



FRASER COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

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Our monthly Society Meeting will be on

SATURDAY 27TH MAY 2023

Venue : Dundowran Hall

Plant & Nursery Sales start 12:30 pm.
Plant of the Month voting commences at 12:45 pm.
Special General Meeting starts at 1:00 pm
followed by our normal monthly meeting.

Don't forget to bring:

*Contributions to the monthly raffle,
Plant(s) for the Plant of the Month Competition, and
your **xSincoregelia** and **Cryptanthus** plants for Show and Tell*

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members for May :



Joan Donnison
Burnice Fluerty
Narelle Hoffman
Hans Kruger, and
Stewart McDonald

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING REPORT ...

At the April meeting, we welcomed guests from the BSQ Tillandsia Study Group who were in the Bay for their monthly study group on the Sunday. Our Lucky Door prize was a bit different this month with a special draw for a beautiful bromeliad - *Vriesea Waiekea* Star from David Fell in Hawaii. Stan Walkley got the plant from Nigel and donated it to the Club for the Lucky Door Prize.

Neoregelia was the featured genus for April with Nigel introducing the genus to the group. He provided a wonderful insight into its species and cultivars with some wonderful examples shown. It was pleasing to see a number of other members bring along plants to show.

This month we will feature ***xSincoregelia*** and ***Cryptanthus*** so dig into those collections let's see how many of these lesser known genus we can get for "Show, Tell and Ask".

Next a video presentation - Bromeliad & Tillandsia Tour at Nong Nooch Tropical Garden, Thailand. Presented by Summer Rayne Oakes, we took a tour around the grounds of Nong Nooch Tropical Gardens looking at their Bromeliaceae display gardens, propagation area, and private collection. Another very enjoyable presentation.

After a cuppa and biscuit, the winners of the Plant of the Month Competition were announced with a good selection of plants entered despite another low attendance. Each of the 'winning plant' owners gave a quick insight into their plant.

The afternoon closed with the raffle being drawn and many members and visitors going home with some new plants for their gardens /collections. Thanks to all members for your contribution of raffle prizes.

FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ...

❖ MONTHLY FEATURED PLANT

Please note that this month's featured plant is *the bigeneric genus xSincoregelia and the genus Cryptanthus*. I'm hoping that members bring in at least one plant to show ... it may be one of your favourite plants, maybe it's not looking the best, or just an everyday plant.

If you have another genus of Bromeliad you would like show us or ask a question about, they're still welcome to be part of **Show, Tell and Ask**.

❖ PLANT OF THE MONTH - POPULAR VOTE

Our variable categories this month are:

- ***Neoregelia* - up to 250 mm, and**
- ***Tillandsia* - Potted.**

❖ SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

As circulated to members recently, we will commence our Monthly Meeting with a General Meeting to consider proposed changes to the bylaws of the Society. Please take the time to read these as they impact sellers at the annual Monster Sale.

❖ BOOK AUCTION

Our Library has a number of duplicate books either purchased or donated over a number of years. We will be offering these to members at a 'silent auction' to be organised for the July meeting. The list of books available will be published in the June and July Newsletters.

❖ JUNE MONTHLY MEETING

Remember, next month the June meeting will be the annual BBQ and Charity Auction at John & Narelle's in Maryborough. At this stage we have Neville Ryan coming up to talk on his Tillandsia's. So mark the 24th June on your calendar.

CHORES FOR THE MONTH - PREPARATION FOR WINTER ...

I thought this article from the May 2018 Newsletter of the Far North Coast Bromeliad Study Group N.S.W. very timely. There was no author noted but the editorial team for the Newsletter is Ross Little, Helen Clewett and Les Higgins.

Preparation for winter should be in progress now. Increase as much as possible the amount of light to the plants. Full sun from May to August has insufficient heat to damage a plant. Plants of tropical origin will appreciate the light source being extended to 12 hrs/day and Wardell's (Northern NSW) lowest overnight temperature by mid-May on average is only 14°Celsius. Provided that the night temperature is above 12°C foliage nutrient sprays can continue.

The intention should be to build maximum carbohydrate. Nitrogen should be exclusively in the nitrate form. Potassium continues to be necessary and Phosphate hardens the plant for winter survival.

An occasional dilute spray of Potassium nitrate (KNO₃) and Mono potassium phosphate (MKP) with trace elements is recommended. If a commercial product is preferred then orchid growers use Campbells Yellow[®] that has no Urea and little Ammonium. Phostrogen[®] is another product that can be recommended. There would be similar products, it's just a matter of reading the Guaranteed Analysis: No Urea and little as possible Ammonium.

Now is a good time to remove old flower spikes if the seed is not required, this will enable additional food supply to be directed toward pup production. Don't forget, just because your plant has finished flowering, it doesn't mean you don't need to feed it anymore, pups are on their way next which means they will need feeding even though it is winter. Be observant in the garden and shade house, if there is a sign of growth, there is the need for food as your plants are growing. At the same time take note of plants that are dormant and adjust your watering for them accordingly. Allow the mix to become almost completely dry, the last thing you want is soggy roots causing root rot. Do not feed dormant plants.

Removing old leaves from around the base of plants now will help improve air circulation around your plants and also help with pest control. Check both faces of the leaves for pests and treat accordingly if necessary. Pest infested leaves should be put in the bin or burnt rather than added to the compost heap.

Winter temperatures can be savage on cold sensitive plants, have a location under cover prepared ready to move those plants to as temperatures drop. Maintain good air circulation but be mindful of cold draughts. Cold sensitive plants would benefit from a fertiliser high in K (Potassium / Potash) at this time to help strengthen plant cells.

Cooler temperatures also bring many plants into flower, take advantage of these during winter to brighten your home by taking some indoors. Guzmanias and Vrieseas are in abundance with long lasting inflorescences that'll brighten any room on gloomy days. Mist indoors occasionally but take outdoors and water thoroughly once a week or so.

WEB LINKS FOR CHECKING CORRECT IDENTIFICATION AND SPELLING ...






For correct identification and spelling of your hybrid or cultivar, refer to this site:

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

For the latest species name changes and correct spelling, refer to this site:

New Bromeliad Taxon List: [http : //bromeliad.nl/taxonlist](http://bromeliad.nl/taxonlist)

PLANT OF THE MONTH - APRIL 2023

	NEOREGELIA - MAXI (OVER 450MM)	
	First: ←	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Full Throttle' Nigel Thomson (16 votes)
	Second:	<i>Neoregelia carolinae X carcharodon</i> John & Narelle Hoffmann (5 votes)
	Third:	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Bahia Opal' (F2) Val Honeywood (4 votes)
	PATTERN LEAF VRIESEA	
	First: ←	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Hawaiian Fantasy' Nigel Thomson (15 votes)
	Second:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Dad's Favourite' X (<i>fenestrolis</i> X 'Hawaiian Sunset') John & Narelle Hoffmann (6 votes)
	Third:	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Ultra Violet' Nigel Thomson (5 votes)
	FLOWERING BROMELIADS	
	First: ←	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Mia' [N.R.] David Ward (13 votes)
	Second:	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Kay' Alan Millar (5 votes)
	Third:	<i>Wallisia</i> 'Sandy's Candy' Nigel Thomson (3 votes)
	TILLANDSIA - MOUNTED	
	First: ←	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Fuego' Nigel Thomson (9 votes)
	Second:	<i>Tillandsia duratii X streptocarpa</i> [N.R.] Nigel Thomson (6 votes)
	Third:	<i>Tillandsia complanata</i> Les Hutchins (5 votes)
		<i>Tillandsia juncifolia</i> (red form) Nigel Thomson (5 votes)
	OTHER GENERA	
	First: ←	<i>xVrieslandsia</i> 'Cosmic Flare' [N.R.] Nigel Thomson (11 votes)
	Second:	<i>Wallisia</i> 'Fransesca' [N.R.] Nigel Thomson (7 votes)
		<i>Dyckia estervesii</i> Val Honeywood (7 votes)

May meeting : Neoregelia is "Mini - under 250 mm, and
Tillandsia is "Potted"

NEW CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS ...

There were no new cultivars registered by any Australian growers or collectors on a growers behalf since the last FCBSI newsletter.

Of note was the registration of two new bigeneric genus in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register by Japanese grower Hiroyuki Takizawa. These are :

xVriesmatodon - Parent genera = Vriesea x Stigmatodon (or reverse)

xTillamatodon - Parent genera = Tillandsia x Stigmatodon (or reverse)

BROMELIAD SUPPLIES ...

The current **FCBSI PRICE LIST** as of 01-February-2023 is published below.

Item	Unit	Price per Unit	Status / Comment
SQUAT POTS, 125mm	(10 pk)	\$3.60	<i>In stock</i>
SQUAT POTS, 140mm	(10 pk)	\$4.60	<i>In stock</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>In stock</i>
LABELS, LARGE, WHITE	(25 pk)	\$2.25	<i>Low stock</i>
LABELS, SMALL, WHITE	(25 pk)	\$2.00	<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)	\$4.30	<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>In stock</i>
FERTILISER (Slow Release)	(500gm)	\$3.45	<i>In stock</i>
FERTILISER (Foliar)	(500gm)	\$6.80	<i>In stock</i>

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 prior to the meeting.

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

POTTING MIX ... Sue Loughran has potting mix for sale at **\$10** for a 30 litre bag, and if you ring her on 0414 757 162 you can make arrangements to get some.

DIARY DATES FOR 2023 ...

FCBSI Monthly Meetings:

Date	Event / Guest Speaker	Venue / Location
2023		
May 27	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
June 24	BBQ Lunch incorporating Monthly Meeting and Charity Raffle	Maryborough
July 22	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
August 26	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
September 16*	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
October 28	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
November 25	Christmas Party	Kondari Resort

Note:

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

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

Events:

2023		
June 18	BSQ Tillandsia Day	Kedron Wavell Services Club
August 20	FCBSI Field Day / Garden Visits	Bundaberg
September 23/24	Hervey Bay Orchid Show	Xavier College, Eli Waters
Sept 30 / Oct 1	BSQ Spring Show and Sale	Genesis College, Bray Park
Sept 30 / Oct 1	Rockhampton Bromeliad & Foliage Sale	Robert Schwarten Pavillion Rockhampton
November 4/5	FCBSI Monster Sale	tba

EDITOR'S NOTE ...

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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.

ALL PHOTOS EXCEPT WHERE NOTED ARE FROM LES HUTCHINS.