spaces. A little article, maybe on how you got started in your fascination of bromeliads, will help.
- (3) A photo of one of your favourite plants coming into flower. Maybe take photos over several weeks from when it starts to spike to full flowering.
- (4) Maybe a photo of one of your plants that didn't do what it was supposed to do and ask why.
- (5) Support your newsletter. It is the lynch pin of our society. It's yours and mine.

Cheers  
Waitey



Do you know the name of this plant? I photographed it at the lat meeting.

## LIBRARY NEWS

All members may borrow from the library. Items **must** be returned the next month. If this is not possible please contact the Librarian prior to the meeting.

### FOR SALE

*Tillandsias, March 2009*. CD. Newly released and containing pictures of most known Tillandsia. \$10.00.

*Tillandsia II* by Paul T. Isley \$80.00

*Bromeliads the New Generation in Full Colour* by Shane Zaghini \$28.00

**NEW Gardening Pencils \$3.00 each**

Remember if you want pots, hangers, name tags to use the order form (available at meetings or I can email one to you) and return it to The Waites. The goods will be at the next meeting.

## GUEST SPEAKERS



Powerblend representative Darren Webb gave an informative talk on the making of potting mixes.

Soils ain't soils.

Lorraine captivated the audience with her recent experiences of importing bromeliads.



The committee is holding a planning meeting in December. Please make sure that you have placed your suggestion/s in the appropriate box or email your suggestion/s to me at [yarrumai@bigpond.net.au](mailto:yarrumai@bigpond.net.au) or ring Bruce. The committee appreciates this feedback and tries to incorporate your needs into the meeting. Your input last year resulted in-  
the change to our current venue – which is a lot cooler!  
And the addition of  
Brommoments to the meetings – as an educational component.

# USING LIQUID FERTILISERS by Bob Reilly

## (from Bromeliaceae Jan / Feb 2005)

The regular use of liquid fertilisers improves the growth and flowering of many bromeliads. This article may help you achieve these results.

There is a lot of debate as to which bromeliads benefit from liquid fertiliser. While an individual plant's response will depend on many factors, for example whether there is sufficient light and water for it to use the nutrients supplied by the fertiliser, some groups of bromeliads are more likely to respond better than others.

As a general rule, bromeliads in the Tillandsioidea group (sub-family) respond well to liquid fertilisers. These cover genera such as: *Alcantarea*, *Catopsis*, *Guzmania*, *Racinaea*, *Vriesea*, *Tillandsia* and *Werauhia*. While bromeliads from other sub-families may also respond well to liquid fertilisers, problems such as plant "malformation" and loss of leaf colour can arise. So, it is best to proceed with caution in such cases.

The "best" liquid fertiliser to use is the subject of much debate. A lot depends on your growing conditions including water supply. Probably, the key factors in deciding which liquid fertiliser to use are the amounts of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. These are represented by the symbols N, P and K respectively.

As a general rule, aim for those liquid fertilisers which have a relatively "low" value for N, and a "high" value for K. The Bromeliad Society of Queensland sells a liquid fertiliser which has been specially formulated for bromeliads. Its N:P:K ratio is 3:8:25. In contrast, a widely available liquid fertiliser, Phostrogen, has an N:P:K ratio of 14:4.4:22.5. However, while the bromeliad – specific liquid fertiliser may give you the very best effect, you can usually obtain very good results with a product such as Phostrogen.

Some people apply liquid fertilisers only when the plant is actively producing new leaves. However, the plant may be using or storing nutrients even when they are not producing new growth. For example, they may be initiating the production of a flower spike, producing seed, or growing roots. Thus, it is usually best to apply liquid fertilisers throughout the year.

Best results are obtained when liquid fertilisers are used on a regular basis. If your fertilising schedule is more akin to a "feast", followed by a long period of "famine", then plants may not respond well.

Initially, apply the fertiliser at the concentration, and time intervals, recommended by the product's manufacturer. However, after some experience, you may achieve better results under your growing conditions by varying this approach.

The residue from liquid fertilisers appears to "burn" some bromeliads if it remains on their foliage when the temperature exceeds 30 degrees Celsius. One way to avoid this situation is to apply the liquid fertiliser in the evening, if day-time temperatures are likely to exceed 30 degrees Celsius, and hose the plants thoroughly early the next morning.

There is a wide variety of ways of applying liquid fertilisers. Some people dip their plants in a container of diluted liquid fertiliser, others use "hose applicators", while others use pressurised sprayers. The fertiliser's manufacturer normally gives usage recommendations for all of the common application methods. It is usually best to apply liquid fertilisers just after you have completed a normal watering.

# MEMBER NEWS



Gary is sitting all alone in this row at the meeting.  
Where are all his friends?



Where is he?

Helping Len  
with the  
Popular Vote!



At the Morayfield Shopping Centre interest was in - hybridising orchids!

# STUDY GROUP MOMENTS



Avril with her beautiful *Vriesea vagans*



Lorraine relaxed.



*Look at these expressions!  
What are Beryl and Barrie looking at?*



Sheryl hybridising a bromeliad  
at Study Group!

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

November 27

Venue Centenary Lakes Function Centre Bowls Club  
11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Cost Members \$15.00 Non-Members \$25.00

Drinks may be purchased from the bar.

Buffet Lunch – 2 courses, mains and dessert

Bring a present to receive a present.

Payment must be paid by the 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Pay on the bus trip or post to the Secretary / Treasurer

## BUS TRIP

October 23

Leaving 7:00 am from The Combined Services Club, 21 Hayes Street, Caboolture

Returning 5:00 pm approximately

Cost \$20.00 per person

We will be visiting 4 gardens

1. Judy and Ian Wintle's garden at Burkedale
2. Anne McBernie and Phillip Beard's garden at Capalaba - Morning Tea

Lunch at the Victoria Point Shark's Club \$10.00 per person. Those who wish may bring their own lunch.

3. Michelle and Mal Cameron's garden at Victoria Point
4. Beryl and Jim Bachelor's garden at Capalaba

Plant Sales at all gardens so please bring NAMED boxes.

# WHAT'S ON IN 2010

## Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Bus Trip to gardens on the south side of Brisbane.

Gold Coast Succulent & Bromeliad Society Annual Show 9-3 Carrara Community Centre Neilsens Road Carrara

## Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 8-4 & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 9-4

Bromeliad Spectacular Mt Coot-tha Gardens Auditorium Entry \$3.00

## Australian Open Garden Scheme presents Cintamani

Previously owned by tennis great Thomas Muster and now the holiday home of USA-based songwriter Mike Chapman, this picturesque property features old eucalypts and flowering poinciana, frangipani, agapanthus, bromeliads, succulents, palms, cactus and euphorbia. Make your way up the 700 metres of driveway to the peak of the property and enjoy the breathtaking views of the hinterland and ocean plus a spectacular infinity pool, fountains and lake. An extensive range of plants, grown on the property will be for sale.

**Cintamani - 180 Sunrise Road, Tinbeerwah (Sunshine Coast)**

**20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2010**

**10am til 4.30pm. Entry \$6.**

**For more information phone 0412 884 116**



### AUSTRALASIAN Bromeliad Conference

NT Bromeliad Society Inc  
Darwin NT 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
Holiday Inn Esplanade 1/6 Esplanade Darwin NT  
For Hotel Booking call 1800 007 697  
Garden Tours \$25.00

### *broms on arafura*

Registration Fee Early Bird \$220.00  
if paid before 31 October 2010  
Gala Dinner delegates \$65.00  
non-delegates \$70.00  
Late Registration \$280.00

Contacts: Registrar: Ross [broms16@bigpond.com](mailto:broms16@bigpond.com) Information: Harry [acacia@octo4.net.au](mailto:acacia@octo4.net.au)

### The Shade Centre

Gary May has negotiated a discount on purchases for all CDBS members at *The Shade Centre*, Unit 5 - 9 Combarton Street, Brendale. Find out their best price and then ask for the discount.

### Powerblend

Get together to buy the Talbot Lodge mix – or any other mix. Telephone: 07 3888 2929

### **OFFICERS**

President	Bruce Roberts	5499 2724
Vice President	Jeanette Robertson	5495 2497
Secretary	Deirdre Roberts	5499 2724
Treasurer	Rob Murray	3888 2637
Membership Secretary	Lorraine Rolley	3285 2743
Committee Member: Editor	Barbara Murray	3888 2637
Committee Member: Hostess	Anne Hanswyk	5495 1380
Committee Member: Librarian	Lesmar Debrincat	5438 7869
Committee Member: Plant	Len Waite	5496 7795
Committee Member: Popular Vote	Nicole Nielsen	5428 6373
Committee Member: Raffles	Sheryl Waite	5496 7795

### **HALL STEWARDS**

Plant Sales	Angela Slaughter and Patrick Robertson
Hall Set Up	John Parker
Catering	Sue Parker

Our society has posted our Club News on the website of the Bromeliad Australia – check it out at [www.bromeliad.org.au](http://www.bromeliad.org.au)

Websites to try

<http://www.fcbs.org> Website of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

<http://.botu07.bio.uu.nl> Website of the Utrecht University Botanic Gardens Flora Pix.

### **Making payments using Electronic Funds Transfer**

A number of members have asked if payments for functions and membership can be made electronically. This should work for those who use internet banking. The details are:

- BSB – 814-282
- Account Number – 30711121
- Account Name – CABOOLTURE & DISTRICT BROMELIAD SOC INC

When transferring, insert your surname, initial and event to assist in managing such things. For example use JSmith Bus Trip (Just be aware of the limitations of the number of characters you can enter in your bank's system.)

If you use this method could you also send the Treasurer (Rob Murray) an email ([yarrumai@bigpond.net.au](mailto:yarrumai@bigpond.net.au)) with the Reference Number so he can check the banking as we only get statements every quarter.