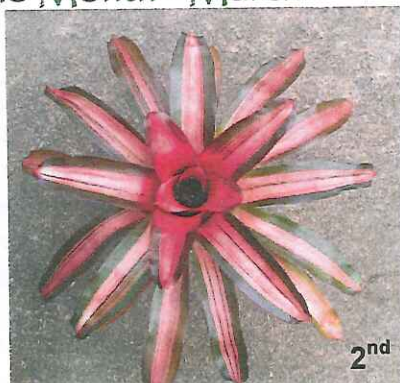
1st2nd3rd

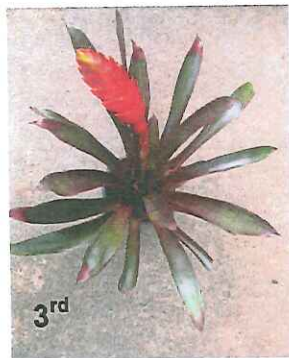
Advanced

- 1st Lou Baker
Neoregelia 'Magic Lantern'
- 2nd Lou Baker
Neoregelia 'Perfect Tricolor'
- 3rd Lou Baker
Neoregelia 'Beef Steak'

1st

Novice

- 1st Mark Pearce
Neoregelia 'Painted Delight'
- 2nd Bob McLean
Neoregelia 'Imperfecta'
- 3rd Bob McLean
Vriesea 'Perropolitana rubra'

3rd2nd

Printed by Glasshouse Country News



Inside!

Plant of the Month 2
February

President's 3
message

A *Neoregelia* Name 4
for Every Occasion

Len's Timely 5
Tips

Home Among the 6
Bromeliads

Library News

Some Handy Hints 7

Whats on When
in 2010

Plant of the Month 8
March

Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 11

April 2010



Lotty and John invited us to their garden for
March meeting.



Millie with her raffle
prize

Len and Sheryl's garden
before and after a BIG WET.



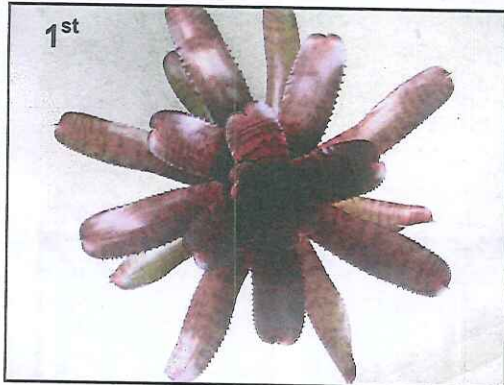
Welcome to new members
Michelle Gay and Lillian and
Bob Brereton.



Glasshouse Country News are pleased to
be able to support the Glasshouse
Country Bromeliad Society in their
publication.

Landsborough Excavator & Positrack Hire
6 Tonne Excavator with
Tilt Bucket & Augers
Positrack with Slasher
Good Rates - All Areas
Geoff Tennant
5494 1399 or 0418 930 099

Plants of the Month—February

1st2nd3rd

Advanced

- 1st Cheryl & Len Waite
Neoregelia 'Groves Red Tiger'
 2nd Cheryl & Len Waite
Neoregelia 'Perfect Ten'
 3rd Lou Baker
Aechmea 'Royal Wine'

There were no Novice entries this month

Aechmea 'Royal Wine' is a hybrid of *miniata* v. *discolor* x *victoriana* v. *discolor*. It was hybridized by M.B. Foster in 2000.

Congratulations to

Lou Baker

who won the Plant of the
 Month Novice Section for
 2009.

This promotes Lou to the
 Advanced Section where he
 will no doubt be a rival for
 Len & Sheryl!



Printed by Glasshouse Country News

SOME HANDY HINTS

Provided by Kaye Notman

(Excerpts from Bromeliaceae Journals)

- Many bromeliad species like high levels of sunlight (but few can tolerate full sun in the middle of summer). If a plant of a light loving species has been grown in shady conditions, moving it straight into a well-lit position may result in sun damage e.g. yellowing of the leaves, bleached 'spots' on leaves. Give the plant time to adjust by moving it, over several months, into progressively more sunny locations.
- Before applying foliar fertilizer to bromeliads, thoroughly wet the leaves with water. This helps to ensure the leaves are in the best condition to absorb the nutrients in the liquid fertilizer. Similarly, ensure potting mixtures are moist before applying liquid fertilizer.
- If you can, delay removing offsets until they are one-third to half the size of the parent plant. They will tend to establish and grow more quickly, and be less likely to rot, than when offsets are removed at a smaller size. The downside of this approach is that the plant may produce fewer pups, than if they were removed at an earlier stage of their development.
- If you are mounting tillandsias onto wooden or cork mounts, try to do this activity well before the plant flowers. This will improve the chances of the plant sending out roots onto the mount, as flowering plants often do not do this. Instead, flowering plants are probably using their energy to make flowers, then seeds and offsets.

What's on When in 2010

- April 17-18 BSQ Bromeliad Bonanza Mt Cootha Gardens Auditorium
 May 2 2.0 pm Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Mary McKillop Centre Beerwah
 May 1-2 Bromeliad Spectacular Sunshine Coast Bromeliad Society Millwell Rd
 Community Centre Maroochydore. 8.30—4 Sat; 9-2 Sunday
 May 1-3 Bloomin Broms Cairns
 see <http://www.bromeliadsdownunder.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=88>
 May 2 2.0 pm Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Mary McKillop Centre Beerwah
 June 6 2.0 pm Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Mary McKillop Centre Beerwah
 Guest speaker— Nigel Thompson

Editorial Committee: Pat Pennell, Margaret von Konigsmark, Bob Watkins

Contributors to this Issue: Len Waite, Kaye Notman, Avril Belcher

Printed by Glasshouse Country News

Home Amongst the Bromeliads

Many species of Bromeliads are threatened due to deforestation and agriculture in South America, a fate which is shared by the many animal, bird and insect species which depend on these plants for food and shelter.



The Golden Lion Tamarin (*Leontopithecus rosalia*) or Golden Marmoset is native to the Atlantic coastal forests of Brazil. Extinction was threatened during the 1960's and it is now an endangered species. It eats insects in the reservoirs of bromeliads and uses many big species as sleeping places.

The white faced marmoset (*Callithrix geoffroyi*) has long fingers adapted to eating parts of bromeliad plants and the small insects hiding inside. It is now common in captivity.



Library News

Those of us who were at the last meeting at Mary McKillop Centre in February would have caught a brief glimpse of the new *Tillandsia II* book by Paul T Isley III. The good news is that we now have this wonderfully photographed and informative book available for borrowing from the Library. It is well worth a read.

I also have some copies of *Under the Mango Tree* which were ordered and still haven't as yet been collected. Could those people who did place an order and haven't collected their copy please arrange to pick them up at the next Library meeting.

Just a quick reminder that the Library is only available for borrowing and returning books at our home meetings which are usually held bi-monthly at Mary McKillop Centre unless for some reason we have a change of venue. Books may be borrowed at one meeting at the Centre and should be returned at the following meeting so that other members who wish to borrow a particular book can do so

Disclaimer:

This bi-monthly newsletter is intended to provide general information only for members of Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Inc. The producers and contributors will not be responsible for any loss or damage to property or injury to persons regarding the information provided.

President's Message

I would like to thank Lotti and John for hosting the February meeting and sharing with us what they have done with the collection of bromeliads they are gathering.

Well here we are after what has been an extremely hot, dry and then wet summer, when we have all struggled to try and keep our plants in good condition. We have experienced difficulties with the heat and then a prolonged period of wet weather and not much sun. It has been extremely difficult to maintain good colour in our plants on top of the sun burn and some growers have told me that even with the use of regular applications of potassium, it has been difficult to maintain good colour plants. In the last few weeks since the rain has turned to showers it is surprising to see how many plants have sent up a large number of pups—more work to increase our collection. Our garden has not been too bad, as we have set our pots into 150mm mulch bed to hold the pots upright as well as the let them drain freely.

We are now at the start of autumn and we can start to prepare our plants for the Garden Expo at the end of May. As you are aware, in conjunction with the garden Expo you have the opportunity to enter a garden competition which is open to small and large gardens. The small gardens are up to 600 m² in size and large gardens are those greater than 600 m². It would be wonderful to see some of our members from the bromeliad society enter this competition. The competition which is sponsored by Bassett Barks Pty. Ltd. will provide some useful garden products as prizes to assist in the maintenance and beautification of your garden. I would like to encourage members of the Society to consider entering the competition. If you choose to participate, the experience and feedback you will receive I am sure will be of great benefit. Please consider entering the competition and present the judges and the public with a display to show the benefits of growing bromeliads as a sustainable species to be included in any water wise and environmentally friendly garden.

As you are aware, the Society will have a display at the Expo which will be held on Sunday May 23. All members are encouraged to supply plants to assist the presentation team with the display to the public. In previous years the Society has presented a colourful display showing the wide range of bromeliads that are available to beautify any garden.

Happy Growing

Bob

Management Committee

President: Bob McLean

Vice President: Len Waite

Secretary: Pat Tennant

Treasurer: David Binstead

Committee member: Bob Watkins, Librarian: Avril Belcher

To Get In Touch:

Phone Margaret on 54969601, Pat on 54941761 or
Address mail to P.O. Box 424 Glasshouse Mountains 4518

A Neoregelia Name for Every Occasion

Author: Anon. OK Leisa Driesener (Reprinted from Bromeliaceae May/June 2009)



G'day Ross, Remember Me, you know I'm not Bashful, so here's a Tongue in Cheek article for Bromeliaceae – yep Just for Laughs – Ha Ha!

(This article uses as many neo names as possible from <http://fcbs.org/pictures/Neo.htm>.)

In choosing Expressive neo names, it's certainly Admirable to aim for Integrity, To Be Explicit and of course to Razzle Dazzle, but where do we draw the line? We've got Jet Age names like Glacial Meltdown, Special Effects, Biohazard, 696, A New Earth, Andromeda, Underworld Starfish, Galactic, Exponential Expansion, Alien Ocean, Red Planet and Aeon Flux. There are some Hit and Miss names like Superbum, Mugwump, Blotches, Fiddle Faddle, Groundhog Day, Tom Tom and Apple Tart. And even a few for the kids like Winnie the Poo, Piglet,

Bedtime Story and the Cat in the Hat. And it doesn't take a FortuneTeller, Clairvoyant, Sage or even Nostradamus to predict Turmoil with naming of neos! Add the twist of Hanky Panky between plants, and we get names like Whosamedad! No Surprise we have to deal with a Red Herring or a Furphy or two - it may not happen overnight, but It Will Happen!

And in Awesome Aussie Anzac Spirit epitomised by Aussie! Aussie Aussie! And Oy! Oy! Oy!, we even Trifle with True Blue names in our Bonzer Sunburnt Country. But surely it's Nonsensical to Quibble with Blue Heeler; let's not be Fool Hardy with the great Australian Salute, or be Finicky with the Delightful Pavlova (Yum Yum)! Wouldn't we Flabbergast'ed in the Oz Sunshine if we didn't have both the Black Tracker AND the Blacktracker to help us find great places like Ferny Grove, Noosa, Gympie, the Barcoo even the Folk Festival and Ayers Rock? (Ummm should that neo be renamed Uluru?)

There'd be Much Ado without the Bunyip, the Billabong, the Jackaroo or the Black Stump in the Outback! And where would we be without the Chook Raffle Jackpot—there'd be Bugger All reason to go out for a Bundy, Cabernet or a glass or two of A Good Red! By Golly, such Bullswool would cause Headlines for sure! (Hmmm it's so EasyPezy to sound like a Flibbertigibbet. Much more of this Surreal Tomfoolery and I'll be in the Funny Farm, so I'd better get back to the Nitty Gritty!)

So despite the naming Folly, for many, other aspects of neos are the Temptress. For some, the Fascination comes from that Precious Result; they Daydream of being the Proud One, the Winner of Ravishing Red Ribbons, or to Swagger with the First Prize. But for the Die Hard neomaniac, Acclaim is not the Appeal, they don't Relish A Perfect Score, A Perfect Ten or even find the Booby Prize Appealing, but Enjoy a neo Just Because It's a Goodie or gives a Flaming Lovely Pleasant Surprise on First Blush! And yet others are quite Eccentric. Awakening like the Early Bird on a Rosy Morn, they Rise and Shine (like a Zombie with Blood Shot Eyes and still dressed in Jim Jams) to Sticky Beak and stand Agog at a tiny Winter Bloom! Or after a long workday, they're out to Busy-Body by Candlelight After Dark, yes even when it's Pitch Black, Just Because they enjoy the Spice of Life!

So Rest Assured, as we Truly know that neos are Irresistible, the Best Bet is to just Focus on finding Impressive neo names that are as Unforgettable as the Absolutely Fabulous neos themselves!

Anyway, enough of this Fantasy, otherwise I'll be Renown for being an April Fool!

So That's It at Lucky Last - Yippee!



Printed by Glasshouse Country News

Len's Timely Tips

1 First tip will be how to teach our broms to swim, sounds like a joke, partly yes partly no. This is where good drainage comes into play. If you have your plants in pots in the garden, make sure they are not standing in water. If so lift them until the weather settles down and becomes normal again. In a shadehouse situation where plants are on the bark, make sure the bark hasn't broken down to the stage that pots are in contact with the soil underneath, otherwise the bottom of the mix will turn to mud and become a haven for worms. The other reason to not have plants in water is when the sun comes back in full force they will tend to boil and can cause the centre to rot.

2 With the cloudy weather that's been with us for so long now don't be too disappointed with the look of your plants looking a bit dull. Once the sunny weather comes back to normal so will the colour in your bromeliads (I think mother nature puts them into rest mode). Also be aware that when we get back to normal weather they will be a little soft so be careful of burn.

3 This weather is also perfect for soft scale to make themselves at home on your broms. Therefore spray if necessary. (We use Lorsban 500 ec or Rogor.) There are a lot of effective sprays on the market now days so this is only a guide. Always check that when using sprays, strictly use as per directions. The other solution is clean dead leaves from around the bottom of plants as this a perfect harbor for scale. If by chance you find black fly speck scale try to put these infected ones away from others until this is treated.

4 This is not a rule of thumb but try to have offsets planted by the end of April. We don't always stick to this because we just can't find enough hours in the day. If you are going to make a feature plant that multiples, simply cut the mother plant out and leave the offsets attached.

5 At a recent show we attended, I had a *Quesnelia* 'Tim Plowman' brought back to find out what was wrong with it. Firstly it was put in a shady part of the shadehouse, then it was discovered it was covered in scale and then it was drenched with white oil. It didn't look good at this stage, so I advised this person to take it home and wash thoroughly with a mild detergent, give good light and ease off the amount of water it was being given. The moral of this story is never use white oil or anything that is copper based on bromeliads.

6. **The BIG WET 2010.** (Reprinted from the Courier Mail)

It's one of Mother Natures cruel ironies. While in recent years we have prayed for rain, the recent torrential downpours have delivered equal doses of optimism and misery. To some, massive flooding and burst river banks are liquid gold. To others, the flooding waters provided nothing more than destruction and misery. The heavens opened and prayers were answered and hearts were broken. (Food for thought)

And that's your lot this time.

P.S. With the expo coming up soon let's hope everyone is getting at least one plant ready to display for the public to see. It's also your chance to sell off any excess stock. Let's help Pat make this our best display ever.

Waitey.

Printed by Glasshouse Country News