



# BROMELETTER

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL  
OF  
THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY  
OF AUSTRALIA INC.

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Please send articles for Bromeletter to  
[editor@bromeliad.org.au](mailto:editor@bromeliad.org.au)  
and all other correspondence to:

The Secretary, Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc.  
PO Box 340, RYDE NSW 2112.

Photo by Nina Woodcock *Neoregelia* 'Heart Music'

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OF AUSTRALIA INC.

bromeliad.org.au

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Vol 61 :No 3



## LIFE MEMBERS

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## CONTENTS

April Meeting Topic Dyckia	4
May Meeting topic Acanthostahys	6
Plant of the month competition April	10
Plant of the month competition May	12
Autumn Show 2023 results	14
Seed Bank	22
Literature for Sale	22
Monthly Trading Account Report 2023	22

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our next meeting is on  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023**  
**AT 10 AM – 3 PM**  
**Bromeliad Society of Australia Monthly Meeting - Topic: Neutrog**  
**Federation Pavilion, Showground Rd,**  
**Castle Hill NSW 2154, Australia**

**Society Coach Trip 11/11/2023**  
Wildwood Garden, Bilpin  
Botanic Gardens Greater, Mt Tomah  
Hillbilly Cider Shed, Bilpin  
Cost \$20.00 Per Person  
For bookings contact  
Carolyn on 96495762  
Bring a folding chair for the  
Barbeque lunch

**July 2023**  
For our July meeting Harold Kwan will be speaking about interesting ways to mount tillandsias and talking about his passion of collecting tillandsias.  
Date 8th July - to be confirmed

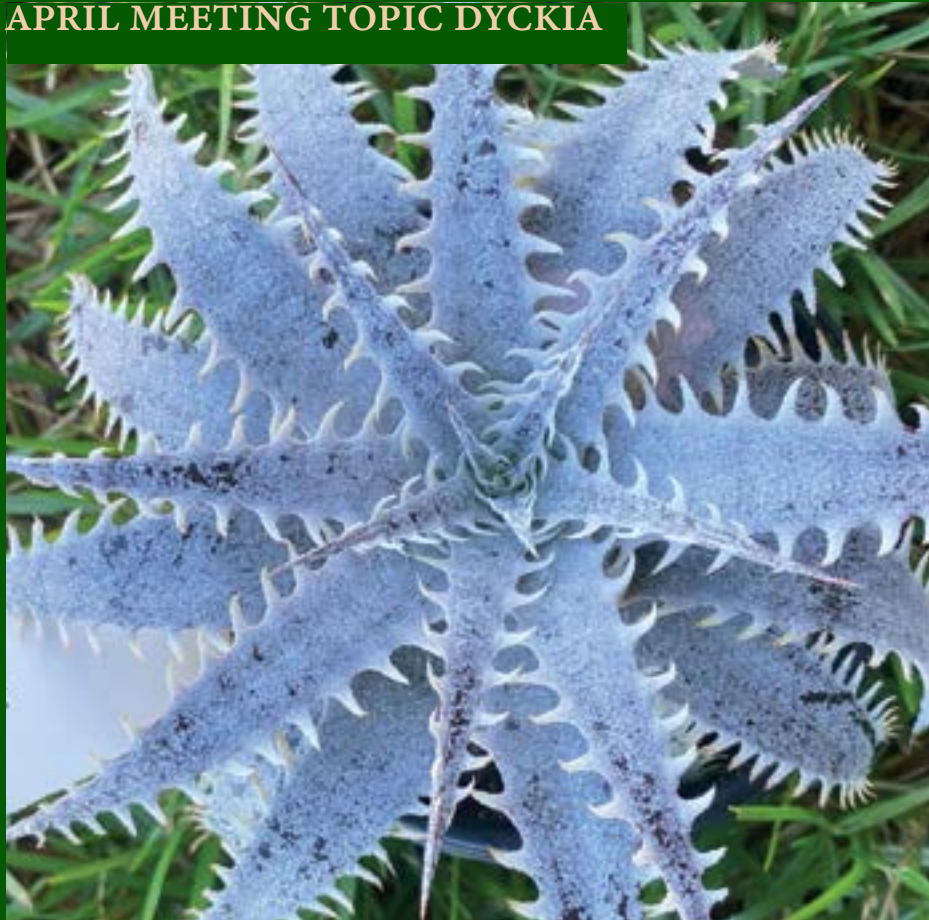


## NEW MEMBERS:

**Gary Hart**  
**Howard Martin**



## APRIL MEETING TOPIC DYCKIA

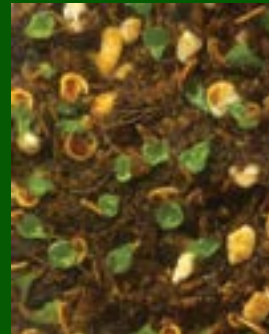


*Dyckia Grand Mariner above*



*Dyckia Talbots*  
Grown by Allan Beard

The Bromeliad species dyckia is named after Count Salm-Dyck. Dyckia which includes 150 species, are a clumping terrestrial xerotrophic species. The inflorescences are tall and the flowers are about 1cm in size which can be red, orange or yellow.



Originating from Brazil and Argentina, they are a very hardy species which can be grown in many conditions, including full sun and full shade.

Dyckia seedlings are easy to germinate. Keep them moist in a warm bright position. A heat mat and grow light ensure a controlled environment, however morning sun near a window will work as well. Here they have been grown in a mix of coco peat and perlite with liquid fertilizer sprayed on them when they dry out. They are grown in plastic containers to keep the humidity high.

Usually seedlings are moved outside at the 8 week mark but the few pots that were moved out were quickly demolished by slugs. This was unexpected because the slugs hadn't eaten any neoregelia or billbergia seedlings.

Photographs by Nina Woodcock

Top left *D. delectata*

Top mid *D. brevifolia* cv. 'Yellow Glow'

Top right *D. mariner lapostollei*

*Dyckia* seedlings at 6, 12 weeks and 12 months



## MAY MEETING TOPIC ACANTHOSTACHYS

ACANTHOSTACHYS is pronounced a-cantho-steak-is. The genus name comes from the Greek 'acantho' meaning thorny or spiny and 'stachys' meaning flower spike. It is a genus of bromeliad that consist of only three species, pitcairnioides, strobilacea and the recently discovered calcicola.



### ***Acanthostachys pitcairnioides***

*Pitcairnioides*, pronounced pit-can-ee-oy-deez, is found in the north east of Brazil. The plant has sharp black spined fleshy thin leaves, with an upright growth habit that range from green, when grown in poor light, to yellowy brown or red in colour when grown in good light to full sun.

The leaves can grow up to 80-100cm long and have a lacquered appearance. The inward recurved leaves channel moisture to the centre of the plant. Small, three petalled bright blue flowers appear at the base and mature into bulbous white seed capsules.

*Pitcairnioides* can be planted in the ground in very well-drained soil similar to cactus garden medium. It also grows well in hanging baskets in a well-drained mix. It forms large clumps easily, is very drought tolerant and takes more sun than most bromeliads. A very hardy plant. Propagation by division is easy. I haven't tried growing seed.



Photographs from  
Bromeliads in Australia Website



### ***Acanthostachys strobilacea strobilaseea***

*strobilacea* is found in North eastern Argentina, Eastern Brazil and Paraguay, growing as an epiphyte in tropical rainforests. This plant is also called the pineapple or pineapple bearing bromeliad. It has thin, often tangled cascading leaves that grow up to approx. 60cm in length and are reddish brown in colouring when grown in strong light. This plant also has hooked spines along the leaves. It produces small pineapple or pinecone like clusters along the leaves with orange bracts and yellow flowers. *Strobilacea* is also naturally clumping, drought tolerant and generally very hardy, but doesn't like frosts. Propagation is easy when growing from fresh seed or dividing into clumps.

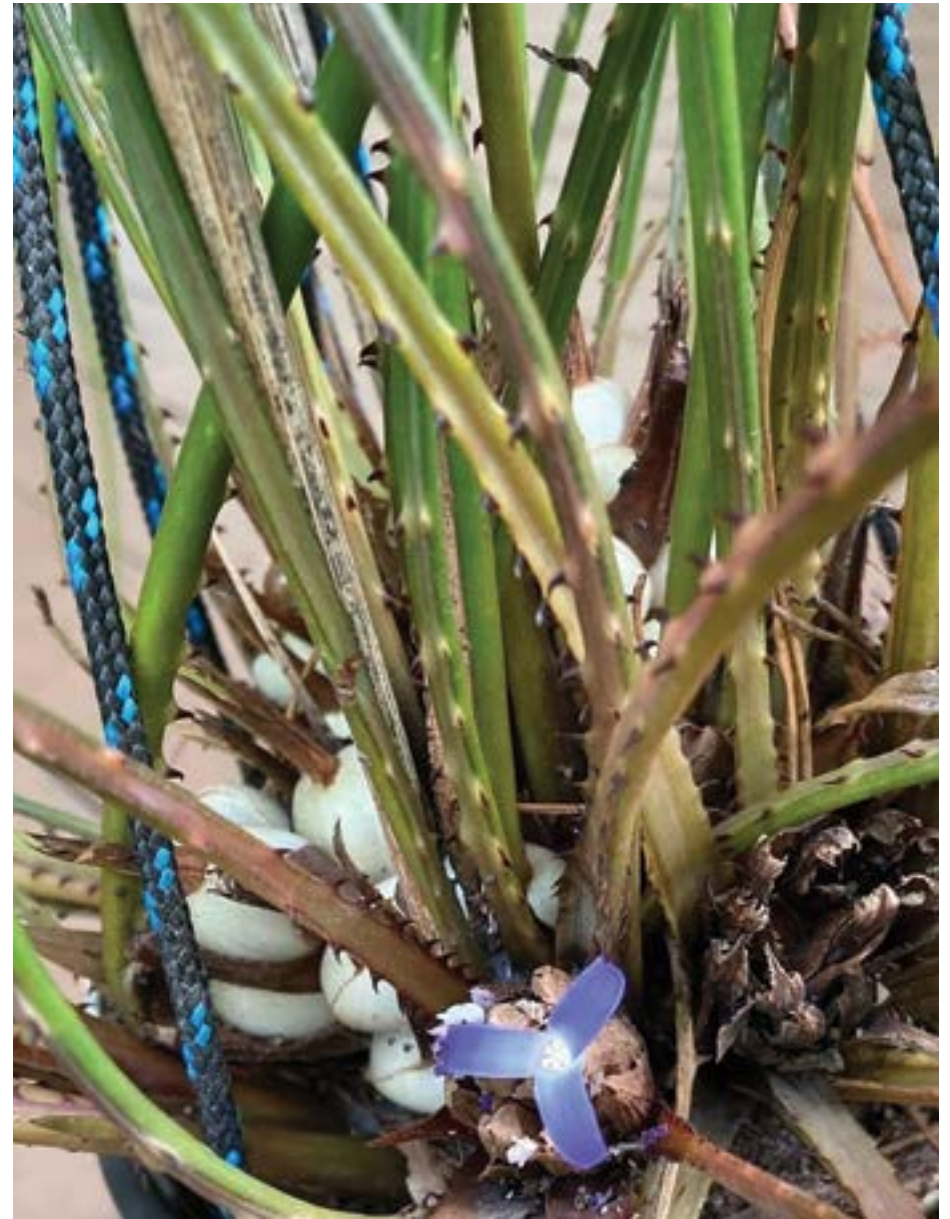
Photographs top Nina Woodcock  
Bottom from Bromeliads in  
Australia Website



### ***A. calcicola***

*Calcicola* pronounced cal see i cola, is the recently discovered plant of the *acanthostachys* genus. It was discovered in crevices on cliffs of limestone outcrops in the S.E. Tocantins, central Brazil in 2020. It is similar to *strobilace* but differs with its reddish petal colour and length that has exerted (protruding) stamens and pistil. Pistil is the ovule producing part of the flower. *Calcicola* is classified as endangered with the likelihood of becoming extinct in the wild. *Acanthostachys* are interesting plants. Not the most attractive but if you like oddities you will certainly find a place for at least one of the two available species in your bromeliad collection.

Photographs from novataxa blog site, article by Joy Clark



Photography *A. pitcairnioides* By Ian Hook



# PLANT OF THE MONTH COMPETITION APRIL

Open	Judges Choice	
First	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Kilkivan'	Harold Kuan
Second	<i>Aechmea purpuresea</i>	Kerry McNicol
Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Isobel Garnet'	Kerry McNicol

Open	Members Choice	
First	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Kilkivan'	Harold Kuan
Second	<i>Aechmea purpuresea</i>	Kerry McNicol
Third	<i>xVrieslandia</i> 'Cosmic Glow'	Harold Kuan

Novice	Judges Choice	
First	<i>Orthophytum gurkenii</i>	Warril Evans
Second	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Strawberry Cream'	Bob Bartley

Novice	Members Choice	
First	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Samford Sunup'	Warril Evans
Second	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Heatwave'	Bob Bartley

## Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition

First	'Home for Easter'	Janet Kuan
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Neoregelia 'Strawberry Cream' 'Home for Easter'



# PLANT OF THE MONTH COMPETITION MAY

## Open Judges Choice

1. First	<i>Tillandsia melanocrater</i>	Helga Nitschke
2. Second	<i>Canistropsis billbergioides</i> 'Tutti Fruitti'	Kerry McNicol
3. Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Fontegne'	Kerry McNicol

## Open Members Choice

First	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Fontegne'	Kerry McNicol
=Second	<i>Tillandsia melanocrater</i>	Helga Nitschke
=Second	<i>Canistropsis billbergioides</i> 'Tutti Fruitti'	Kerry McNicol
Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Heat Rash'	Kerry McNicol

## Novice Judges Choice

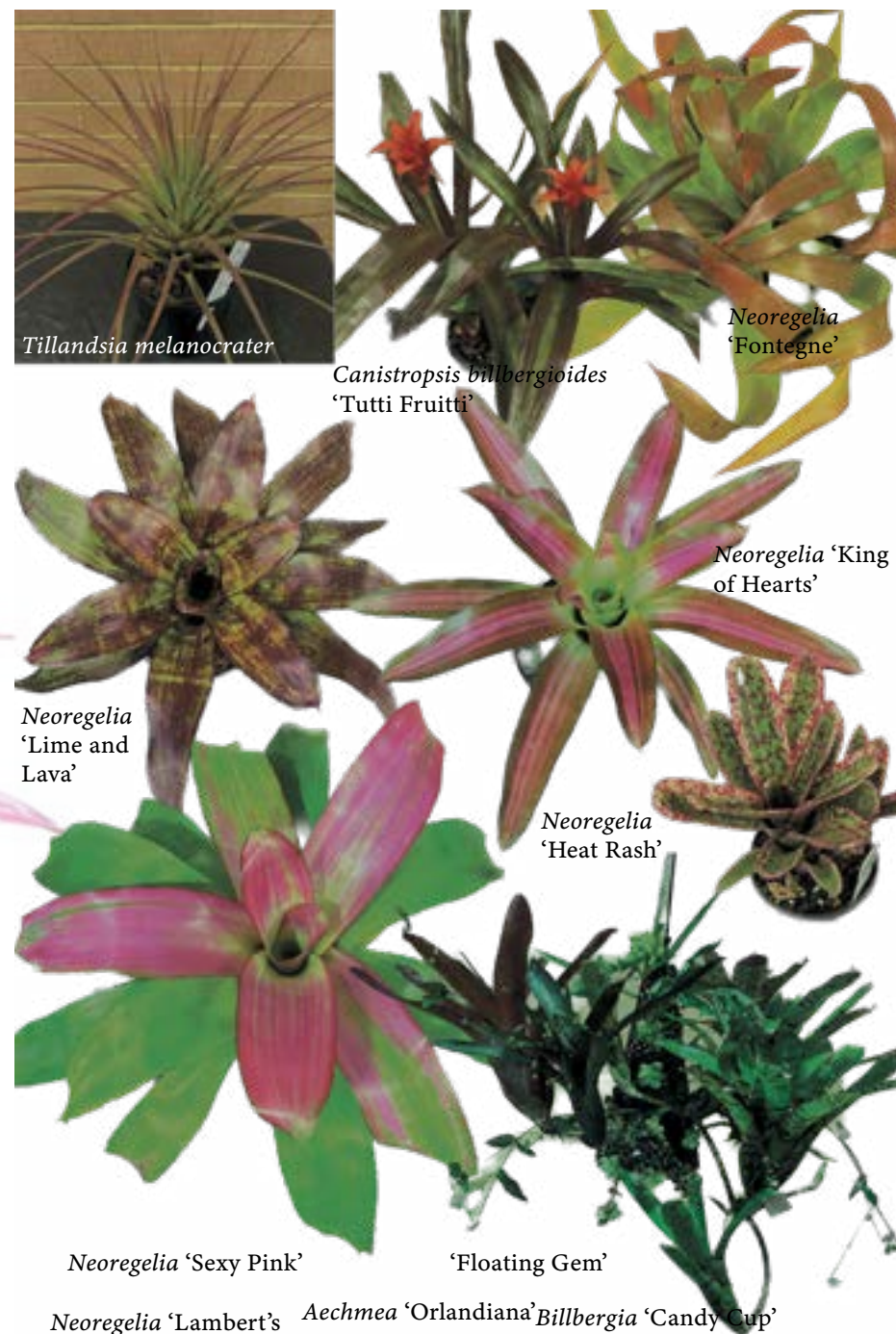
First	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lime and Lava'	Phil Ross
Second	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Candy Cup'	Nina Woodcock
Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'King of Hearts'	Andrew Miller

## Novice Members Choice

First	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Sexy Pink'	Andrew Miller
Second	<i>Aechmea</i> 'Orlandiana'	Anna Ernst
=Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lime and Lava'	Phil Ross
=Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lambert's Pride'	Karen Czarnecki
=Third	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'King of Hearts'	Andrew Miller

## Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition

First	'Floating Gem'	Anna Ernst
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## AUTUMN SHOW 2023 RESULTS

<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Aechmea</b>	
1st	<i>Aechmea</i> 'Black Beauty'	Philip La
2nd	<i>Aechmea</i> 'Orlandiana'	Anna Ernst
3rd	<i>Aechmea recurvata</i> var <i>benrathii</i>	Philip La
<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Billbergia Specimen</b>	
1st	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Georgia'	Kerry McNicol
2nd	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Talbot Evita'	Harold Kuan
3rd	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Fred Gerber'	Harold Kuan
<b>Class 3</b>	<b>Billbergia Colony</b>	
1st	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Kolan Opal'	Nina Woodcock
2nd	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Kawana Pink Amethyst'	Nina Woodcock
<b>Class 4</b>	<b>Cryptanthus</b>	
1st	<i>Cryptanthus bivittatus</i>	Janet Kuan
2nd	<i>Cryptanthus waskinii</i> 'Madam Gemma'	Janet Kuan
3rd	<i>Cryptanthus bivittatus</i> 'Majus'	Janet Kuan
<b>Class 5</b>	<b>Neoregelia Species</b>	
1st	<i>Neoregelia wilsoniana</i>	Kerry McNicol
2nd	<i>Neoregelia guttata</i>	Nina Woodcock
3rd	<i>Neoregelia pauciflora</i> Giant form	Ian Hook
<b>Class 6</b>	<b>Minature Neoregelia</b>	
1st	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Moon Dust'	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Gizmo'	Kerry McNicol
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Small Fry'	Helga Nitschke
<b>Class 7</b>	<b>Neoregelia Hybrid</b>	
1st	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Walking Tall'	David Scott
2nd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Agent Pedro'	Nina Woodcock
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Reptonite Line'	Helga Nitschke
<b>Class 8</b>	<b>Nidularium or Canisprosis</b>	
1st	<i>Canistropsis</i> 'Gulz'	Kerry McNicol
<b>Class 9</b>	<b>Tillandsia Specimen</b>	
1st	<i>Tillandsia streptophylla</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Paterson'	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Eric The Red'	Carolyn Bunnell

<b>Class 10</b>	<b>Tillandsia Colony</b>	
1st	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Capiphylla'	Harold Kuan
2nd	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Tanya Maree'	Ian Hook
<b>Class 11</b>	<b>Vriesea</b>	
1st	<i>Vriesea racinae</i> (Photograph)	Helga Nitschke
2nd	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Southern Cross' x 'Forest'	Helga Nitschke
3rd	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Nova' x <i>bitumenosa</i>	Nina Woodcock
<b>Class 12</b>	<b>Foliage Variegated</b>	
1st	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Atomic Blast'	Nina Woodcock
2nd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Blueberry Yoghurt'	Nina Woodcock
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Atomic Blast'	Amal Eid
<b>Class 13</b>	<b>Other Genera</b>	
1st	<i>Quesnelia marmorata</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Janet Kuan
2nd	<i>Quesnelia</i> 'Rafael Oliveira'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes
3rd	<i>Canistrum triangulare</i>	Kerry McNicol
<b>Class 14</b>	<b>Intergeneric</b>	
1st	<i>xSincoregelia</i> 'Cosmic Blast'	Kerry McNicol
2nd	<i>xNeomea</i> 'Zydeco'	Nina Woodcock
3rd	<i>xNeomea</i> 'Shooting Star'	Kerry McNicol
<b>Class 15</b>	<b>Mounted Bromeliads</b>	
1st	<i>Quesnelia marmorata</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Elizabeth Mudriczke
<b>Class 16</b>	<b>Terrestrial Bromeliad</b>	
1st	<i>Deuterocohnia</i> 'Chlorantha'	Elizabeth Mudriczke
2nd	<i>Dyckia</i> 'Starfish Red'	Anna Ernst
<b>Class 17</b>	<b>Artistic Arrangement</b>	
1st	'Mountain Lookout'	Anna Ernst
2nd	'Secret Garden'	Janet Kuan
3rd	'Hanging About'	Nina Woodcock
<b>Class 18</b>	<b>Novice</b>	
1st	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Aussie Dream'	Anna Ernst
2nd	<i>Tillandsia stricta</i> red	Phil Ross
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lime & Lava'	Phil Ross





*Tillandsia streptophylla*  
Grand Champion &  
1st Carolyn Bunnell



*Quesnelia marmorata*  
'Tim Plowman'  
Species award  
Elizabeth Mudriczke



*Neoregelia* 'Aussie Dream'  
Novice Champion Anna

*Deuterocohnia* 'Chlorantha'  
Reserve Champion &  
1st Elizabeth Mudriczke







*Vriesea* “Nova’ x bitumenosa ”topLeft

*Vriesea* ‘Nova’ x bitumenosa

*Vriesea* *Vriesea* racinae



*Neoregelia* “Walking Tall ”topLeft

*Neoregelia* “Agent Pedro”

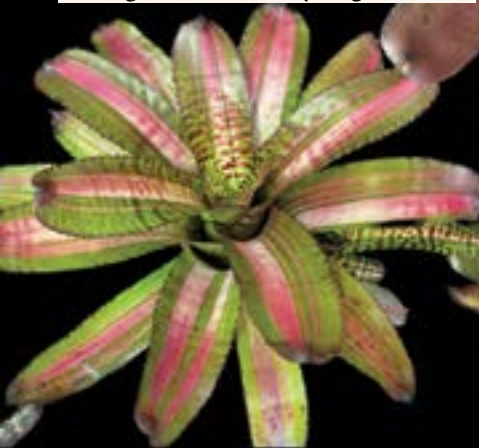
*Neoregelia* “Reptonite Line” ->



*Neoregelia* “Atomic Blast ”Left

*Neoregelia* “Atomic Blast”

*Neoregelia* “Blueberry Yoghurt” ->



*Canistrum triangulare* topLeft

x*Neomea* ‘Zydeco’

x*Neomea* ‘Shooting Star’ top right



*Quesnelia marmorata* ‘Tim Plowman’ mid left

*Quesnelia* ‘Rafael Oliveira’ centre

x*Sincoregelia* ‘Cosmic Blast’ right



*Dyckia* ‘Starfish Red’ mid Left

*Tillandsia* “Tanya Maree” bottom left

*Tillandsia* ‘Capiphylla’

*Canistropsis* ‘Gulz’

*Tillandsia streptophylla* right

*Tillandsia* “Eric the Red” bottom







*Cryptanthus bivittatus* Left  
*Cryptanthus waskinii* "Madam Gemma"  
*Cryptanthus bivittatus* "Majus" Right

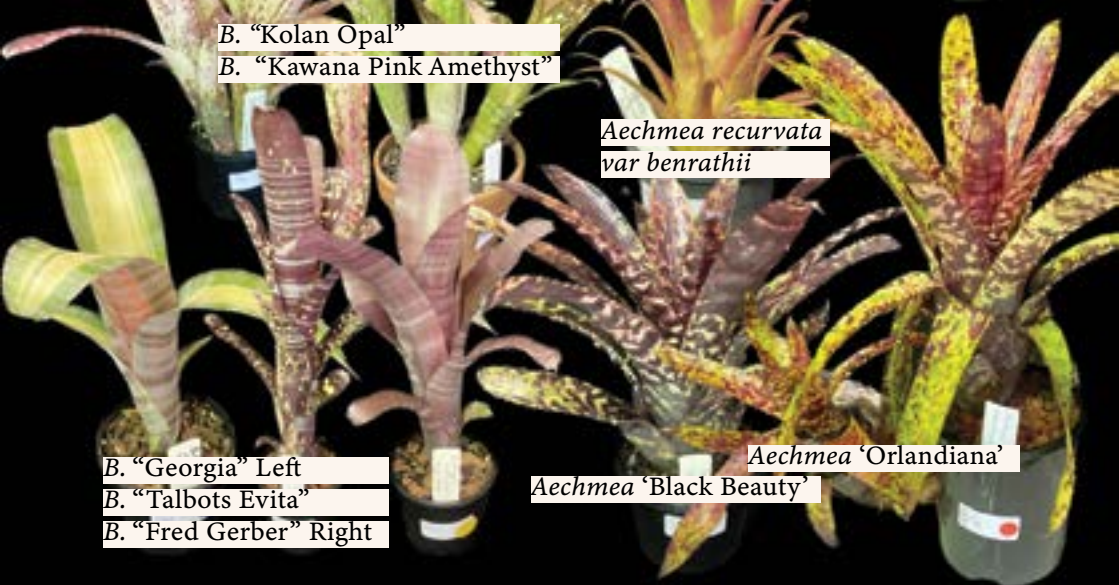


*Neoregelia wilsoniana* right  
*Neoregelia guttata* left  
*Neoregelia pauciflora* giant form->

*Neoregelia* "Moon Dust" topLeft  
*Neoregelia* "Gizmo"  
*Neoregelia* "Small Fry" ->



*B.* "Kolan Opal"  
*B.* "Kawana Pink Amethyst"



*Aechmea recurvata*  
var *benrathii*

*Aechmea* 'Orlandiana'  
*Aechmea* 'Black Beauty'

*B.* "Georgia" Left  
*B.* "Talbots Evita"  
*B.* "Fred Gerber" Right



*Neoregelia* "Aussie Dream" Left  
*Tillandsia stricta* Red Right  
*Neoregelia* "Lime and Lava" ->



"Mountain Lookout" Left  
"Secret Garden" Right  
"Hanging About" Middle



## SEED BANK

If you have seed to donate please contact Terry.  
Below is the list of seeds in our Seed Bank.

*Vriesea platynema variegatum* 10/8/2022 Ian Hook  
*Alcantarea extensa* 18/11/22 Terry Davis  
*Werauhia kupperiana* 10/11/22 Greg Aizlewood  
*Tillandsia capitata* (Red Select) limited 10/12/22 Bob Hudson  
*Tillandsia magnusiana* (limited) 18/12/22 Terry Davis  
*Tillandsia fasciculata* (Chiapas) limited 21/12/22 Bob Hudson  
*Vriesea fosteriana* 6/2/23 George Hardy  
*Tillandsia tectorum* Peruvian form? (limited) 09/03/23 Terry Davis  
*Aechmea bromeliifolia rubra* 5/3/23 David Hastings

50¢ per packet (plus postage) Members or \$1 per packet (plus postage) for all other

Contact Terry Davis (02) 9636 6114 or 0439 343 809

## LITERATURE FOR SALE

<http://www.bromeliad.org.au/Contacts/BSALibrarian.htm>

Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden by Andrew Steens \$20.00

Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual (Rev. ed. 2007) by BSI \$ 6.00

Bromeliad Hybrids 1: Neoregelias by Margaret Paterson \$25.00

Bromeliads Under the Mango Tree by John Catlan \$10.00

Bromeliad Cultivation Notes by Lyn Hudson \$10.00

Growing Bromeliads 3rd Ed by BSA \$20.00 (\$12 member price)

## MONTHLY TRADING ACCOUNT REPORT 2023

	March 1st-31st	April 1st -30th
Opening Balance	\$19,075.50	\$16,631.93
Add Receipts	\$733.19	\$500.30
Less Expences	\$3,176.76	\$1,904.08
Closing Balance	\$16,631.93	\$15,228.15

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Bromeliad Hybrids.

“For My Own Satisfaction” Book 1.

Neos. “For My Own Satisfaction”

Book 2. Crypt., Til., Vr., etc.

Books available on-line at

[www.bromeliad-hybrids.com](http://www.bromeliad-hybrids.com)

## ESSENTIAL BROMELIAD WEB LINKS AND PAGES

### Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR):

<http://registry.bsi.org/> for correct identification and spelling of your hybrid or cultivar. See here for a list of bigeneric bromeliads

### New Bromeliad Taxon List:

<http://bromeliad.nl/taxonlist> Refer to this site for latest species name changes and correct spelling.

### Bromeliads in Australia:

<http://bromeliad.org.au/> Refer to this site for the society Newsletters, events and current seed list

### The Bromeliad Society of Australia Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2037990933090559/>

Keep these web sites set as desktop icons for quick reference access.



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