



# Bromelcairns



**Bimonthly Newsletter of Cairns Bromeliad Society Inc. 2020 # 3**

*P.O. Box 28 Cairns Queensland 4870 Australia*

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**Honorary Life Member - Grace Goode O.A.M.**

**Honorary Life Member - Kay Edington**

**Life Members - Lynn Hudson, Robert (Bob) Hudson, Dave Weston**

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**Aims of the Society**

**Promote and Develop Interest in Bromeliads through Friendship  
To Co-operate with similar Clubs throughout the World**

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**Membership Fee:** \$15 Single, \$25 Family, Country Member \$25.  
\$7.50 junior (if not in family membership)

**Meetings start at 1.pm sharp first Saturday of the month.**

Please bring a cup.

**Library:** All books & magazines borrowed are to be returned in good order to the following meeting. If not on wait list, they may be rebooked.

**Plant Display/Sales:** To participate, a member must be financial and circumstances permitting, have attended at least three meetings in the past six months.  
10% of sales is deducted for club funds.

All plants to be clean, free of disease, named and price tagged.

**Show Plants:** Must be the property of and in the custody of the entrant for the past three months. For Society Shows the entrant must be financial and have attended at least three meetings during the past six months.

**Pens, Plant Tags & Pots:** available at each meeting.

**If reprinting article, wholly or in part, please acknowledge Author & Newsletter.**  
Any article &/or Bromelcairns will be Emailed on request to

[lynnie@ledanet.com.au](mailto:lynnie@ledanet.com.au) or [www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com](http://www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com)

Previous issues are on my website [www.bromeliadsdownunder.com.au](http://www.bromeliadsdownunder.com.au)

## 2 Club Activities & Around the Members

MAY: COVID kept us apart but we had

'The Web' to show our plants & vote.



Bromeliad Open section

1st *Guzmania sanguinea* variegated - Marguerite Sexton

2nd *Neoregelia* 'Pink On The Inside' - Aaron Smythe.

3rd *Neoregelia* 'Chester' - Dave Weston



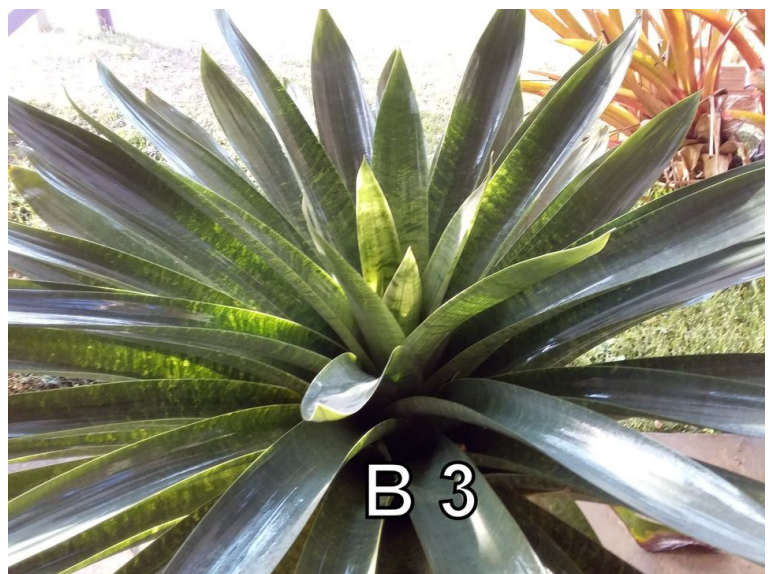
1st. *Guzmania sanguinea* variegated

2nd. *Neoregelia* 'Pink On The Inside'



3rd. *Neoregelia* 'Chester'

Other beauties entered



*Vriesea gigantea seideliana*

3 MAY Other beauties entered

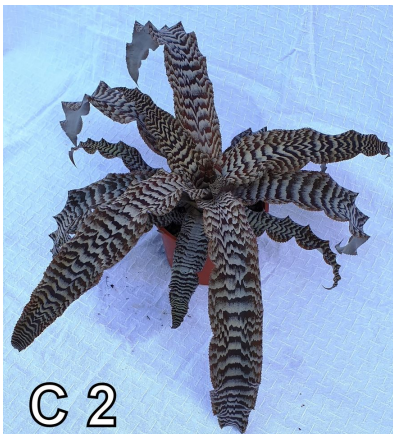


MAY- Cryptanthus

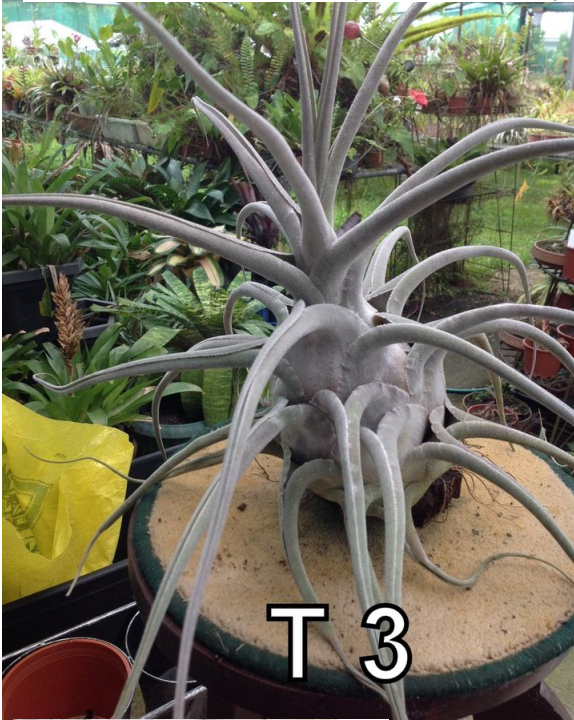
1st *Cryptanthus* 'Milky Way seedling' Dave Weston

2nd *Cryptanthus* 'Cosmic Storm' Aaron Smythe

3rd *Cryptanthus* 'Anne Collings' Lynn Hudson



**MAY** 1st *Tillandsia ehlersiana* Marg Sexton.  
 2nd *Tillandsia ionantha* 'Druid Thai' Bob Hudson  
 3rd *Tillandsia hybrid* Lesley Hepburn



Other beauties entered



**NOVICE** Well grown Max, they are lovely  
 1st *Aechmea*. 'Samurai' Max Smith  
 2nd *Neoregelia* 'Puppy Love' Max Smith.  
 3rd *Neoregelia* 'Alcatraz' Max Smith.





6. JUNE - Open Cryptanthus

1st. *Cryptanthus* 'San Juan' - Dave Weston

2nd *Cryptanthus* 'Thriller' - Marguerite Sexton

3rd *Cryptanthus* 'Thriller' - Lynn Hudson



JUNE - Open Tillandsias

1st *Tillandsia funkiana* - Dave Weston >

2nd *Tillandsia hildae* - Aaron Smythe

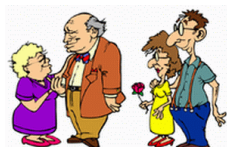
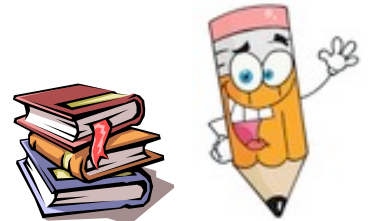
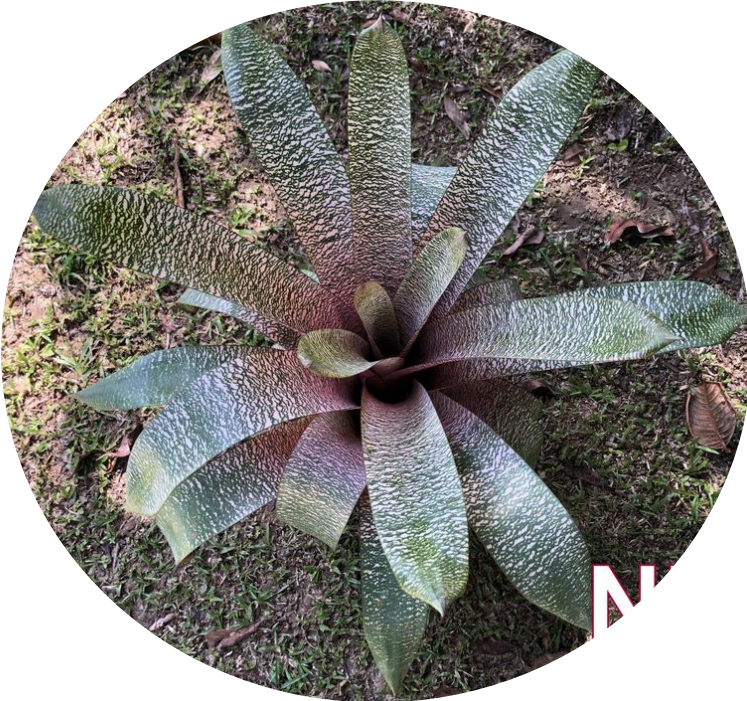
3rd *Tillandsia* 'Ty' - Marg Sexton



**NOVICE June  
Bromeliad**



Max Smith took the bromeliad trifecta  
1st *Vriesea* 'Ellen Catherine Gardner' - Max Smith  
2nd *Neoregelia* 'Piccolo' - Max Smith.  
3rd *Aechmea* 'Roberto Menescal'



NOVICE June (there were no entries in Cryptanthus this month)

**Tillandsia**

Josie took the tillandsia trifecta with her beautifully grown tillandsias

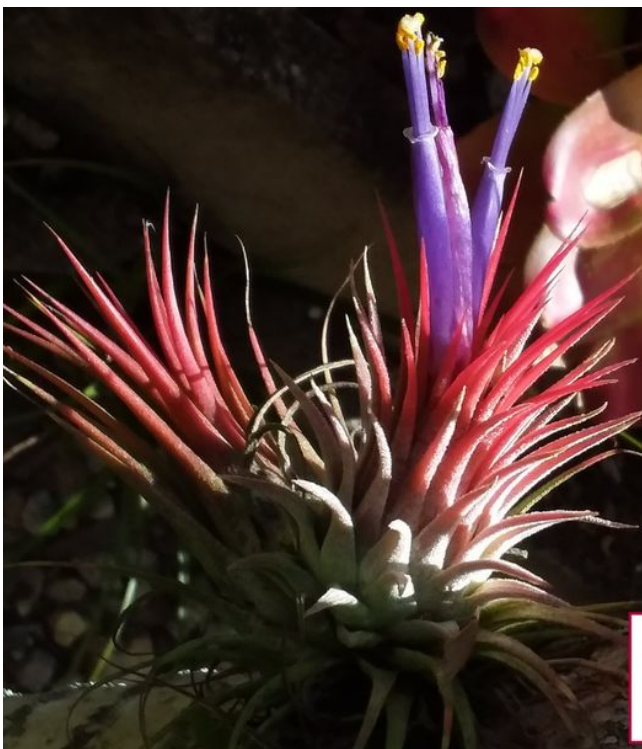


xerographica



*Tillandsia ionantha*

*Tillandsia streptophylla*







Today it rained, really rained.

As it came across other buildings it sounded like a billycart on a rough road.

It poured down in big wet drops.

It filled up my bromeliads. They look so different, like they are laughing.

It formed small rivulet streams and rushed along to soak into the dry earth.

It was so loud on the shed roof I could hear nought else. Yes I got caught in it as it stopped and suddenly started again. It was just lovely and it made me feel like this dancing mantis.

It is now September we needed this rain, and it will soak in well. Go look at your soft leafed plants eg vrieseas and guzmanias. I bet they look happy, full of water, rich in minerals etc. As we go into the hotter weather they will appreciate some fertiliser now to strengthen the leaves.

Check on them at least once a week.

If the plant centre burns it means the water in the centre gets too hot.

If the leaf tips burn the air is too hot and dry & the root system is dry. Wet the mix

If the middle of the leaves burn the sunlight is too bright and hot.

If the temps get to 30C water and mist your plants including the roots & mix.

Cool everything down - I spray upwards under the shade cloth - as the heat rises.

No water is wasted and it makes everything cooler.

Picture their habitat - on the floor or in trees where it is usually about 26C, generally not over 28C, they get moisture that is cool and feeds their roots.

### **QUILLING - growing in tubular form with the leaves tightly cemented.**

Bromeliads form some sort of gum dissolved in the water in the leaf cups. Evaporation at the leaf margins may cement them, especially with thin leaved forms, firmly enough so that they do not break loose with growth. High humidity minimises the problem as does frequent misting with water.

Simply immerse the plant in water for 24 hrs. (in plastic, not copper or galvanized bucket) After soaking, the leaves can be disengaged without injury.

### **RESUSCITATING OVERLY DRY, STRESSED OR IMPORTED PLANTS.**

Mix together 2 spoons sugar, 1 teaspoon balanced fertiliser in 1 gallon water. Immerse the plant for at least one hour but do not forget it for days.

Pot the plant normally, using well drained medium.

The normal water content of the leaves will be restored. The sugar/fertiliser combination stimulates the plant to resume normal growth or to produce pups if the plant has gone too far.

This treatment is advisable for all kinds of plants and cuttings which have become dry. Ferns and orchids respond to it very quickly.



One of our members recently asked the difference between variant, clone mutant and sport. I hope the following will clear up the difference.

**SPORT** means the plant will vary markedly from the normal type. It will show bud variation (a bud is the swelling or projection on a plant which develops the offshoot). In other words, it will produce the same variations as the ‘parent’ plant. Sports are usually attributable to mutation (a mutation is a SUDDEN variation of inheritable characteristics in a germ cell of a plant, as distinguished from a variation resulting from a number of generations of gradual change)

Examples of a sport would be *Cryptanthus* ‘It’ or *Aechmea orlandiana* cv. ‘Ensign’.

**MUTANT** Is simply a plant with inheritable characteristics that differ from those of the parent. It is a plant that has undergone sudden mutation. An example of this would be a plant suddenly producing an offshoot with one or more characteristics completely different from the original plant and this offshoot, in turn able to reproduce itself exactly in succeeding generations.

1. When a variegated offshoot formed on *Aechmea* ‘Foster’s Favorite’ it made ->*Aechmea* ‘Foster’s Favorite Favorite’.

2. Among the seedlings of *Aechmea orlandiana* we had *Aechmea orlandiana* cv. ‘Ensign’. These were mutants or sports.

**A MUTATION** is an abrupt and relatively permanent change in the somatic cell that is (usually) transmitted only to the female cells and (in those cases) can be inherited only by plants that reproduce asexually.

**A CULTIVAR** is a plant that has originated and continues in cultivation which has developed over several generations - i.e. *Aechmea fasciata* cv. ‘Silver King’. It is usually produced by taking one of the best “clones” of a group and to continue picking the best from ensuing generations until such a plant is produced. Another example of this would be some of the varieties of *Vriesea splendens*.

**A VARIANT** merely means the plant is different in some way from others of the same kind. This could apply to either a sport or a cultivar, but would give no indication of which it meant.

**A CLONE** is a group of plants, ALL of whose members descended from a single individual plant. This is why, especially in hybrids, we have so many “clones” of the same thing, but they may not be alike. Two hundred plants may be the result of one cross, but each plant and its descendants are a clone within themselves. //



For all of us who are married, were married, wish you were married, or wish you weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine:

Sally was driving home from one of her business trips in Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car. Resuming the journey, Sally tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman.



The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.

'What in bag?' asked the old woman. Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, 'It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband.'

The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said: 'Good trade.....'



An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, 'Can I also sit like you and do nothing?'

The eagle answered: 'Sure, why not.'

So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested.

All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Moral of the story:

To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.



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**Life isn't about how you survived the storm, it's about how you danced in the rain.**

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Everyone wants happiness no one wants pain  
But you can't have a rainbow without a little rain



Nothing just happens or just gets done,  
Someone has to make it happen or do it.





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\*fertilisers \*fungicides \*herbicides \*spraying equipment  
\*plastic pots \*orchid & squat pots \*planter bags \*plant tags  
\*potting mix \*perlite \*vermiculite \*charcoal \*orchid bark  
\*shade cloth \*poly films \*weed control mat



Everything for growing gardens

## Hudson's Bromeliads Down Under

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## New Zealand Bromeliad Society is hosting

The 21st Australian Bromeliad Conference is in New Zealand  
in April 2021

Good Company, Interesting Guest Speakers, Great Plants.



“Bromeliad Cultivation Notes” by Lynn Hudson

A little ‘how to’ book. Cultivation made easy. Basics in language anyone can follow.

John Catlan’s notes - “Bromeliads Under the Mango Tree”

A ‘must have’ book to help you think and grow your bromeliads better.

Booklet prepared & printed by Lynn Hudson

Both available in bulk at reduced price.

Contact Lynn on 07 40533913 or [lynnie@ledanet.com.au](mailto:lynnie@ledanet.com.au) or  
[www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com](http://www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com)

“Tillandsias my Way” by Bob Hudson

Tillandsia care Bob’s way [tillandsiabob@gmail.com](mailto:tillandsiabob@gmail.com)

