



FRASER COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 Issue 04

April 2022

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APRIL GENERAL MEETING :

April Monthly General Meeting : Dundowran Hall.

Plant of the Month voting, plant sales, library, etc. will commence at 12:30pm followed by the meeting at 1 pm.

Please come along with a flowering plant, a problem plant or a plant to be identified for 'Show, Tell & Ask'.

A society member may be able to help!!!

CONTENT OF NEWSLETTER

- Committee Updates
- Plant of the Month - March 2022
- Feature Story :
OLD WIVES TALES - FACT OR FICTION?
The things I have learnt from my mother.
- Books in our Library
- Our February Meeting
- New Australian Bromeliad Cultivars
- 2022 Meetings and Event information

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members for April :



Barb Filewood,
Jan Hutchins,
Goff Loughran,
Jenny Menzies,
Meg Pailthorpe,
Edna Ray, and
Karen Thomson.

IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR CLUB MEMBER'S ACTION AND INFORMATION :

❖ **Sausage Sizzle Bunnings**

Our Society has been allocated Sunday May 8th to operate the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. We are looking for Society members to help throughout the day. The day is divided into two hour shifts being 8:00 am - 10:00 am; 10:00 am - 12 noon; 12 noon - 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. and we need a minimum of 4 volunteers per shift.

This is an outstanding opportunity for us to fundraise and keep our membership at an affordable price. At the next meeting please put your name down on the roster for this event.

❖ **BROMS in the BAY 2022**

The response to our conference and sale in August has been excellent with delegates coming from NSW, Victoria and Queensland. As well as online advertising, flyers promoting the event were distributed at the BSQ Autumn Sale in Brisbane.

The Committee recommend that you get your Registration form in if you are interested in attending the Conference as we have received 78 registrations and there are only 100 seats available. Payment should be made as soon as possible after registration to ensure your seat.

❖ **Plant of the Month`**

Our 'popular vote' Plant of the Month competition is held each month and is divided into five sections ... Neoregelia; Pattern Leafed Vriesea; Flowering Bromeliads; Tillandsia and Other Genera: Two sections, Neoregelia and Tillandsia have sub sections that alternate each month. These are:

Neoregelia ... **Mini** - up to 250mm; **Midi** - 250 mm to 450mm, and **Maxi** - Over 450mm.

The size is based on the mature sizes referred to in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR) or the Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads (EoB). Non registered cultivars are based on the cross formula, ie. (seed and pollen parent plants).

Tillandsia ... **Potted** - Tillandsia's grown in a pot and supported by their aerial roots in a potting medium; and **Mounted** - those grown on board, cork, or other media or supported by wire, ie. no potting medium is used.

These variable sections are advised at the prior monthly meeting and are published in the monthly Newsletter (At the end of the 'Plant of the Month' results).

The April monthly meeting is Neoregelia - "Maxi - Over 450mm" and Tillandsia - 'Potted'.

Plants are voted on by the members and visitors at the meeting. Each voter is given a single voting slip and they record their vote (by plant number) in the appropriate section. The voting slips are then collated by the Competition Steward and the plant with most votes in each section is awarded first place in that division. Second and third places are also awarded.

Our Society sees 'Plant of the Month' as a valuable educational exercise. New growers are encouraged to ask questions of the experienced growers who are all willing to share their knowledge.

When voting, all members - both new and experienced, need to let that "WOW" factor influence their vote. Remember it is a 'Popular vote', not a plant the has been critiqued by a panel of judges.

Editor's note : My vote is given on what catches my eye in each section rather than looking to see if it has blemishes, bent leaves or leaves symmetrical.

If any member has a grievance with the Plant of the Month competition, please discuss the issue with a committee member or bring it up at a meeting so it can be addressed. We also encourage suggestions on how we can improve the "Poplar Vote" format.

One suggestion that is being trialled/implemented from this month's meeting is the introduction of a Plant Steward to assist growers with the size of Neoregelias and the category (Mini, Midi, or Maxi) they fit into. Nigel has kindly agreed to take on this task for the Society.

❖ **Show, Tell and Ask!**

All members are encouraged to bring along bromeliad to input in the 'Show, Tell or Ask' agenda item at our meetings. We want you to learn and we want you to enjoy learning so feel free to ask questions and to say; "I don't understand that, please repeat it, or explain it more".

Show ... bring in any plant in flower or changing its colouration. It does not have to be in 'show condition' - it is to show other members how they flower.

Tell ... Share a story of your experiences, failures and wins with the group.

Ask ... Bring in any plant which you want de-pupped, or if you have a problem with it, ie growing strangely, unnamed, etc. There is a wealth of knowledge in our group that can help.

Share it with others to see, learn and enjoy.

❖ **FCBSI Bromeliad Supplies - New contact Details**

At the beginning of March, the FCBSI 'Stock Sales' role was transferred to Jan & Les Hutchins. Please note the new contact details provided on pages 1 and 10 of the Newsletter.

The latest price list is published on page 10 of the Newsletter.



BROMS *in the* **BAY**

Bromeliad Conference & Sale - Hervey Bay 2022

27TH & 28TH AUGUST

Kondari Resort - Hervey Bay, Queensland

For further information and registration forms, please contact : Sue Loughran
email : sueloughran1@bigpond.com

PLANT OF THE MONTH - RESULTS FOR MARCH 2022



NEOREGELIA - MIDI

First: ←	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Pink Debbie' [N.R.]	John & Narelle Hoffmann (6 votes)
Second:	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Rangeview Coral Trout'	Ian Fluerty (5 votes)
Third:	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Sunfire Tiger'	Nigel Thomson (3 votes)



PATTERN LEAF VRIESEA

First: ←	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Abigail Jean'	Nigel Thomson (5 votes)
Second:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Cooloola' [N.R.]	Ian Fluerty (4 votes)
Third:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Hunua Fireburst'	Goff Loughran (3 votes)



FLOWERING BROMELIADS

First: ←	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Sunnytime'	Goff Loughran (7 votes)
Second:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Evita'	Nigel Thomson (6 votes)
Third:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Kallisto'	Nigel Thomson (2 votes)



TILLANDSIA - MOUNTED

First: ←	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Cocoensis'	Nigel Thomson (6 votes)
Second:	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Maui'	Ian Fluerty (5 votes)
Third:	<i>Tillandsia tectorum</i>	Nigel Thomson (4 votes)



OTHER GENERA

First: ←	<i>Sincoraea</i> <i>ophiuroides</i>	Nigel Thomson (8 votes)
Second:	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Talbot Cherry Maple' [N.R.]	Val Honeywood (5 votes)
Third:	<i>Wallisia</i> <i>cyanea</i>	Allan Millar (4 votes)

April meeting : Neoregelia is **"Over 450 mm"**, and Tillandsia is **"Potted"**

FEATURE STORY ...

INTRODUCTION :

Our feature story this month is by Diane Timmins and first published in Bromeliad, the Journal of the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand Inc., September 2005, Vol. 45 No. 9. It was re-published in NEWSLINK - the newsletter for the Illawarra Bromeliad Society January, 2006 ...

OLD WIVES TALES - FACT OR FICTION?

The things I have learnt from my mother.

By Dianne Timmens

(Reprinted from From Bromeliad, Journal of the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand Inc. September 2005, Vol. 45 No. 9.)

My parents, Hazel and John Jack were long-time members of the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand as well as several other horticultural societies. My mother caught the bromeliad bug having won a *Neoregelia carolinae* var. *tricolor* as a raffle prize.

She became a member of the rather small and select Bromeliad Society some time about 40 years ago. Initially there wasn't the variety of plants that we have available now, but there were an enthusiastic few who enjoyed sharing the fun of bromeliads. The Bromeliad Society itself had members who imported bromeliads on their behalf - back in the days when it was a lot easier to do so. These plants were then offered up on the monthly trading tables, in a ballot system similar to what we have now. Over the years my mother gathered a substantial number of varieties, including an extensive collection of tillandsia. As a result she accumulated a great deal of knowledge through experience. I was lucky enough to learn from this.

I would like to share a few snippets with you:

I can't help but start with the one on the top of my list. It is the one that caught my husband's eye as I prepared some notes for this - he wondered where burly men fitted in with bromeliads, and probably more so, my mum.

BURLY MEN

As my parents both became older, their relatively steep property made it difficult to manoeuvre the very large potted plants around. My mother looked up the local paper and contacted a man advertising as a gardener. A great help he was, moving heavy plants around, splitting large clumps, lifting potting mix and such, but it was ever so funny to see him holding large pots at arms length where possible, and with an unhappy grimace. On questioning this turned out to be a dislike for spiders. Not so tough. Then there was the other 'burly man' commissioned another time on a similar quest. He offered the same extended arm pose and almost the same disgusted grimace. His problem? "The water that pours out of the plant's centre - sometimes it stinks!"

And this one is my husband - Come-on guys, get tough!

FIRST PUP RULE - courtesy of Grace Goode (well known Australian hybridist).

Basically, the first pup that comes up from your plant will generally be the biggest and the strongest. Just keep that in mind when promising a friend that they can have a pup off your wonderful new specimen. You keep the first one for yourself (at least).

IMMATURE PUPS SULK

Don't get too impatient when wanting to remove pups from the parent plant. If you take a pup off too early and you're lucky enough that it survives, then it is probably going to sulk. It will just sit there, it won't root, it won't grow, and it won't do anything. This will go on for about a year, just to get you back for cutting it off too early. It can be frustrating caring for it so that it doesn't rot off over winter.

LITTLE POTS vs. BIG POTS

This is for your own discretion. I know from my mother's garden that it is possible to grow a magnificent full size healthy specimen in a minute pot. My mother always used little pots. There was definitely an economy factor in regard to 1. Cost of soil and fertilizer. 2. Cost of pot. 3. Saving space.

However, I would only recommend this if you are a vigilant gardener. My personal experience involves plants that are grown hard. That is, plants that are exposed to extended periods of dryness, or cold, or sun - or any other environmental factor. These plants definitely survive better - grow larger and healthier, when grown in a larger sized pot. There is also a wind factor. I always used to have my bromeliads in relatively small pots, and laugh at their toughness as they rolled around in a nasty storm. However, the loss of a couple of special pups soon ended that endearment. Although - keep in mind my mother's other trick - put the small pot inside a larger container. This makes a nice display, and she also felt the inner pot was protected from severe sun or cold by the outer layer surrounding it.

THEY KNOW IF IT'S DEAD

Mum used to come up with this as a lovely tillandsia would plop off a beautiful piece of driftwood that had been artistically chiseled by weather and tide. The plant had been leaned on, poked, glued and tied onto the piece over several years. But the plant never gave an inkling that it might actually decide to attach roots to the new home we had so carefully chosen for it. Mum would always relate back to where the natural habitat of the plant would be. If they come off cliffs, attach them to rocks, and if they grow on trees, you can attach them to wood by a number of means, but the plant just seems to know if the log is dead—and it knows it's not a good idea to attach to that.

WEAKLY WEEKLY

This is the rule of thumb for liquid fertilizing your bromeliads. Do this during the growing season only, say October to December, and March to May. Mum used to refrain during the hottest, driest part of the year in case lack of water might lead to the concentration of the fertilizer inside the central cup. This may cause a chemical burning of the newly forming leaves, seen as brown tips of the leaves as they grow out from the centre of the plant. The fertilizer my mother used was an orchid foliage feed, diluted to one quarter of the recommended dose for orchids.

THEY HAVE A 'FRONT'

Even now, when we go through garden centres together my mum will turn a bromeliad that is on a display around. She'll say, "That's better - don't they realize bromeliads have a best side - a front and a back. Now it's smiling up at us." And I have to agree with her when she wanders through her garden admiring the dramatic foliage and forms of the broms and says, "Who needs flowers when you have these lovely plants?"

Her garden is laden with bromeliads as she proclaims their ease of care, and has been developed over many years to cover virtually the entire property. This leaves almost no lawn whatsoever. She frequently comments on other properties we visit, "Look at all those lawns that have to be mowed." That always put a smile on my face - and my father's as well I'm sure - as to this day I have never seen her on the pushing end of a lawnmower!

IT'S PUTTING ALL ITS ENERGY INTO THE FLOWER

This was always a concern when a favourite plant finally reached its state of maturity where it decides it's time to go into flower. "I hope it doesn't use up all its energy and not have enough left to send up any pups," would always be the comment.

SUNBURN

Plants such as red leaved Neoregelias that are known for their sun hardiness would never show signs of stress or burning in previous decades. In more recent times there has been a visible increase in the incidence of sun damage. Mum put this down to the dreaded greenhouse effect that we keep hearing and wondering about.

Well, that about covers a few words of wisdom passed on from someone with a great deal of love for bromeliads, and a great deal of experience in growing them. I hope there is something there that you can apply to make the pleasure of your bromeliad hobby even more rewarding. I enjoy them so much that I now work with them full time and remember:

If you enjoy your job, you will never work a day in your life.

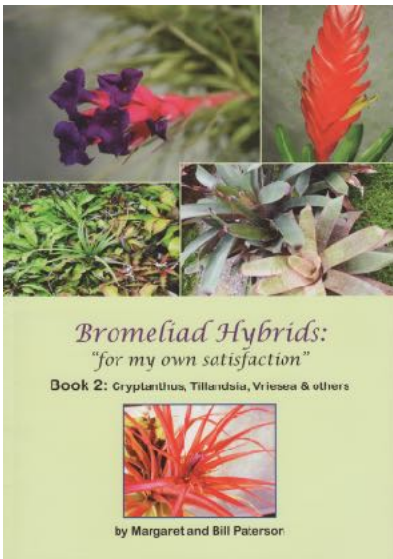
Bye for now, Diane.

BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY ...

Bromeliad Hybrids : *"For my own satisfaction"*

Book 2 : Cryptanthus, Tillandsia, Vriesea & others

by Margaret and Bill Paterson (2012)



There will be few bromeliad enthusiast who have not heard of Margaret Paterson and her spectacular hybrids. Her specimens have found their way into all corners of the bromeliad world. Last month we featured Margaret's first book covering Neoregelia's. This second book represents her many years of devotion to creating new hybrids in the genera of Tillandsia. Cryptanthus, Vriesea and others.

This book is valuable not only for its beautiful pictures, but also because it documents the prolific hybridizing work of Margaret over more than 30 years. A handy index lists plants by grex, pollen and seed parent, date and contains notes on naming, and other info.

A valuable tool for hybridizers and hobbyists alike. You may be surprised to find some of Margaret's hybrids in your collection that you did not know you had!

426 colour photos • 80 pages

Borrowers please note :

All books & magazines borrowed from the Library are to be returned in good order to the following meeting, if not on the wait-list, they may be re-borrowed.

AT OUR MARCH MEETING ...



A big thanks to Sue and Tara for lunch



Members enjoying the Sausage Sizzle



Members regathering after a cuppa



Ian shows us some of his plants




Nigel introduces his new broms



Plant of the Month display











NEW CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS ...

The following table is a list of new cultivars registered by an Australian grower or by an Australian collector on a growers behalf since the last FCBSI newsletter.

Photograph	Cultivar Name	Hybridist	
	Seed Parent X Pollen Parent	BCR No.	State
	Alcantarea 'Byron Sunrise' Faery Dust X <i>vinicolor</i>	Bob Grant / Mitch Jones* BCR_17015	NSW
	Alcantarea 'Limelights' <i>glaziouana</i> X <i>glaziouana</i>	? BCR_17016	QLD
	xNeomea 'Cleopatra's Sunrise' Neoregelia Cleopatra X <i>Aechmea</i> Sunrise	Vic Przetocki BCR_17020	WA
	Tillandsia 'Lien Reilly' <i>intermedia</i> X <i>streptophylla</i>	? / Robert Reilly* BCR_17026	QLD
	Neoregelia 'Surprise Taste' Toffee Taste X <i>pauciflora</i>	Peter Tristram BCR_17036	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Shark Dusk' Sharkula X Chargrill	Peter Tristram BCR_17037	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Juloodles' Shark Noodles X Julia	Peter Tristram BCR_17038	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Zoned Toffee' Opal Zone X Lime and Lava	Peter Tristram BCR_17040	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Pedro' Sharkicelli X Agent Pedro	Peter Tristram BCR_17057	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Mum's Red Shark' Mum's Fire X Skotak's Tiger	Peter Tristram BCR_170058	NSW
	Neoregelia 'MacEve' (Eva X Norman Bates) X MacRegIT	Peter Tristram BCR_170059	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Silvo Lightning' Black Opal X <i>silvomontana</i>	Peter Tristram BCR_170060	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Repton Showtime' All Show X (Eva X Jenna)	Peter Tristram BCR_17061	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Voodoo Charm' Midnight Glory X Charm	Vic Przetocki BCR_17035	WA

Data and photographs courtesy of the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR)

NEW CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS ... continued

Photograph	Cultivar Name	Hybridist	
	Seed Parent X Pollen Parent	BCR No.	State
	Tillandsia 'Purple Devil' <i>chiapensis</i>	? / Bruce Dunstan*	
		BCR_17077	VIC
	Vriesea 'Misty' Forrest X Paho Beauty	Mal & Michelle Cameron	
		BCR_17116	QLD
	Tillandsia 'Dorothy Cutcliffe' <i>ionantha</i> X Victoria	Greg Aizlewood	
		BCR_17130	QLD
	Neoregelia 'Pinegrove Gem' Ladd's Gem X Skotak's Tiger	Ross Little	
		BCR_17135	NSW
	Neoregelia 'Pinegrove Gem Too' Pinegrove Gem	Ross Little	
		BCR_17136	NSW
	Billbergia 'The Squirrel' Sharkula X Chargrill	Greg Aizlewood	
		BCR_17138	QLD
	Neoregelia 'Rangeview Hammertones' Rangeview Hammerhead X Rainbow Carcharodon	Peter Kilpatrick	
		BCR_17143	QLD
	Neoregelia 'Dream Chaser' Glorious X Jolly Rodger	Vic Przetocki	
		BCR_17154	WA
	Neoregelia 'Golden Threads' Jewelery Shop X Mir	Margaret Paterson	
		BCR_17159	QLD
	Tillandsia 'Neville's Butter Cup' <i>albertiana</i> X ?	Neville Ryan	
		BCR_17166	QLD

Data and photographs courtesy of the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR)

EDITOR'S NOTE ...

The Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society Inc. gives permission to all bromeliad societies to reprint articles in their journals provided proper acknowledgment is given to the original author and the FCBS Inc. Newsletter.

Opinions expressed in the publication are those of the individual contributors and may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society Inc. or of the Editor.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the information in their articles.

DIARY DATES FOR 2022 ...

FCBSI Monthly Meetings:

Date	Event / guest Speaker	Venue / Location
April 23	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
May 28	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
June 25	BBQ Lunch incorporating Monthly Meeting and Charity Raffle	Narelle & John Hoffman 287 John St, Maryborough
July 23	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
August 20 *	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
September 17 *	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
October 22	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
November 26	Christmas Party	Kondari Hotel - Urangan

Events:

June 8/12	World Bromeliad Conference 2022	Sarasota, Florida, USA
August 27/28	BROMS in the BAY 2022 Bromeliad Conference & Sale	Kondari Resort - Hervey Bay
September 23/24/ 25	Hervey Bay Orchid Show	Xavier College - Eli Waters
September 24/25	BSQ Spring Show & Sale	Genesis College - Bray Park
November 5/6	FCBSI Monster Sale 2022	Senior Citizens Centre Totness Street

Note:

Unless notified otherwise, monthly meetings are on the **fourth** Saturday of the month.

Please BYO mug, plants you need help with, sales plants, Plant Of The Month entries, and raffle donations to our meetings.

* Please note, meeting dates marked with and asterisk have been moved from the regular fourth Saturday of the month.

Plant Sales @ Monthly Meetings

Plant sales commence at 12.30pm and pause when the monthly meeting starts (usually 1.00pm), then recommence during afternoon tea. Please remember that all sales finish at afternoon tea.

Plants travel much better in boxes or recyclable bags than plastic bags

BROMELIAD SUPPLIES ...

Please note the Society has new Stock Sales co-ordinators and contact details from 01 March 2022.

The current **FCBSI PRICE LIST** as of 16-March-2022 is published below.

If you are running short and need something, it would be appreciated if you could contact Jan or Les on 0419 799 483 or email tintenters@bigpond.com to let them know in advance so they can have your order ready for you at the next meeting, or to make arrangements to pick your order up from their home (3 Lancaster Circuit, Urraween) prior to the meeting.

Item	Unit	Price per Unit	Status / Comment
SQUAT POTS, 125mm	(10 pk)	\$3.60	<i>New price - stock available late March.</i>
SQUAT POTS, 140mm	(10 pk)	\$4.60	<i>New price - stock available late March.</i>
SQUAT POTS, 165mm	(5 pk)	\$3.00	<i>In stock</i>
SQUAT POTS, 200mm	(5 pk)	\$3.50	<i>In stock</i>
HANGERS (4 PRONG)	(10 pk)	\$4.10	<i>New price - stock available late March.</i>
LABELS, LARGE, WHITE	(25 pk)	\$1.50	<i>In stock</i>
LABELS, SMALL, WHITE	(25 pk)	\$1.25	<i>In stock</i>
LABELS, LARGE, YELLOW	(25 pk)	\$1.50	<i>(For use on sale plants.)</i>
LABELS, SMALL, YELLOW	(25 pk)	\$1.25	<i>(For use on sale plants.)</i>
LABELLING PENCILS	(each)	\$3.60	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 140mm	(10 pk)	\$2.90	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 170mm	(10 pk)	\$3.40	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 200mm	(10 pk)	\$3.90	<i>New Price - In stock now</i>
FERTILISER	(500gm)	\$3.10	<i>In stock</i>

FCBSI PRICE LIST (as of 16 March 2022)

NOTE ... Prices may vary when new stock is ordered.

POTTING MIX ... Goff Loughran has potting mix for sale at \$8 for a 30 litre bag, and if you ring him on 0416783773 you can also make arrangements to get some from him.

