

# B.S.S.A. QUARTERLY

Vol 47

Number 3

July, August & September 2023

PUBLISHED BY:

The Bromeliad Society of South Australia Inc

Born 1977 and still offsetting!!

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2023

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

List for species names <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/taxonList.php>

<http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/brom-l/> altern site <http://imperialis.com.br/>

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Nid 'Litmus'

Meetings Venue:

Maltese Cultural Centre,  
6 Jeanes Street,  
Beverley S.A.

**Time:** 2.00pm. Second Sunday of  
each month. Exceptions –2023  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in April, May, June &  
September- or unless advised  
otherwise (see dates below). No  
meeting in December

**VISITORS & NEW MEMBERS  
WELCOME.**



**MEETING & SALES 2023 DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

8/1/2023 Creative Display, 12/2/2023 AGM, Pattern leaf Vriesea –removing pups from Vriesea, 12/3/2023 Summer brag any genera, 17/3/2023 Set up for sales, 18/3/2023 Sales & 19/3/2023 Sales, 16/4/2023 (Third Sunday) Tillandsia workshop, 21/5/2023 (Third Sunday) Unusual broms, 18/6/2023 (Third Sunday) Different growing environments, Aechmea 9/7/2023 Problematic broms, 13/8/2023 Winter brag & guest speaker, 17/9/2023 (Third Sunday) Interstate plants (NO DISPLAY, RAFFLE OR DOOR PRIZES), 8/10/2023 Seed removal & update, Mini Neoregelia, 20/10/23 setup sales, 21/10/Sales & 22/10/23 sales, 12/11/2022 (To be advised: Breakup – pup/plant exchange & auction NO DISPLAY, RAFFLE OR DOOR PRIZES)

**Applications for membership always welcome – Subs \$15 single \$25 Dual:**

1. July, August & September 2023 BSSA Quarterly

Page	Details
1	Cover page – Committee, Photo: Membership Subs, 2023 meeting & sales dates
2	Index: Garden quotes, Growing Broms' in different areas in SA by Betty
3	Growing Broms' in different areas in SA cont: Growing hints in the Hills by Jeff. July meeting, Plant of the month winner
4	July meeting cont: Problematic broms certificate winners, Difficult broms & other genera on display
5	July meeting cont: Dyckias grown by Julie, BSSA facebook, August meeting. Plant of the month winner
6	August meeting cont: Certificate winner, Plants on display.
7	Challenges growing Tillandsias in S.A., September meeting, plants from Interstate.
8	Royal show, Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting, Christmas lunch, Next BSSA Quarterly. Bromeliad frolics cont:

### MORE GARDEN QUOTES FROM PINTEREST



### GROWING BROMELIADS IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF S.A. (Hints from Betty)

Bromeliads will grow in any area of S.A.; you just need to create your own growing conditions to suit the area.

Ceduna- Would need a lot of protection, frequent water in Summer.

Cooper Pedy- A lot of protection and frequent water keeping soil around plants wet.

Broken Hill-Very hot & dry, very cold black frosts a lot of overhead greenery or shade house covering /protection (wet ground in summer).

Port Lincoln- Similar conditions to Adelaide, also even though a small city varied growing conditions.

Barossa Valley-Very cold- frost protection needed.

Riverland-Hot & Dry, create a humid environment with either frequent watering, ground moisture or dense plant growth.

Close to coast- I find the biggest problem is salt residue on leaves and build up of salt content in the soil.

### SETTING UP YOUR GARDEN FOR BROMS

1. The denser your garden is planted the more humidity it will create.
2. The sun: We tend to set up our gardens in one season, when we do this we need to look at where the sun will be for the whole year - N. S. E. W

(S) Plants in the south less sun in winter so will lose colour as buildings, structures and trees create more shade.

(N) Be care of the sun.

(W) Great in winter, spring and Autumn, watch for summer burning.

(E) Perfect most of the year.

Building structures: be careful; of treated pine, putting plants directly on decking, overhead airflow very important.

Burn looking marks on leaves: look to see what is above the plant.

1. Another plant
2. A wind chime, bells etc
3. Wood railing- even painted it can cause problems
4. Sun sneaking through between shade.

### THE WAY WE HAVE OUR GARDEN SET UP

We have slowly built shade areas as we have worked out what is needed.

East Aspect: we have most of our plants double potted in the ground. The hottest area has 70% shade.

North: pots are hanging from fence under 70% shade. It is a narrow area with airflow from E to W.

South: Our 'granny flat' for all our old mothers that are still producing pups. This area has the biggest seasonal change from full shade to full sun.

West: Our biggest selection of plants as we have been able to build shade areas to suit. Under a big tree we have 50%, between our maintenance shed & glass house 50%, The area that gets the hottest sun 70%, the area off our deck 50% green as it also gets protection from other areas.

**NONE OF OUR AREAS ARE FULLY CLOSED IN TO HELP WITH AIRFLOW.**

We use a lot of double potting or cover pots to help retain moisture and keep out the heat & cold.

Keep dead leaves trimmed off plants in wet weather as they will cause leaf rot.

Creating humidity:

1. Large amount of growth from other plants
2. We have helped create this by leaving areas unpaved and used pebbles under stands. The water goes through the pebbles and keeps the soil wet and with warmth created humidity.
3. Ponds in the area where your plants are.

Watering: We water once a week because we use slightly heavier free draining soil. We give each area about 15mins with pop up sprinklers which is also enough to wet the soil around the plants

Our Vrieseas area is on a highly composted old garden area which retains a lot of moisture because of this we either double pot into larger pots or use cover pots placed on pavers so they are not sitting directly on wet soil.

Our large sand area: is watered with pop up sprinklers for 15mins once a week, this is enough to also keep the moisture in the pebble covered soil under the stands. The plants are mainly in cover pots.

Pebbles on plants: we put pebbles on all our plants,

1. Reflect heat to enhance colour
2. Stop from drying out quickly
3. To help keep the cold out in winter
4. We like the look

Full sun: We cannot grow broms in full sun at our place, yet Sue can grow some broms in full sun 5 ks away. Different areas in your garden will create a largely different looking plant as shown with examples on display. About 5ks away we have a friends whose plants grow extremely large growing in the exact same medium, no fertiliser, similar shade area conditions. We have thought about this for a number of years to come to the only reason is she is on a granite platform. Research on this has found that in this environment as the granite warms it created a rapid growth.

### **Growing in Adelaide hills by Jeff**

- 1/ I have 10m x 5m Pergola and 10m x 5m shade house attached.
- 2/ Any real cold sensitive plants i don't grow - would not survive winter.
- 3/ All my better plants are grown under the pergola where i can regulate watering.
- 4/ I have problems with some Aechmea's due to cold and wet.
- 5/ I grow mainly neos, vriesea's and billbergia's.
- 6/ Most plants in the shade house are hanging 5-6ft high on average.
- 7/ After winter is finished I have to discard at least 10 plants due to rot from too much rain.



*July Meeting report.*

## ***PLANT OF THE MONTH-JULY TROPHY WINNER***

CONGRATULATIONS: Keith



Neoregelia "Pink Sensation"





## PROBLEMATIC BROMS: CERTIFICATE WINNERS

1<sup>st</sup> certificate winner-Ron



V. Franklin Forest & milky way,  
Extremely cold sensitive, wait for  
pup to develop.

2<sup>nd</sup> certificate winner-Ron



Encholirium horridum.  
Plant damaged when shelf broke,  
Need to re-establish shape.

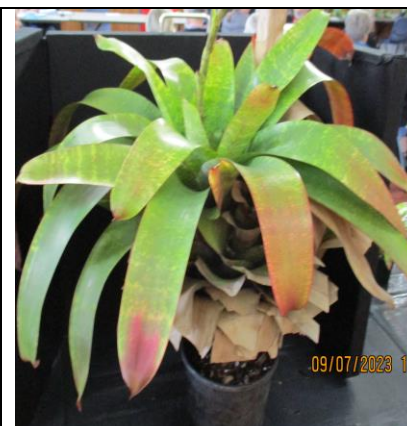
### *More broms needing help!*



Hohenbergia Correia-arauji  
Best grown in multiples to keep  
structure. (Photo Ron)



Deuterocohnia brevifolia  
Unsure of why some outside leaves  
white, plant needs to be turned for  
even growth & colour. (Photo Ron)



Vriesea grown for foliage, cut large  
spike off give more energy to mum  
and extra pups as a consequence.

Other plants on display included Orthophytum needing to be re potted into a cactus mix as the mixture was too wet. Aechmea chantinni & reverse with burnt leaves as hates our cold weather, leave them on to protect plant. Can trial putting a hole in bottom of dead leaf to allow water out of area to minimise mildew.

Members were thanked for bringing in a variety of problematic broms as this is part of our continuing education and learning process.

A few more colour specimens below & it was noted that predominately brighter light results in better colour



Neo 'Lady Leonie' great  
colour hasn't faded in winter.



Neo 'Madam President' good  
markings, bottom leaves  
damage in hot summer



Neo 'Sugar Mill' beautiful  
colouring



Nidularium longifolium  
Grow well in shady  
position, flower lasts for  
months.

Sincoregelia 'Burgundy Hill' very healthy, great coloration well grown by Ken.

Vriesea 'Black Satin' leaves dark grown by Mel & Mal and a favourite of Wendys.

T. fasciculata Percal, needs more humidity for pink blush.

Dyckias grown from seed update by Julie, as usual well grown and the cold weather is bringing the colour out. (see other photos Quarterly Vol46 No 3 page 2)



MLxA on the label indicates the cross between Marnier Lapostollei and Arizona.



A cross between Marnier Lapostollei and Arizona.

### BSSA FACEBOOK

We would like to welcome all our members to join us on our Facebook page. This page gives you updated information about the BSSA at all times. We also have members that share their photos and a lot of helpful information.

We have increased the security of the page, to the highest level to block any Cyber threats coming through {this means every person that posts and I look at it will red flag me of a potential threat}. The posts coming into the page now need admin approval to be shown. Please be aware that admin is not on the page 24/7 but will give approval as soon as possible. We are now a very safe page and would like you to share your photos and comments with us all. Regards *Betty Nayda* (Administrator)



*August Meeting report.*

### ***PLANT OF THE MONTH-WINTER BRAG TROPHY***



CONGRATULATIONS: JEFF



This plant is grown in the hills area, under cover and doesn't like being moved, well done Jeff



## PLANT OF THE MONTH-WINTER BRAG 2<sup>ND</sup> -CERTIFICATE

CONGRATULATIONS

MARIE

A very colourful & stunning specimen, very well grown, not as big as others, blush will become more intense. A sport of recurvata



Members were delighted with the variety and colour that was on display especially for this time of the year here in Adelaide.



Aechmea. Black on black  
Inflorescence nearly same  
as leaves



Aechmea 'Shining Light'  
Flower lasts for several  
months



Neo 'Black Opal'  
Well grown & good  
markings



Neo 'Chantini x moon  
over fort dix' Very  
susceptible to cold & will  
deteriorate quickly in wet  
& cold

There was discussion on the sport of 'Justins song' with more questions than answers!  
'Sport' is a natural vegetative off shoot from mother not the same as and offsets can be unreliable.



Sport of Neo 'Justins Song' with Neo  
'Justins Song'



Neo 'Justins Song'



Sport of Neo 'Justins Song' from  
same mum

Also on the tables Neo 'Spot on', well named looks like spots painted on. Good light will increase colour.  
Neo Johannis grown in open garden with full sun.

Vriesea 'Love potion', hybridised by Mel & Malcolm, brilliant colour.

T. Houston grown by Geoff as in natural habitat, this can cause pups to be cramped also T. White star in spike unusual at this time of the year at Geoff's. T. ionantha starting to develop colour as weather changes and it develops into maturity.



## Tillandsia Day in Queensland: Challenges growing Tills in S.A. presentation by Adam

Prevailing conditions Brisbane rainfall 1186mm per year, Adelaide 540mm per year therefore more than double falls in Qld. ½ the rainfall falls mainly in the warmer months.

Adelaide winter Sunshine 87.4 days compared to 124.3 in Qld. More access to light promotes better growth. This also relates to seed raising especially humidity in S.A.

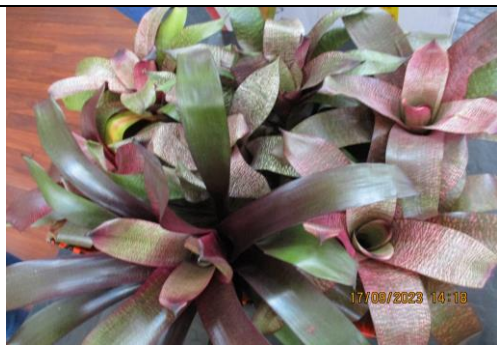
Cold wet winters growing broms in pots respond to fertiliser for better root growth. Enclosed pots out in the rain can promote root rot, hydroponic pots suit these conditions. Some Tills do not have many roots so may not be suitable to take up fertiliser in pots.

When using osmocote slow release fertiliser wait until warmer conditions for it to initiate.



### October meeting

This was unusual with a short meeting and no raffles, door prizes or plants for sale as Adam spent a lot of time & energy resourcing plants from Queensland (Mel & Mal) then on delivery hydrating 50 plants, putting them into boxes in price lots and listing them assisted by Wendy, thus giving our members opportunities to acquire bromeliads usually not readily available to us here in S.A. This is a popular addition to our events calendar and hopefully will not be the last. (see photo's)



Box 1



Box 2



Box 3



Neo 'Pesadila'



V. 'White Diamond' x V. 'Hawaiian Ruby'



V. 'Jessie'



V. 'Love Bug'



V. 'Texas Rose'



V. 'Zebra' x V. 'Hawaiian beauty'.



## Adelaide Royal show 2023

### CONGRATULATIONS

Several of our talented members have achieved recognition at the Adelaide Royal show recently.

Adam scooped the pool with the large number of winning bromeliads, Penny received 2x 1sts for her beautiful cards & Pam 4x 1sts for her creative & imaginative floristry. Congratulations & well done.

Adam's presentations on Bromeliads were well received along with questions from those present.

Our display was again very colourful & eye catching thanks to Adam however the location was disappointing.



Our display (Photo Ron)



Adam doing his talk (Photo Ron)



### BSSA November 12<sup>th</sup> final meeting for 2023

Committee Meeting start time: 12.00

General Meeting start time: 1.30 (short meeting)

**NO DISPLAY, RAFFLE OR DOOR PRIZES AND NO SALE PLANTS**

Shared afternoon tea- Bring a plate of finger food to share.

Pup/plant exchange (bring in 2 broms- 1 for exchange other to auction) (Raffle ticket for plants on arrival to be drawn for exchange)

Auction

**There will be extra plants for those newer members who wish to participate in this but do not have extra pups/plants to bring in.**



### Christmas lunch 26/11/23



Date - Sunday 26th November: Venue- Alberton Hotel. 124 Port Road, Alberton. 5014.

Time 12 noon for a 12.30 meal ordering

All financial members will each receive \$40.00 to go toward their meal and they can bring along one non-member and receive \$20.00 toward a meal for them.

If your meal is less than the \$40.00 you can purchase a drink, play the pokies if that's your thing or just put the change in your pocket. I can assure you that there is plenty of choice on the menu provided by the hotel so there will be something for everyone.

There is ample parking either at the back of the hotel or in the medium strip on Port Road. The Port Road parking has a pedestrian crossing

On the day I will be there to provide you with your funds and lucky number so see me before seating.

Please contact me if you can make it on 0402262491 or by email bellmana@optusnet.com.au

Hope to see you there, *Annette*

### Next BSSA Quarterly-Oct & November 2023

In our next issue will be available late Nov early Dec. and reports on meetings, bromaholic news and our Xmas lunch @ the Alberton Hotel. *Bev*



### *Bromeliad frolics cont:*

'Nana & 'Domino' enjoyed the 'Diversifolia & 'Splendins' of the 'Grand Slam' 'First Prize' trophy 'Australian Star' celebrating with 'Champagne & 'Chocolate' at tectorum in "Augusta".