



# FRASER COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC.

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 21 Issue 07

August 2025

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## August Meeting

**SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2025**

**VENUE: DUNDOWRAN HALL**

12:30pm Plant & Nursery Sales

12:45pm Plant of the Month voting

1:15 Monthly Meeting starts

#### Guest Speaker

**Joy Duke**

**President Maryborough Horticultural Society**

#### Show and Tell

**Foliage** is the featured topic for **August**, so bring along your plants for 'Show N Tell', also enter them in the Popular vote competition. You are encouraged to bring along other plants for 'Show N Tell' that are of special interest to you or that you are having challenges with identifying or growing

**Variable Categories are:**

**Neoregelia** -Under250 mm in diameter, and **Tillandsia** potted

### Content of Newsletter

- Management Committee Update
- Show and Tell
- Presentation Stan and Ron
- Out and About
- Plant of the Month Results for July
- Nursery Supplies
- New Australian Bromeliad Cultivars
- Reminders / Diary Dates

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

IN THE GARDEN OF LIFE, AUGUST BIRTHDAYS BLOOM LIKE VIBRANT PETALS.



Warren Bexton  
 Les Hutchins  
 Sue McDonald  
 Allan Miller  
 Nigel Thomson  
 Peter Maczi

David welcomed members, visitors, and returning attendees who contributed curiosity, expertise, and friendship to the group. The July meeting was engaging, with active participation and dynamic discussions on a variety of topics. Personally, I gained valuable insights that I will record for future reference in my gardening notes.

## Management Committee Update

Please ensure frocks, black ties, and vests are dusted off, and prepared in advance, as the Christmas season is approaching. FCBSI will hold its Annual Christmas Party on 13th December 2025 at Hervey Bay RSL. Additional info will be provided shortly.

The Social & Discovery Workshop Potting Up at David and Lorraine's home didn't occur in August.

### Update Monster Sale:

- **Bar codes** please contact John Hoffman as soon as possible, at the latest at the October Meeting, which is two weeks before the Sale.
- **Donations for raffles**, please state having a think, of what you may like to win. These items may include shears, hanging baskets, garden black or ceramic pots, bag of garden delight potting mix, garden cooler bag with bottled water, sunscreen, straw hat, knee pads, sprinkler hose, apron, garden lights, wall clock or perhaps fertilizer. Now is the time to start bringing items to the Aug/ Sept or October meeting, so the planning can begin.
- **Volunteers** put your hand up if you can assist in selling raffle tickets, membership table, sales checkout, plant minding or help setting and/or packing up would be grateful and help make this a 'bonza weekend'.

**Reminder** On the 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2025, the following documents were sent out via email.

- **FCBS Code of Conduct** could you please sign and bring it along to the meeting.
- **FCBS Monster Sale** – document for sellers.

If you have any questions regarding this document or Monster Sale, please feel free to reach out to Sue at the meeting.

## Show and Tell



**Maxine** brought along species of Vrieseas and showed us how spectacular they are; Vriesea hieroglyphica features striking, large, deep green leaves that have unusual, hieroglyph-like black banding and recurved tips. Also, the Vriesea gigantea is a striking bromeliad native which is known for its diverse and colorful varieties. Vriesea, highway beauty, it is green inside and white outside. Management Committee Update

**Information \*\*\*\*BCR VRIESEA 'Highway Beauty'** Plant being grown for many years in AU under the formula (bituminosa x saundersii). It is variegated and appears to have had

its origin in the USA. If and when we come across a non variegated version this can be called just 'Highway'! 'Highway', Highway Beauty', 'RoRo' and 'Shiraz' all closely linked - See article under 'Highway Beauty'



**Nigel** spoke about Vriesea Wyee Point F2, it is a seedling that he got from self-pollenating Wyee Point 10 years ago. The next one was Vriesea Glow Plug, a plant imported from David Fell in Hawaii, becomes a fiery red when in full colour, hence the name. Also, another example that bromeliads don't need a larger pot.



**Lorraine** is producing some great ferns in her garden. The Rabbit's foot fern, *Davallia solida* (var. *fejeensis*). It is a beautiful tropical fern with delicate, complex fronds that form a low-growing bush of glossy green foliage. The fern gets its name from the distinctive furry rhizomes that grow from the crown of the fern over the surface of the soil. Lorraine advised: that this fern grows well in hanging pots or on tree stumps, making it a good companion for bromeliads or when planning your garden. It dislikes being too wet—excess water can cause rot—so a light misting spray is ideal. Position in a shaded spot in the garden or choose a position indoors with indirect sunlight.

# Stan and Ron's Presentation

## Stan Soil mix and Pots

Stan took us through a "hands on approach" of potting of bromeliads using different techniques and products.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| First and foremost, the focus is the soil mix.  | ✓ |
| The style of pot can vary based on your choice, square, squat, round, slim and/or coloured. | ✓ |
| The soil mix should allow water to drain freely through the pot.                            | ✓ |
| If the soil doesn't drain well, your plant will become too wet and may not survive.         | ✗ |

## Stan's Style of Potting



- Clean pot
- Bark 12 inches/30 ml
- Potting Mix
- Small amount of fertilizer (12 MONTH)
- Garden Delight
- Top with dismiss (see below)

\*\*\*Place your bromeliad securely in the center of the pot, ensuring it isn't loose\*\*\*



## How to "dismiss" weeds and take control?



Stan discussed various types of weeds that can grow in pots and be problematic. He mentioned a product called "Dismiss," which can be applied over the plants to address the issue of weeds.

\*\*\*\*Further information about the product can be found on the Fernland website an through this video

[Dismiss Ornamental Herbicide. https://fernland.com.au/news/nursery-weed-control-with-dismiss-preemergent-herbicide/](https://fernland.com.au/news/nursery-weed-control-with-dismiss-preemergent-herbicide/)

## When is a stick a stick?

When it is a fiberglass rod.



Fiberglass rods offer a reliable and durable solution for plant support, providing a solid structural foundation and performing well under various weather conditions. While they are more expensive than bamboo or chopsticks, their increased longevity makes them a cost-effective choice over time. Fernland supplies the Growrite 450mm fiberglass rod as well as several other size options to meet diverse needs.

## Tillandsia same same but different!



Ron provided insights into his experience cultivating tillandsias. He noted that the registered Dimmitt Talent typically features 4 to 5 bracts. Another plant arising from the same cross—using **rothii** as the seed parent and **concolor** as the pollen parent—has resulted in a distinct clone with 14 bracts. The registration status of this tillandsia remains unconfirmed.



|  |
|--|
| BCR registered (11415) 2015-07-07 Country of Origin Arizona, USA   |
| <b>Dimmitt M, Koide Hyatt P* 1986</b>  |
| Tillandsia ' <b>Dimmitts Talent</b>  |
| Seed parent <b>rothii</b> and pollen parent <b>concolor</b> .  |
| <i>Mature rosette to 30cms. diameter x 30cms. tall in spike. Erect inflorescence has multiple red branches with purple flowers. Entire rosette is pink/red most of the time in strong light and turns even redder when blooming.. See also T. 'Awesome Amber'. Reg. Doc. 9/2012 by P. Koide Hyatt.</i> |
| <b>Bird Rock Tropicals # TX246. BRT ID # 1986-508-30-01 02\ ' Dimmitt #</b>  |

**Information** Here are other registered Tillandsias that have the same seed parent **rothii** and pollen parent **concolor** on BCR as follows:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| BCR registered (11070) 2015-07-07 Country of Origin California, USA                        | Isley P ? |
| Tillandsia ' <b>Awesome Amber</b>  |           |
| Seed parent <b>rothii</b> and pollen parent <b>concolor</b> . This has 4 or 5 bracs on it. |           |
| <i>See also T. 'Dimmitts Talent'. Rainforest Flora Reg Doc 6/2012</i>                      |           |

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| BCR registered (8104) 2016-12-18  | (Reilly,Rolly*) <1995 |
| Tillandsia ' <b>Halley's Comet</b>  |                       |
| Seed parent <b>baileyi</b>  |                       |
| cv. of <b>baileyi</b> - Butcher said, "Ever offsetting from the inflorescence in similar fashion to 'Dimmit's Delight'". Reg. Doc. 7/2000 |                       |

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| BCR registered (16495) 2020-11-16 Country of Origin Thailand   | Kawwkangwal,Kosit 2014 |
| Tillandsia ' <b>Cracker Flash</b>  |                        |
| Seed parent <b>harrisii</b> and pollen Parent <b>concolor (yellow bracts)</b>  |                        |
| Mature, open rosette to 30cm. diameter x 25cm. high. Splayed, semi-channeled, hard, stiff, scurfed, silvery grey leaves, tapering to a point. Erect, semi-recessed, slightly-branched, simple inflorescence to 10cm. high with pointed vermilion red scape bracts and tubular mauve flowers. Reg. Doc. 11/2020 |                        |

Ron also provided an insight into his Tillandsia **Curly Slim short fat form ex cley isley** that he grows. This bromeliad was very interesting as it grows buds from the flower stem.



|  |
|--|
| BCR registered (8048) 2018-01-20 Country of Origin Arizona, USA      |
| <b>Dimmitt M</b> <b>1981</b>   |
| Tillandsia ' <b>Curly Slim</b>                                       |
| Seed parent <b>intermedia</b> and parent <b>streptophylla</b>        |
| <i>Note sometimes reverse parentage quoted Dimmitt # 1982-501-27</i> |
| JBS 40:3,144; BirdRock1995, NewTillHdbk110il                         |

# Stan's Potting Mixtures and Fertilisers

## Mix 1 – Original

| Mix   |   | Mix   |  | BROMELAID<br>BUCKET 1   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| 25%   | 25%   | 40%   | 10%  |   |
| Composted<br>Pine Bark  | Dolomite<br>(use to balance<br>PH)  | 40/60 Coco<br>Peat Block  | Jumbo<br>Chunky<br>Perlite   | BASE<br>POTTING MIX   |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Mix 2

| Mix   |   |
|---|---|
| 25%   | 25%   |
| 40/60 Coco peat<br>block  | Dolomite<br>(use to balance PH)   |
|  |  |

## Mix 3

| Mix  |   |
|--|---|
| 25%  | 25%   |
| Kiwi Orchid Bark<br>3mm to 8mm   | Perlite SMALL<br>NOT EXTRA FINE   |
|  |  |

NOTE: If there are any amendments to these mixes, they will be included in September's Newsletter.  
Products suggested places to purchase: Fernland, local rural produce, Bunnings, Takura Landscape Hervey Bay.

## Out and About

Sue Loughran visited Rockhampton Bromeliad Society and had a great time reconnecting with friends on the day. Greg and Narelle Aizelwood were the guest speakers sharing information about judging and the affiliation with Bromeliad Society International. Great day for everyone.

Ekka 2025 Horticultural Display 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Bromeliad Society of Queensland. Well done to the team in particular Denise and Peter. Facebook notification



Plant of the Month -July 2025

| NEOREGELIA OVER 250MM DIAMETER  |                |                                   |                                  |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|    | <b>First</b>   | NEOREGELIA Sabatooth Pulp Fiction | Graham Spence (8 votes)          |
|   | <b>Second:</b> | NEOREGELIA Lime and Lave          | Kim and Ian Fitzgerald (7 votes) |
|   | <b>Third</b>   | NEOREGELIA Romance                | No name in book (5 votes)        |
| PATTERN LEAF VRIESEA  |                |                                   |                                  |
|    | <b>First:</b>  | VRIESEA Wyee Point F2 seedling    | Nigel Thomson (15 votes)         |
|   | <b>Second</b>  | VRIESEA Glowplug                  | Nigel Thomson (7 votes)          |
|   | <b>Third</b>   | 2 entries only                    |                                  |
| FLOWERING BROMELIADS (BILLBERGIA/GUZMANIA/ AECHMEA)                                 |                |                                   |                                  |
|   | <b>First:</b>  | VRIESEA Evita                     | Nigel Thomson (9 votes)          |
|   | <b>Second:</b> | GUZMANIA Akabak                   | David Ward (7 votes)             |
|   | <b>Third:</b>  | ORTHOPHYTUM Warren Loose          | Val Honeywood (4 points)         |
| TILLANDSIA MOUNTED  |                |                                   |                                  |
|  | <b>First:</b>  | TILLANDSIA Ionantha               | Anne Walsh (5 votes)             |
|   | <b>First:</b>  | TILLANDSIA Streptocarpa           | No Name in Book (5 votes)        |
|   | <b>Second</b>  | TILLANDSIA Tina Parr              | Ray Gough (4 votes)              |
|   | <b>Third</b>   | TILLANDSIA Ionantha               | Jan Hutchens (3 votes)           |
| OTHER GENERA  |                |                                   |                                  |
|  | <b>First</b>   | AECHMEA Chantinii Black Amazon    | Nigel Thomson (9 votes)          |
|   | <b>Second</b>  | GOUDEA Nazca                      | Nigel Thomson (8 votes)          |
|   | <b>Third</b>   | SINCO Ecstasy                     | David Ward (4 Votes)             |

| SPECIES   |                |   |
|---|----------------|---|
|  | <b>First:</b>  | BROMELIA scarletina<br>Nigel Thomson (8 votes)        |
|   | <b>Second:</b> | VRIESEA highway beauty<br>Maxine O'Shea (4 votes)     |
|   | <b>Second:</b> | BILLBERGIA nutons<br>Val Honeywood (4 votes)          |
|   | <b>Third:</b>  | ACHEMEA purpuresea<br>David Ward ( 3 points)          |
| FOLIAGE   |                |   |
|  | <b>First:</b>  | Anthurium Pink<br>David & Lorraine Ward (6 votes)     |
|   | <b>Second:</b> | Trevesia Palmata<br>Anne Walsh (5 votes)              |
|   | <b>Third:</b>  | Maidenhair fern<br>Jan Hutchins (3 votes)             |
|   | <b>Third:</b>  | Calathea Lancifolia 'Sport'<br>Sue McDonald (3 votes) |

**September 2025 meeting:** Neoregelia is **Over 250 mm in diameter**, and Tillandsia is **Mounted**

**Editor's Request:** Please include the genus name when registering plants, especially the Flowering Bromeliad & Other Genera categories and write clearly. This helps to identify under BCR and registry.

### 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)

<https://registry.bsi.org/>

For the latest **species name changes and correct spelling**, refer to either of these sites:

Encyclopedia of Bromeliads

<https://bromeliad.nl/excyclopedia>

New Bromeliad Taxon List:

<https://bromeliad.nl/taxonlist>

## Reminders





| Date                      | Events   | Venue / Location                                  |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <b>2025</b>               |  |   |
| <i>September 26,27/28</i> | HBOS Hervey Bay Orchid & Garden Spectacular  |   |
| <i>September 27</i>       | BSQ Spring Sale  | <i>Genesis College - Bray Park</i>                |
| <i>November 1 / 2</i>     | <b>FCBSI Monster Bromeliad Sale</b>  | <i>TAFE College Urraween Road</i>                 |
| <i>November 4/5/6/7</i>   | <b>22nd Australasian Bromeliad Conference</b><br>Aussie Broms 2025 Exploring <i>Diversity &amp; Beauty</i> | <i>Eaton's Hill Hotel<br/>Brisbane Queensland</i> |
| <i>December 13</i>        | FCBSI Christmas Party  | <i>Hervey Bay RSL</i>                             |

### **Editor's Note ...**

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