

Beginner's Guide to Bromeliad Names by Derek Butcher May 2015

This is a general look at Bromeliad names because, as in life, there are always exceptions to the rule!

First let us look at plants found in the wild which Botanists are interested in and which are given two Latin names. One is the genus – or surname and the other is the species name - or given name. Plants have been given these names for some 300 years and there has been duplication and different interpretation which means that various botanists over the years have changed names and also have relegated some names to what we call synonymy.

See The New Bromeliad Taxon List at: <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/taxonList.php>
This is a list of what I have recorded and the current name is in bold letters. If a botanists name is in brackets it means that he gave the original species name but someone later has changed the genus name.

The New Bromeliad Taxon List

by Derek Butcher and Eric Gouda, updated: 2015-05-20 06:09:17
for counts look at brackets after genus name and for total counts look at end of this list

INDEX - **A** - **B** - **C** - **D** - **E** - **F** - **G** - **H** - **I** - **J** - **K** - **L** - **M** - **N** - **O** - **P** - **R** - **S** - **T** - **U** - **V** - **W** - **X** - **Y** - **Z**

[- New Names](#) - [Accepted Names](#) - [Recent changes](#) - [Cite as](#) - [Operation info](#) - [Accepted Names info](#)

◀ **Abromeitiella** ▶

Abromeitiella abstrusa => *Abromeitiella lorentziana*
Abromeitiella brevifolia => *Deuterocohnia brevifolia*
Abromeitiella brevifolia subsp. *chlorantha* (Haum) W. Sch.-Mot. => *Deuterocohnia* now
cultivar '*Chlorantha*' on BCR
Abromeitiella chlorantha => *Abromeitiella brevifolia*
Abromeitiella lorentziana => *Deuterocohnia lorentziana*
Abromeitiella lotteae => *Deuterocohnia lotteae*
Abromeitiella pulvinata => *Abromeitiella brevifolia*
Abromeitiella scapigera => *Deuterocohnia scapigera*

◀ **Acanthospora** ▶

Acanthospora conantha => *Guzmania strobilantha*
Acanthospora juncea => *Tillandsia juncea*
Acanthospora vittata => *Guzmania vittata*

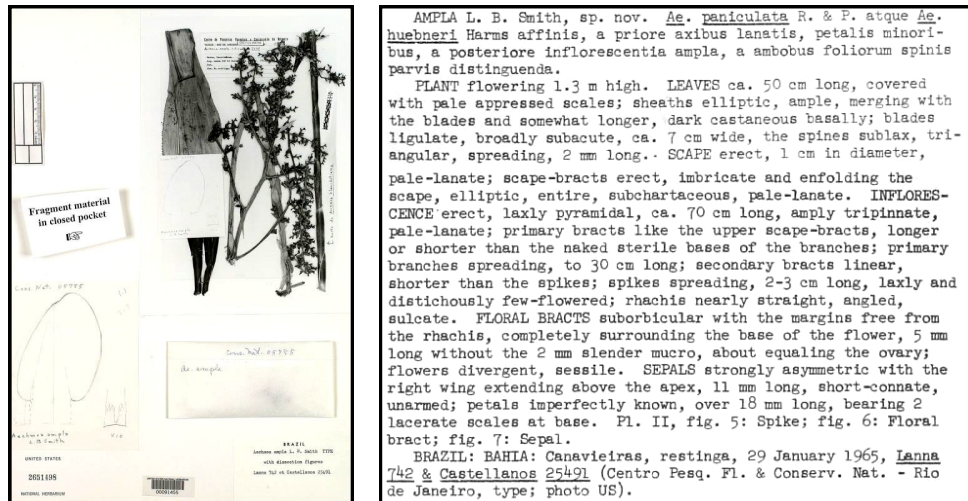
◀ **Acanthostachys** (2) ▶

Acanthostachys ananassoides => *Ananas ananassoides*
Acanthostachys exilis => *Acanthostachys strobilacea*
Acanthostachys pitcairnioides (Mez) Rauh & Barthlott
Acanthostachys strobilacea (Schultes f.) Klotzsch

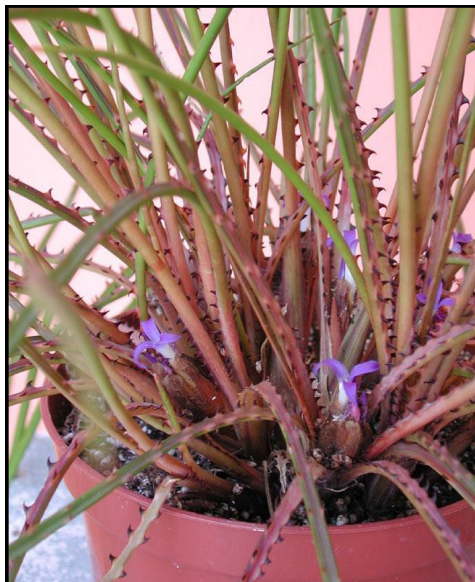
◀ **Achupalla** ▶

Achupalla => *Puya furfuracea*

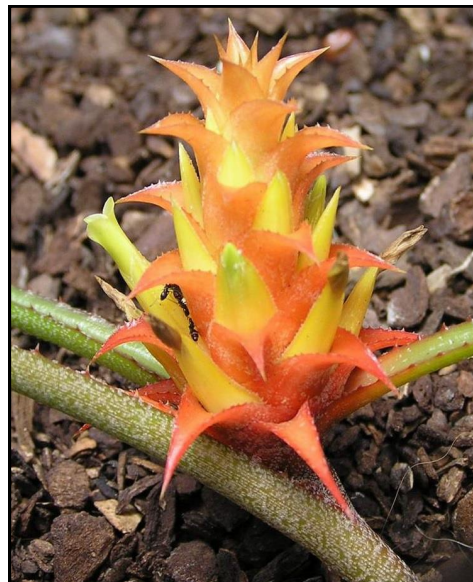
Whenever a new species is named you should have a herbarium specimen or equivalent and a written description.



A couple of examples of species:
(note the **bold black writing** in **The New Bromeliad Taxon List**)



Acanthostachys pitcairnioides
Jose Donayre



Acanthostachys strobilacea

Now to a plant you should be familiar with - *Aechmea fasciata* and how the botanist sees it. You may first see the old names that have been used in the past. But let us concentrate on the bold black. You may have plants with two of the names but what about the other two. Here are some photos to remind you.



Aechmea fasciata
var. *fasciata*



Aechmea fasciata
var. *flavi-vittata*



Aechmea fasciata
var. *purpurea*



Now we come to an interesting bit, a plant called *Aechmea fasciata* var. *variegata* which looks like a genuine species name but in this case has not been described according to the botanist's protocol, so is treated by them as nomen nudum or n. n. which literally means a naked name – i.e. not described. Such a name is ignored by botanists. A plant could be linked to *Ae. fasciata* var. *flavivittata* but you never see this in commerce.

Aechmea fasciata (Lindley) Baker
Aechmea fasciata sensu L.B.Smith 1955 in part => *Aechmea dealbata*
Aechmea fasciata var. *flavivittata* Reitz
Aechmea fasciata var. *pruinosa* Reitz
Aechmea fasciata var. *purpurea* Guillon
Aechmea hamata => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *fasciata*
Aechmea leopoldii => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *fasciata*
Aechmea rhodocyanea => *Aechmea fasciata*
Billbergia fasciata => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *fasciata*
Billbergia fasciata splendens => *Billbergia pyramidalis* var. *pyramidalis*
Billbergia glaziovii => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *fasciata*
Billbergia rhodocyanea Lemaire => *Aechmea fasciata*
Billbergia rhodocyanea var. *purpurea* => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *purpurea*
Hohenbergia fasciata => *Aechmea fasciata* var. *fasciata*
Hoplophytum fasciatum => *Aechmea fasciata*
Quesnelia rhodocyanea => *Aechmea fasciata*

The problem here is that no variegated *Ae. fasciata* has been registered as a Cultivar either, unless you include *Ae. 'Kiwi'*.

We now move to cultivar, that is a cultivated form of *Aechmea fasciata* and there are lots and lots of these. First let us look at where you find these:

<http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/bcr/index.php>



Bromeliad Cultivar Register

Compiled and maintained by the
Bromeliad Society International

The BSI is the only International Cultivar Registration Authority for Bromeliaceae, appointed by the International Society for Horticultural Science's Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration. Publication of bromeliad cultivar photographs and relevant information on any other website do not constitute registration.

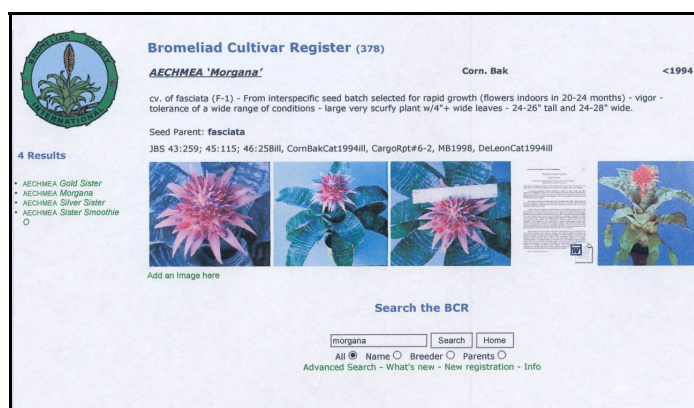
Cultivar Registrar: Geoffrey Lawn
E-mail: cultivars@bsi.org

in collaboration with
Derek Butcher and Eric Gouda

Search the BCR

All ☒ Name ☐ Breeder ☐ Parents ☐
Advanced Search - What's new - New registration - Info

If we do an Advanced Search on the BCR we can find forms of a species that originated in cultivation. Note that these are not hybrids.
I will just show you one so you can see what I mean - *Aechmea* 'Morgana'



Bromeliad Cultivar Register (378)

***AECHMEA* 'Morgana'** Corn. Bak <1994

cv. of *fasciata* (F-1) - From interspecific seed batch selected for rapid growth (flowers indoors in 20-24 months) - vigor - tolerance of a wide range of conditions - large very scurvy plant w/4"-wide leaves - 24-26" tall and 24-28" wide.

Seed Parent: *fasciata*
JBS 43:259; 45:115; 46:258ll, CornBakCat1994lll, CargoRpt#6-2, MB1998, DeLeonCat1994lll

4 Results

- AECHMEA* Gold Sister
- AECHMEA* Morgana
- AECHMEA* Silver Sister
- AECHMEA* Silver Smoothie

Add an image here

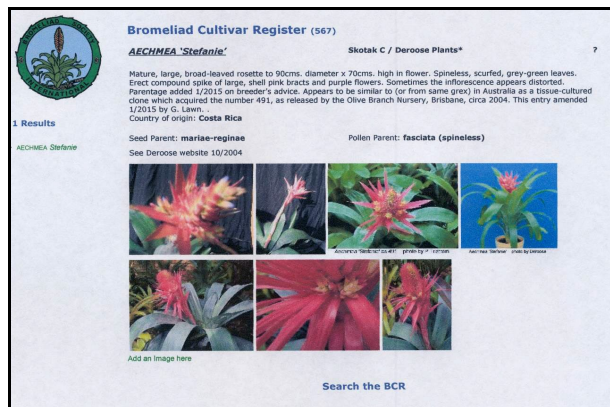
Search the BCR

All ☒ Name ☐ Breeder ☐ Parents ☐
Advanced Search - What's new - New registration - Info

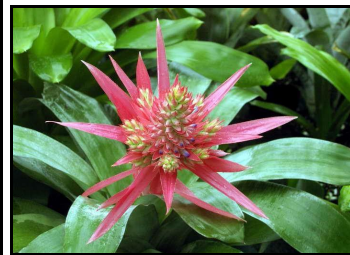
For a better shot click on individual photos.



Now to man-made hybrids involving *Aechmea fasciata* as one of the parents.
There are many of these and let us pick one – ‘Stefanie’

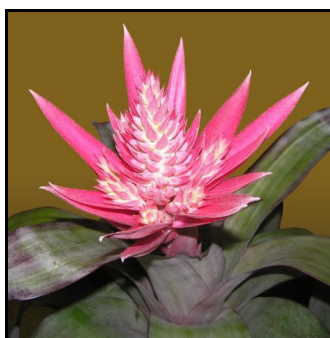


For a better shot click on individual photos.



Aechmea 'Stefanie' as 491
P. Tristram

Now for a WARNING. Anybody can give any name to a plant, this is primarily done to sell it. If you are a person who likes to have a correct or nearly correct name on your plant then you can check details of an accepted species or of a registered Cultivar. There are almost as many of these so called named plants in the marketplace. One example in this *Aechmea fasciata* complex in Australia is called 'Felicia' which seems to have links to 'Stefanie' rather than 'Felice' which has close links to 'Fascini' ! Complicated – sure is! Because there is no recorded description I call these NN which is short for Nurseryman's Names. Remember the lower case n. n. is used by Botanists.



Aechmea 'Felicia'
photo by R. Harper



Aechmea 'Fascini'
variegated
J. Catlan



Aechmea 'Felice'
W. Searles

Finally, you may see formulas such as (name x name). These are used by hybridists to remind them of parents used but the plants should remain under the control of the hybridist and because they have no recorded description they too are NN. Remember a formula only identifies the alleged parents and not the progeny. When such hybrids are released they should be named. Refer recommendations in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register. Formulas of assumed parents are accepted by Botanists as a temporary measure for plants found in the wild.

NATURAL HYBRIDS			
These are hybrids named under the ICBN rules and apply to plants found in the wild. They do not appear in the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry which follows the ICNCP rules. They may or may not appear in Harry Luther's Binomial listing. Should you find a natural hybrid in any literature given a latinised name or grex formula and not in this list please advise full details including a photograph if possible. Remember that grex formulae are acceptable under this system. Note that putative parents are shown in alpha order for ease of reference and because actual seed parent would be unknown in the wild.			
Genus	Parents	Name	Remarks
<i>Aechmea</i>	<i>aquilega x moonenii</i>	<i>xlanjouwii</i>	Gouda JBS 2002 p25-34
<i>Aechmea</i>	<i>chantinii x retusa</i>		Brom. Ecuador Manzanares 2002 p219
<i>Aechmea</i>	<i>tessmannii x tillandsioides</i>		fcbs.org /photo /programs/No2/Ecuador
<i>Billbergia</i>	<i>distachia x vittata</i>	<i>xclaudioi</i>	Bradea 4:314-6. 1987
<i>Deuterocohnia</i>	<i>longipetala x meziana</i>		Schutz in Phytotaxa 162(1): 26. 2014
<i>Guzmania</i>	<i>eduardii x rosea</i>		fcbs.org /Photo / Programs/No2/Ecuador
<i>Guzmania</i>	<i>kraenzliniana x longipetala</i>	<i>xamoena</i>	J Brom. Soc. 52(2): 54-5. 2002

An example of a natural hybrid *Tillandsia schiedeana* x *seleriana*



Knowing how the various names eventuate is interesting to me and I hope you too!