

Far North Coast Bromeliad Study Group N.S.W.

Edition: August 2021

Agenda: General Discussion

Venue: PineGrove Bromeliad Nursery
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Study Group meets the third Thursday of each month

Next meeting 16th September 2021 at 11 a.m.

To be advised

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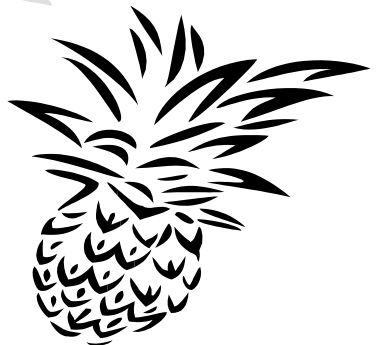
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Meeting 15th July 2021

There was no meeting in July due to Covid-19.

General Business

Another month without a meeting because of Covid-19, we will of course keep all members informed when we can have our next meeting, all distancing and sanitising guide lines will need to be followed and sign in/out sheet rules apply.

I have received a few photos from a couple of members of what's of interest in the garden this month which prompted reprinting Joseph Schneider's article, but, we would like to see more photos and tales of your own gardening exploits.

I managed to get away for a few days to Nambour for the Garden Show, a short note and some floral art that I really liked are shown in photos on pages 6 and 7.

Recently we had a tongue twisting quest for a name pronunciation which gave rise to quite a few differing opinions. Helen stumbled upon a Latin Pronunciation article which we have reprinted on pages 11 through 16 for those interested, yes I know you're all really excited but I found it quite informative though !

Growing Bromeliads in Open Ground

by Joseph Schneider

While the majority of the most beautiful and ornamental species of bromeliads coming from the tropical forests of South America are strictly epiphytic and can be brought to show their full beauty only under glass with temperature and humidity under control, there are many worthwhile attractive species quite amenable for growing in the open ground (some preferably so) with a minimum of shelter in places where temperatures do not fall too low and some protection from the hot burning sun and dehydrating desert winds can be provided. Plant lovers without glasshouse facilities need not forgo the pleasure of their successful cultivation and can enjoy their fascinating beauty without too great difficulties.

The easiest and most adaptable bromels are of the xerophytic type, the group whose members resemble small agaves and aloes in appearance, and like them can take tough conditions, necessary neglect and adverse weather without much harm.

Most Dyckias will thrive well even in poor dry ground or rocky soil. Like our native Agaves, Dudleyas, and Echeverias, they will withstand hot sun, long dry spells, moderate frosts if the ground is not too loose and sandy or too shallow. *Dyckia brevifolia* (*sulphurea*) makes large tight mounds. *Dyckia altissima*, both varieties, does equally well. *Dyckia rariflora* and its varieties, *remotiflora*, etc. will not develop as long leaves as under glass but will grow more compact and flower and multiply even better in the open soil. They form

large clumps, their stolons coming up near the mother plant. Dyckias form seed readily and plentifully and self-sow, but the tiny seedlings succumb to the first dry spell. I believe they would readily naturalize if browsing animals could be guarded against.

Ananas comosus (*sativus*) will grow from a rooted top and bear a pineapple in three years – it should have some shade. *Ananas ananasoides* grows even easier and forms more offsets. The small, often vividly banded and colored ornamental dwarf pineapples are too rare and precious to be risked in an outdoor planting.

Hechtias, with their loose rosettes of gracefully recurved leaves, grow slowly enough to be manageable and do well. *Hechtia texensis* is probably the only one available and seems to be somewhat more tender than Dyckias, suffering below twenty degrees.

Puya spathacea is rather large, about three feet wide and as high at flowering size. It has a red stemmed branched inflorescence; the flowers being small, dark blue-green. It is very showy, easy to grow, and will flower five to six years from seed.

Puya alpestris in flower is an incomparable sight. Most will agree that this is surely one of the most beautiful flowering plants of the world. A magnificent yucca-like spike, with fifty, one hundred, and more individual flowers, the gleaming orange stamens emerging from the depth of nectar filled chalice of somber blue-green of a metallic sheen awakes in one a feeling of mystic wonder. To my knowledge these two Puyas are the only ones available at present from nurseries.

Bromelia serra and *Bromelia balansae* are, like Puyas, armed with little hooked spines, but to see their "Hearts of fire" in their glorious beauty should warrant them a place in spite of the spines. They are very easily satisfied with almost any place allotted to them, growing without care.

Other xerophytic and semi-xerophytic species available and suitable are Ochagavia, *Aechmea recurvata* (*ortgiesii*), Fascicularias, etc. Many Billbergias and their hybrids, and the larger leaved Aechmeas and their hybrids, will readily take to open ground. So will some Neoregelias, Quesnelias, etc. Many do even better in open soil and when left undisturbed, form large clumps. Five to ten year old specimens may have from twenty to fifty flower spikes at one time and show in this way a beauty that no small glasshouse plant can equal. Some of the vigorous Billbergia and Aechmea hybrids mature their offshoots quickly and flower in succession so that an old plant often is in bloom throughout most of the year.

The above plants take most readily to the root-debris around palms. There they can anchor their roots, find enough nourishment and sustaining moisture to grow to an astonishing size. They may burn a little in summer and will not have the dark succulence of glass protected plants, but they flower and multiply. In planting avoid the "drip-zone" that is the outer edge of the umbrella of the Phoenix. Give Nidulariums and the soft leaved Aechmeas the most shaded side.

Outdoor growing does bring a few problems the glasshouse growers are spared. The foremost is pest-control. If the ground is infested with ground mealy-bugs or root-aphids, they must be cleaned up first. Scale will build up in summer and should be held down with a nicotine sulfate or a little oil. One of the most troublesome pests is snails and also slugs that find the dark moist leaf-cups an ideal hiding place. They should be washed out with a hose.

If your water is at all alkaline or hard, do not attempt to keep the leaf cups filled with water. If cold should damage plants, cut off this frozen part as soon as possible before rot sets in and wanders into the basal part. The woody caudex has generally enough dormant buds to give the plant a fresh start.

Fortunately, most of the above mentioned bromels are almost unbelievably adaptable, clinging to life with a tenacity so that nothing but total dehydration or freezing seems to be too much for them. They may not be at their splendid best if they have to rough it in open ground, but they will do well enough to delight you with their unusual beauty and strange form and make a bromeliad enthusiast of you, leading to increasing enjoyment as you become more familiar with this group of plants.

And please note: any cultural hints apply only to conditions prevalent in the vicinity of Los Angeles and should be modified according to conditions existing in other areas.

Reprinted from : BSI 1955 Vol. 5 (4)

Web Links for Checking Correct Identification and Spelling

Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR): <http://registry.bsi.org/>
Refer to this site for correct identification and spelling of your hybrid or cultivar.

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

Bromeliads in Australia (BinA): <http://bromeliad.org.au/>
Refer to this site for its Photo Index, Club Newsletters, Detective Derek Articles.

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



Portea kermesina Brongniart
ex K. Koch, Ind. Sem. Hort. Berol. for
1856 (App.): 7. 1857; Ann. Sci. Nat.
Bot. IV. 6: 368. 1857.

Distribution: Terrestrial in coastal
forest, Bahia, Brazil.

A medium to large grower preferring a
shady position growing to 900 mm
across by 800 mm high with leaves
exceeding the inflorescence.

The distinctive inflorescence remaining
within the leaves is approximately
200 mm long x 55 mm diameter is
described as having "bright red" bracts
and petals blue or purple toward the
apex.

This is another plant that is relatively
easy to grow in the garden requiring
little care.

Photos and notes compiled by Ross Little

Guzmania wittmackii

Was first found by Andre in 1888 and
described by him in his *Bromeliaceae*
Andreanae. He named the plant in
honor of Max Karl Wittmack, editor
of *Gartenflora* and a professor in Berlin.
It is an epiphyte growing at elevations
from 800 to over 4,500 feet.
B.S.I 1977 V27 (5)

Found growing in southern Colombia
and Ecuador, these two plants are
growing in the gardens of PineGrove
under a jacaranda tree where they get
little attention or watering other than
when it rains. Colour variants: red,
orange, purple and a variegated form.

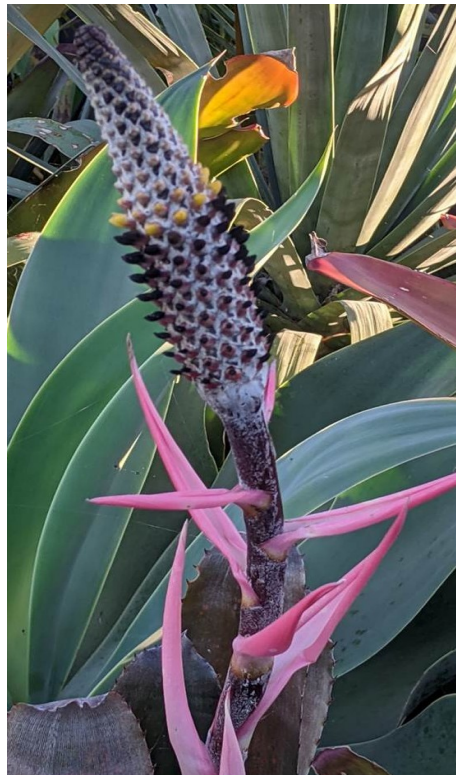
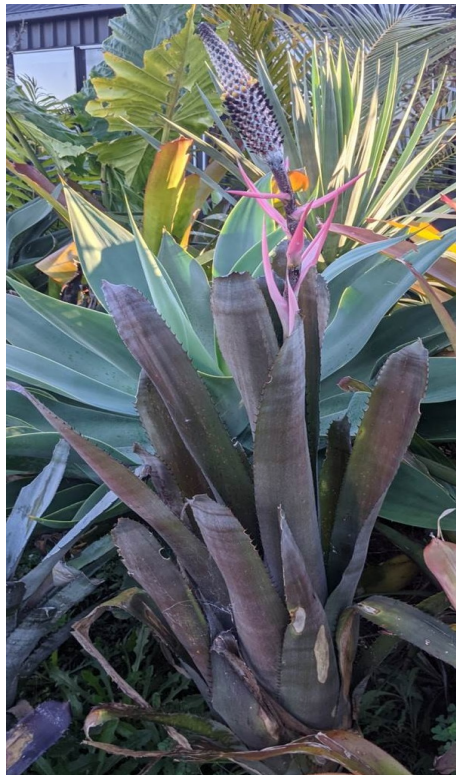


Mitch hopes you are all safe and well and has sent in a few photos for **Show & Tell**.

Mitch's first photo is "this was going to be my decorative entry" ...

Winter Warmth ... inspired by the bright colourful Dyckia species obtained from Doug.

His *Aechmea bromeliifolia* "red form" in the photos below is currently in flower, at approximately 1m tall it makes quite a statement in his garden.



Two of Mitch's favourite Alcantarea at the moment, in the front is *Alcantarea* 'John Stoddart' and above it is *Alcantarea* 'Snowy' an unregistered *Alcantarea glaziouana* form looking good in the winter sun.



The Queensland Garden Expo was held in the Sunshine Coast hinterland town of Nambour on the 8th, 9th and 10th July 2021.

This is Queensland's premier gardening event and we had heard good reports about it for many years. Never having attended before, this year I decided it was time to go.

A tentative accommodation booking was made with Covid concerns looming or whether we'd even be able to cross the border from New South Wales into Queensland. Fortunately everything fell into place and off we went to Nambour.

It took approximately four hours to drive to Nambour arriving with plenty of time left in the day to investigate around the area and find some places of interest to view.

The next morning, the first day of the show was a miserable wet one, it was raining cats and dogs! Fortunately we had packed ponchos, umbrellas and good sturdy foot wear to cope with any unforeseen weather conditions that arose and did it arise? Yes, we were in almost ankle deep mud in no time at all!



Day two brought the sun out, what a relief to all concerned, the grounds were still very boggy but much more comfortable not having to wear that poncho all day, Covid mask - yes.

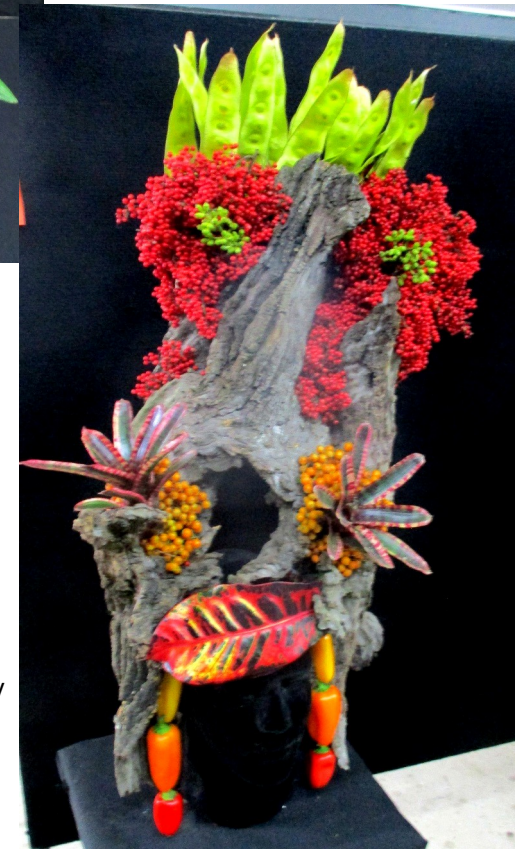
Another wander about all the stalls to ensure we hadn't missed anything and another Bromeliad visit of course.

Considering the present conditions of lockdowns and isolations it was great to get away for a few days. Everybody seemed to be in high spirits and enjoying themselves and the many wonderful exhibits.

Photos and notes by Ross Little

Ponchos donned, we set off in the pouring rain stall by stall not wanting to miss an exhibit. It was apparent Covid had had an effect with a few vacant sites of interstate exhibitors unable to attend. We found some fellow Bromeliad enthusiasts with lots of plants for sale - of course we had to support each of the sellers !

The exhibition halls at any show are always worth visiting, to my surprise I found these four floral art exhibits using Bromeliads included as part of their arrangement. Photos set here in my order of merit.



Aechmea alba

Mez, in Martius, Eichler & Urbain, 1892

Distribution and habitat:

Aechmea alba is almost restricted to the south of Bahia state, being recorded at lower frequency in boundary areas with Minas Gerais state. It grows at 5-700 m altitude, in herbaceous, shrubby and wooded restingas, dense ombrophile forest and florestas de tabuleiros.

Occasionally still seen in collections as *Aechmea pabstii* which was placed into synonymy with *Aechmea alba* that had been described 90 yrs earlier.



Aechmea alba is grown in a moist position in the shade house under 70% black shade cloth. Additional shade cover from nearby trees restricts the amount of daylight hours it gets, however it does seem to enjoy these growing conditions with little fuss given to it. It's only a small to medium sized plant at 500 mm across by 430 mm high including the inflorescence, clumps form on short stout stolons.

Notes compiled by Ross Little

Where to Find Bromeliad Groups & Societies Meeting Dates

www.bromeliad.org.au then click "Diary".

Check this site for regular updates of times, dates and addresses of meetings and shows in your area and around the country.

Pronouncing the Latin Names of Bromeliads

by George Kalmbacher, BSI Journal 1969, Vol.19, No.2 and No.3

Without communication all knowledge would be tied into useless bundles. Once a society is established for the study of a special group of plants and for the dissemination of related accumulating knowledge, its usefulness and expansion is dependent on two kinds of communication—visual and oral. In our society, *The Bromeliad Society Bulletin*, now in its nineteenth year, is our central fountain-head of visual communication. The impressive use of color photos points up the fact there is nothing so instant-communicative to a plant lover as a good color reproduction of one of the plants of his/her interest.

It is when meetings are held or when members speak among themselves or others that oral communication is involved. In a specialized society like ours the use of the technical botanical names becomes a matter of necessity. As long as the name is in cold print, everything is fine, but because of the wholesale lack of information on how to reproduce Latin names, the "Tower of Babel" is almost a reality. There are rules and reasons for pronouncing Latin and Latinized names—the pronouncing of these names is covered by a system. It is only by conforming to these rules that oral communication can function for the pleasure and profit of all.

That this lack of knowledge is so broadcast even among professional botanists is one of the amazing unscientific aspects of a scientific world. Advanced college textbooks, as well as those less advanced, all neglect to discuss the pronunciation of Latin names in botany. A number of reference works give only the accented syllable with no indication of what sounds to employ. The result is that even botanists often pronounce a Latin or Latinized name new to them "the way it looks," without any clue as to figuring out just how it should be pronounced.

Note that I speak in part of Latinized names. A great many genera and some species are practically pure Greek. Take the Greek word *aechme*, which means *point* (to describe the sepal tips), and add an *a*, and you have the genus name *Aechmea*. *Cryptanthus* has the Greek stem *crypt*, meaning *hidden*, with *anthus* for *flower* added. The Greeks had a character for short *o* which the Romans changed to a short *u* when they adapted Greek words in their literature, so that the Greek word *anthos* became *anthus*. *Billbergia* is pure Swedish plus an *ia*. The same goes for *Tillandsia*. *Vriesea* is pure Dutch with an *a* added.

For a specific name, take *hieroglyphica*. It is pure Greek except that the Romans used a *c* instead of a *k*. *Hier* meant *sacred*, and glyphs were the chiseled letters on ancient tablets. Another same is *leptopoda* in *Billbergia leptopoda*. The Greek stems here are *lept* for *slender* and *pod* for *foot*. However, the great majority of descriptive names are of Latin or neo-Latin origin. Interestingly, the same meaning is sometimes conveyed by either a Latin or Greek name, the one used being the choice of the naming botanist. *Micro phyllus* means *small-leaved* in Greek; *parvifolius* the same in Latin.

Let us call the polyglot Latin system of naming plants (& animals) nomenclatural

Latin. Now, when it comes to the question of how to pronounce the nomenclatural names, we are confronted with a universal problem. The aim of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature is to reduce each species to one name for all works in all languages, and this effort proceeds apace, taking years to attain. To the eye, that "valid" name looks the same the world over, but it is not pronounced the same the world over. It is colored according to the language background of the individual scientist pronouncing the name. Probably no two botanists of different language backgrounds pronounce all the words the same. In other words, there is an ideal for *written* names, but no universal standard for *pronunciation*. A friend of mine, Richard Hunt, tells me that when a German choir sings in Latin, it differs from a French choir singing the same hymns or prayers, and that both will differ from an Italian choir.

The pronunciation of botanical nomenclature in English-speaking countries has some strong features that sets it off from the others. We may be accused by Europeans of continental Europe that we do not speak Latin correctly, but, then who does? The Latin pronunciation we Americans and other English-speaking peoples use is a heritage that goes back to the times when modern English was evolving from Middle English. The same changes that were going on in the pronunciation of English words were similarly applied to Latin words. The most radical changes were in the values of the vowels *a*, *e*, *i*, and *y*. For a clue, in Chaucer's time the *a* in the word *make* was pronounced *ah*, and the *e* was not silent, so that it was pronounced pretty close to the way Germans still pronounce (ich) *mach*—which means (I) *make*.

These were the changes in vowels:

	<i>Old</i>	<i>Modern</i>
long <i>a</i>	ah	ā
long <i>e</i>	ā	ē
long <i>i</i>	ē	ī

Note that this minimizes the *ah* sound of the continental languages and Latin that is so fundamental to them. We Americans tend to go further and eliminate the continental *a* still more.

Webster's Dictionary, Unabridged Second Edition, has a number of botanical genera included and is an excellent reference for pronunciation. It is remarkably consistent in presenting the English style of nomenclatural pronunciation. This is also the style employed by books written in English specializing in botanical pronunciation; for example, *A Gardener's Book of Plant Names* by A. W. Smith. (This book also gives meanings.) Another is *Home Gardener's Pronouncing Dictionary* by Alfred Carl Hottes. In fact, there is probably no other system used in *any* book written in English dealing at length with the matter of pronouncing nomenclatural Latin.

Now, what is alien to this system is the feeling that botanical names should be pronounced according to what we learnt in high school about pronouncing Latin. Practically everyone who studied Latin has forgotten all the rules in the grammar as time went by, except he does remember that the *a* is pronounced as *ah*.

The pronunciation of nomenclatural names for English-speaking is so remote from the Latin grammar rules, that one should forget all he ever learned about what the book says. Forget the rules, including the pronunciation for *a*.

Take, for instance, the genus name *Geranium*. According to the Latin grammar, you should say, pronouncing the *g* as in *go*, *gay-rah-nee-um*. Do you say North Carolina, or Carleena? Do you say Pennsylvania, or Pennsylvahnia? Annapolis, or Annahpolis? Carolina and Pennsylvania are Latin, but we pronounce them according to the English system. Annapolis, Indianapolis, etc., are Greek but pronounced according to the same system. If you were to pronounce the name Virginia according to the Latin grammar, you would say it with the *g* as in *go*, not as *jîn*. So, throw the Latin grammar out of the window and listen to a few rules. In addition to the vowels *a*, *e*, and *i* given above, remember the following:

The diphthongs:

ae = ē
 au = aw
 oe = ē
 ei = ī
 ie = ē
 ch = k (usually)
 c before a, o, and u = k
 c before e, i, and y = s
 g before a, o, and u = as in *go*
 g before i, and y = j

Ed: diphthong = a sound formed by the combination of two vowels in a single syllable, in which the sound begins as one vowel and moves towards another (as in *coin*, *loud*, and *side*).

A digraph representing the sound of a diphthong or single vowel (as in *feat*).

All letters are pronounced, none are silent.
 Final *e*, *i*, and *o* are long: final *a* is short.

Besides the sounds of letters, an important feature in pronunciation is *accent*. One syllable in each gets a special stress or emphasis. Here there are but few problems. The accented syllable for a given name is the same the world over for all botanists. The rules are few — those of classical Latin. The accent goes to the *second* last syllable if it is a "long" syllable, otherwise to the previous syllable, the *third* last syllable. The last syllable is never accented. One kind of long syllable is one containing a long vowel or a diphthong. Referring to any Latin dictionary one can see that all vowels are given marks above them, indicating a long or short value. For instance, we find that the Romans pronounced "senator" on the second last syllable since the *a* was long; whereas, when we adopted that word in English, the accent was placed on the third last syllable.

How do we know whether a vowel was long or short for the Romans? Well, they had an extensive literature in poetry, and the meter can show us whether a syllable was accented or not. Again, the Romans adopted a number of words from the Greek, simply substituting Roman characters for the Greek characters, and it happened that the Greeks had separate characters for a long *e* and a short *e*, for a long *o* and a short *o*. The vowel *i* in Greek was short. Therefore, knowing what the original Greek word was gives us the information as to the value of the vowels.

Some common words have come to us in English bodily from the Greek and Latin with the original accent. We pronounce *hippopotamus* on the third last syllable, because *a* is short. Similarly, *rhinoceros* on the third last syllable — the *e* is short. On the other hand, *October* is pronounced on the second last syllable because the *o* in that syllable is long. A syllable is long when the vowel, although short, is followed by two or more consonants. For instance *disticantha* is accented on the second last syllable because *nth* follows the *a* in that syllable. Similarly, *Cryptanthus*. In another example, *Catopsis*, the *ps* causes the second last syllable to be accented.

In Latin words, but not in Greek, the first vowel, when one immediately follows another, is short. Example: victori-an-a.

A monstrous situation arises in the use of commemorative names given to genera and species. When the names that end in *-ii* sound well according to the rules, the solution can be simple — for instance, *glaziovii* = glazio'vee-i. But if the accent according to the rules make the name sound awkward to ears of English-speaking people, it is best to pronounce the personal name as we ordinarily would. For example: *saundersii* is better pronounced saun'dersii than saunder'sii. When the commemorative name ends in *-ianus*, *-iana* or *-ianum*, the personal name takes its regular apparent sound, plus the suffix, which has a long *a* after the *i*, and therefore the botanical name is regularly accented. For example: *fosteriā*'na.

Applying the Rules:

The common English word *color* is taken letter for letter from the Latin and is used with its Latin meaning. It is used as a stem in such words as *bicolor*, *tricolor*, *discolor*, and *concolor*. When *discolor* is used as a species name, it has its Latin original meaning, and not the meaning it now has in English. In bromeliad nomenclature it is used to indicate two contrasting colors, particularly a different color on the back of a leaf from that on the top. *Concolor* means "of, or with the same color" and also may refer to the coloration on the top and bottom side of the leaf. We find this word, for instance, as the species name of *Tillandsia concolor*.

In Latin the first *o* of *color* is short, and therefore in the words *bicolor*, *tricolor*, and *discolor* the accent (as in English) is on the third last syllable. In classical Latin the *i* in *bicolor* is short, and this brings us to an interesting point. In English and in the English pronunciation of Latin we say *bī-color* making the *i* long. It seems to be more "adequate" to us generally to pronounce the short vowel of the third last syllable long, if the vowel terminates the syllable. Another example is *syriacus* (meaning Syrian) when we say syrī ácus, although in the classical Latin it was pronounced with a short *i*.

Many species names are descriptive, and many of these descriptive names consist of two stems joined together. In Latin the connecting particle is the letter *i*. For example, *brevifolia* and *rariflora*. This particle *i* is never long — in the examples above and others, the *i* is pronounced as the *i* in *hit*.

The joining particle that is used usually in Greek compounds is the letter *o*, and this will help us to distinguish between words of Latin and Greek origin. Examples of such compound words used as species names are *gamosepala* and *macrolepis*. Here again, the connective *o* does not take on a full long sound. Since the *e* in *macrolepis* is short, the accent goes over to the *o* which makes the pronunciation macrō lēpis.

Now, regarding the Family and Subfamilies:

The name given to the pineapple family is *Bromeliaceae*. It is one of more than three hundred families of plants. The great majority of plant families are given a name that is built up on the name of a selected genus within that family plus the suffix *-aceae*. If you spell the English word ACE - a-see-ee - you pronounce the suffix *aceae*. Therefore, we pronounce the family name thus - bromele-ā'see-ee. The accent goes to the third last syllable since the *e* preceding the diphthong *ae* is short. (Rule: the first of two immediate vowel sounds is short.)

The pineapple family consists of three subfamilies. When a plant family has groups within it that have sufficiently strongly differing characters between them, the groups are classed as subfamilies. Each subfamily is based, just as the family was, on a selected genus. To designate a subfamily, the suffix *-oideae* is added to that selected genus. The suffix is pronounced oy' dee-ee. The subfamily Bromelioideae (bromeleeoy'dee-ee) includes the genus *Bromelia* and those most related to it.

The subfamily Tillandsioideae includes *Tillandsia* and the other spineless-leaved epiphytes. In Pitcairnioideae are *Pitcairnia* and such dry-area genera as *Puya*, *Hechtia* and *Dyckia*, these latter genera also sought by collectors of succulents.

Pronunciation of genus names in the Bromeliad family:

Acanthostachys	a-cantho-steak' is (as in the English word, steak)
Aechmea	eek-me'a (The incorrect pronunciation with the accent on the first syllable is found in some works, but in the Greek stem <i>aechme</i> (= a point) the final <i>e</i> is the long Greek <i>e</i> . Therefore, the syllable <i>me</i> is by necessity long, and must be accented.)
Ananas	anay' nas is strictly correct, but ananas pronounced like the word bananas is permissible.
Andrea	an-dree' a
Androlepis	androll' epis (pronounced like the English word droll)
Araeococcus	a-ree-o-cock'-us
Bakerantha	baker-anth' a
Billbergia	bill-berj'-ea, also bill-berg'-ea
Brocchinia	brock-in' ea, also brock-kin'-ea
Bromelia	Broh-meel' ea

Canistrum	can-is' trum
Catopsis	catop' sis
Cottendorfia	cot"-en-dorf' ea
Cryptanthus	cript-anth' us
Deuterocohnia	dooteroco' nya
Dyckia	dick' ea
Encholirium	enko-leer' ium
Fascicularia	fasick-u-lar' ea
Fernsea	fern-see' a
Glomeropitcairnia	glomeropittcair' ne-a
Gravisia	gray-vis' ea
Greigia	grayg' ea or grayj' ea Greig was a Russian botanist. The most satisfactory pronunciation seems to give it the Russian value of <i>ei</i> .
Guzmania	guz-may' nya Also guz-mah' nya
Hectia	heck'-tya May also be pronounced with guttural ch
Hohenbergia	hoe-en-berj' ea
Navia	nay'vea
Neoregelia	nee-o-ree-jeel-ýa
Nidularium	nid-u-lair' ium
Pitcairnia	pit-cair'-nea
Portea	por' tea
Pseudoananas	soo-do-a-nay' nus
Puya	pew'-ya
Quesnelia	kwes-nail' ea
Streptocalyx	strep-toe-cay' lix
Thecophyllum	thee-coe-fill' um
Tillandsia	till-and' sia
Vriesea	vree' zea

Note: As will be seen from the above names of genera in the family slightly more than half are commemorative names in a variety of languages. Also, in Ananas and Puya, we have local native names. Therefore, less than half are of the typical Latinized kinds, rules of pronunciation may be simply applied. With the others it is often difficult to come to an acceptable conclusion.

Ed: So long as you say it in a way that others can reasonably understand will be just fine.