JOURNAL

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EDITOR: Evan Bartholomew, 13-3588 Moku St., Pahoa, HI, 96778, USA
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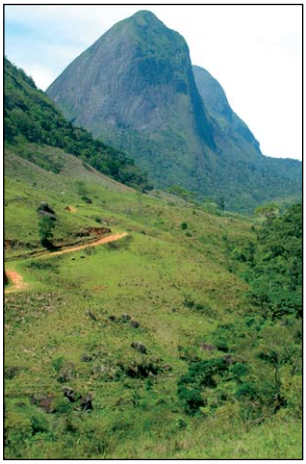
PAGE 10

PAGE 12

PAGE 20



PAGE 26

PAGE 42

CONTENTS

Editor's Note: Looking Forward & Looking Back.

Evan Bartholomew

It is with honor and excitement that I begin my term as editor of this publication. I'm thankful for the exemplary job that Andrew Flower has done in his many years of service as editor of this journal. As I begin to unravel the many threads which span years of relationships and inherited knowledge, and learn to navigate the course of this publication, I ask for patience, specifically from those of you who have a long history with this society and this journal. I will endeavor to keep up the level of quality which has been estblished so far, and will keep my eye to the future and strive to bring exceptional content in terms of information, design and interesting content.

I look forward to building new relationships with the authors who continue to have contributed to the journal, as well as establishing new relationships with those who have not yet been published. I always welcome feedback and suggestions, though in the interest of meeting a publishing deadline, I may not always be able to answer as quickly as you may desire. Your communications are being read, and will be answered in due course.

I realize that there has been some concern about the publishing delays with the journal, but those issues are being addressed and we should be back up to speed in the next few issues.

There has been much discussion about what the future holds, and what place exactly this journal should hold. As the only international print publication related specifically to bromeliads, there is quite a lot of ground to cover. In addition to serving as a peer reviewed scientific journal, there are many other aspects to the international community of collectors, explorers, authors and horticulturists which this journal appeals to.

In this issue I take a look at some of the ways in which technology is impacting the dissemination of information and the general landscape of bromeliad knowledge. In the absence of member socities in many regions, internet communities have thrived and allowed people the ability to connect with like-minded individuals and learn at a much quicker rate than previously available. I take a broad look at some of the many sites which are available to the savvy internet surfer.

In an effort to honor previous contributing authors, I have published the continuation of a couple of unfinished articles. As someone who reads the journal from cover to cover each month, I appreciate the completion of pieces, so I created space

to finish those articles. For those of you who are just now receiving the journal, I apologize for the content which is not starting at the beginning, but as a member the digital archives online will allow you to read the previous installments of those pieces.

Figure 1: Hamming it up with Chester Skotak at his nursery in Costa Rica

I fully intend to uphold the standard of this journal as a destination point for scientific articles and research. I also realize that the readership of this journal is made up of individuals and collectors, so in the interest of serving the needs of the whole community I will be creating space for interviews and features of some of the personalities and leaders in the wide world of bromeliads. This creates connections across borders, and I believe can help create a stronger sense of membership in an international society. On this note, I am actively seeking input from the readers of the journal in the form of feedback and article submissions. If you have material which you feel would benefit the journal, please do not hesitate to contact me at editor@bsi.org.

I really enjoy growing bromeliads from seed. There is nothing more satisfying than observing the journey of a bromeliad from seed to sprout to antithesis. My home and nursery are quickly running out of available table space due to all of the species seed that I have growing. Unfortunately, the BSI seed fund is in need of someone to take over the project. It would be a great service to the community if someone stepped up to take over this position. Please contact Jay Thurrot directly (president@bsi.org) if you are interested.

I am looking forward to what the future holds with much respect for the past.

Bromeliads in the Digital Age

Evan Bartholomew

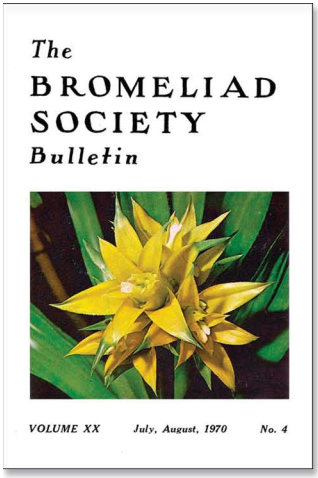
Screenshot of user photo uploaded to the Planet Cryptanthus group on Facebook

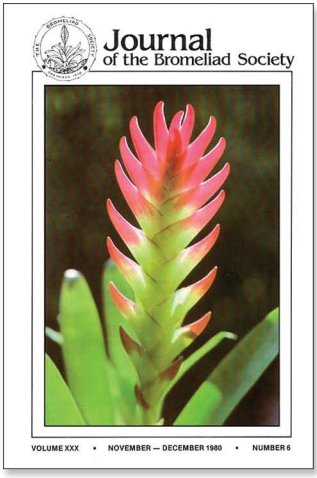
Technology has changed the way we do everything in our lives, affecting the way we shop, the way we communicate, and most importantly, the way we seek out and find information. There are numerous resources online for the savvy explorer to find and purchase rare plants, connect with other collectors, research habitat and collection data and share images and cultivation tips from their own experience. For those without access to a regional society, online communities have helped to spread the word about the beauty of bromeliads.

Though the online landscape is constantly changing, here are a few of the more successful and established resources available:

www.bsi.org

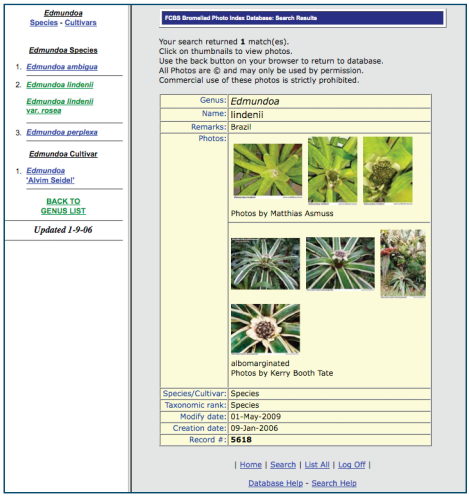
The homepage of the Bromeliad Society International. This site contains general information about the BSI, including membership info, general bromeliad info, member services and events calendar. Of great interest and an invaluable resource is an online archive of this journal from its introduction in 1950 to 1989, with plans to continue the digital archiving up to the present day.





www.fcbs.org

Homepage of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, as well as the homepage of the Cryptanthus Society. Contains a wealth of information, including a large database of species and hybrid photos. A really useful resource for identifying plants in a collection, and browsing species in specific genera. Also contains information on habitat, biota, taxonomy and very illuminating articles from "Uncle Derek" and "Auntie Margaret". There are photos of entries and winners of various bromeliad shows, as well archives of the Cryptanthus Society Journal.

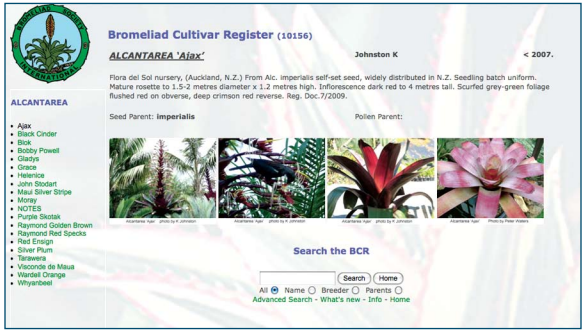


http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/brom-l

Bromeliad Taxonomists & Growers Society. Homepage of the Brom-L e-mail list and archives, which is a highly recommend resource. Many growers and taxonomists are subscribers of the list, and many questions can be answered by experts. This website also contains a picture gallery and a highly recommended Bromeliad Identification service, as well as a vast seed exchange. There is information available on the Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads Project, which will be covered in more depth in a future issue of this journal.

http://registry.bsi.org

An extension of the BSI website listed previously, but worth mentioning in it's own right, the Bromeliad Cultivar Register is a massive database of registered hybrids. Registrations can be searched by name, breeder or parents, which makes this a must-use resource for anyone interested in bromeliad hybrids, either as a collector or as a hybridizer. This is an absolutely essential service.



Online Forums

There are a number of online forums available which provide lots of information and interactivity with users in many countries. A selection of the many forums online are listed below.

1. http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/bromeliad

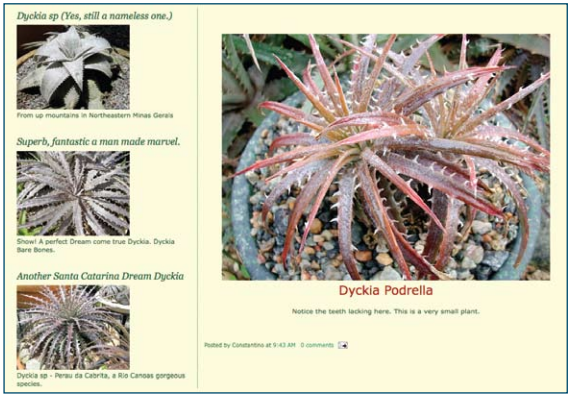
An international forum with many users. A great place to ask questions about cultivation, show off your collection, and learn from really talented and knowledgable growers. This forum can be used to search for specific issues related to growing conditions, pest control, hybrizing and just about any other issue related to bromeliads.

2. http://www.bromeliadforum.za.net/forum/index.php?board=1.0

Though based in South Africa, this forum is listed as a Global Bromeliad and Airplant Enthusiast Forum. High quality forum with many advanced features for photo uploads and link placement.

3. http://dyckiabrazil.com

Extremely active forum for terrestrial bromeliads and those who love them. Many photos from users, a trading post and a friendly and vibrant community. This forum is an extension of http:// dyckiabrazil.blogspot.com, a website containing a wide array of high quality terrestrial bromeliad images.

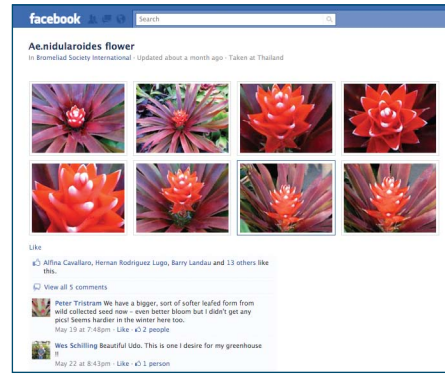


Dyckia 'Podrella' and more. An example of the many photos available on the Dyckia Brazil website

There are other forums online including regional and society specific forums, as well as forums for lovers of specific genera. An internet search for specific material can bring up many useful links. If you have a love for a specific group of bromeliads not represented online, perhaps it is worth the effort to explore creating a forum or website for others to enjoy.

Facebook

Facebook is used primarily as a social networking tool, and offers a "group" functionality which allows members to create groups to organize people with various interests. Joining a group gives a user access to discussions in that group, and enables them to upload pictures and view and comment on other users' pictures. It is a great way to network with other bromeliad people. Of the astounding number of groups, there are quite a few bromeliad specific groups. A few are listed below, which can be found by searching for the group name:



Aechmea nidularoides photos from the BSI group on facebook

Bromeliad Society International, Planet Bromeliad, Planet Tillandsia, Planet Cryptanthus, Planet Plant Nursery, Bromeliopolis

www.bromeliopolis.com

(*In the interest of full disclosure, I am also the editor of this website.*) Bromeliopolis is an online magazine for bromeliad enthusiasts and features articles on conservation and research, interviews with hybridizers from many countries, columns and reviews.

The beauty of the web is that it allows people to self publish, so while there may be misinformation from time to time, most bromeliad resources online are user-edited, allowing room for feedback and differing opinions. The websites listed in this article are just a selection of the many sites currently available, so searching for specific phrases on google can be extremely helpful in locating information. For general interaction with other people in the international bromeliad community, the Planet series of facebook groups are a great place to start.

Some notes about *Pitcairnia marinii* in cultivation

Eric J. Gouda, curator of the Univ. Utrecht Botanic Garden

Figure 1: *Pitcairnia marinii*

Pitcairnia marinii Manzan. & W Till in Manzanares (2005: 437-8) is a very nice and easy medium sized species. Before flowering the plant is about 50 cm tall and forms several shoots from the base, which makes it easy to split a plant for vegetative propagation. It has nice distinctly nerved foliage and is wholly spineless.

Pitcairnia marinii has been described from two herbarium specimens as a relative of P. alborubra Baker (1889: 102). A problem with herbarium specimens is that several characteristics can be lost in the process of conservation and the whole plant is not always collected for that specimen. Specimens can be in flower or in fruit, but seldom in both stages. That is why it is important to grow relatively unknown species and report additional information about them.

Interestingly, *Pitcairnia marinii* is one of the few *Pitcairnia* species that turns the flowers downward after anthesis and is dehiscent by 3 pores in the suddenly widened receptacle (flower base). The receptacle is relatively broad with a fleshy rim on which the fleshy sepals are born and therefore some what concave (not cuneate like in most *Pitcairnia* species). In the dry season the wind will shake out the seeds from the fruits hanging down like little baskets. The same syndrome can be seen in *P. dodsonii* H.Luther (1982: 90), which must be the closest relative in the genus. Both species have tri-stichously arranged petiolate leaves.

The specimen in the illustration has been collected as seed from Ecuador: Prov. Morona-Santiago , E of road Limon - Mendez, side road to Paneeillo , Alt.: 1237 m.; Leg.: E.J.Gouda, J.Manzanares & B.Patterson 08-23 (29/03/2008) and grown at the Botanic Garden Utrecht.

Some additional information (compared with the original description): the leaves are tri-stichously arranged (not distichous as mentioned in the description), 10-20-flowered; pedicels spreading up to 90o, flowers ascending at anthesis and the blade up to 3 cm

wide; the inflorescence (including the sepals) brown, 10-20-flowered; pedicels spreading up to 90o, flowers ascending at anthesis and turning downward afterwards, slightly zygomorphic, 1-4 cm apart; petals bright (blood) red, 6 cm long (probably the petals used for the original description are of an un-matured flower), 1 cm wide; stamens 55 mm long with the filaments flattened and S-curved at the base (over the ovary), upper part terete and yellow to reddish at the apex; anthers very narrowly saggitate, basifixed, 8 mm long, orange-yellow; ovary superior, 3x6 mm, half spherical and distinctly 3-lobed; style slender, red, equalling the stamens; stigma conduplicate-spiral, barely wider than the style; seeds un-appendaged (not alate!), smooth and asymmetrical ovoid, brown.

Figure 2: Close-up of *Pitcairnia marinii* inflorescence

Literature cited:

Baker, J. G. (1889) Handbook of the Bromeliaceae. George Bell & Sons, London UK, 243 pp.

Luther, H. E. (1982) Miscellaneous new taxa of Bromeliaceae (II). *Selbyana; journal of the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.*. 9(1):90-93.

Manzanares, J. M. (2005) Bromeliaceae of Ecuador (Jewels of the Jungle) : Pitcairnioideae. Part 2. Imprenta Mariscal, Quito Ecuador, 241-544 pp.

A Great Day In Brazil - Finding *Alcantarea patriae*

Peter Tristram

Figure 1: Alcantarea sp. on granite – Pedra Azul, ES

For Alcantarea lovers, a trip to Brazil is the ultimate indulgence. Readers might have seen pictures of Rio de Janeiro, even movies, featuring Sugarloaf and its famous cable car, or the massive statue of Christ, the 'Cristo', on Corcovado peak. Look closely on the rock faces and those distinctive, massive rosettes will leap out at you! This is the domain of the Alcantarea!

A few years back I had the opportunity with some friends, including Sydney-based Mark Paul of 'greenwall' fame, to admire the Alcantareas, one of my favourite bromeliad genera, in the wild. Most of the giant granite and gneiss inselbergs in and around Rio are festooned with Alcantareas, *Al. glaziouana* in particular, right to the water's edge on the Atlantic coast.

One of the initial goals of this trip was to visit the habitat of the spectacular *Alcantarea roberto-kautskyi* to the north-west of Vitoria, in Espirito Santo state, about 600km north of Rio. As often happens, various things 'plotted' to thwart that mission. Another less-ambitious plan was hatched to spend just one day only to visit the habitat of *Alcantarea vinicolor* and *extensa* and have a look for silver 'extensa' types, to the west of Vitoria.

Now this would be a fun day!

The flight to Vitoria left Rio at about 5am and the return flight was due to depart Vitoria at about 9pm. Travelling to the airport in a 2 seater ute meant someone rode in the tray... under the tarp... or bounced around on the hand brake...or got cosy in the cabin. The tray was more comfortable but cold; both were evidently illegal. I was the chosen one for the 'sardine-in-a-can' fun ride. At least I had a mattress, though the tarp was torn - luckily it didn't rain. The luminous glow of the airport lights indicated I'd survived.

It was just at dawn when we arrived in Vitoria where a bee-line was made for the car hire business. Others had the same idea unfortunately, so in true Latin American style, there was mayhem when the shop finally opened, after the staff took an hour to boot the computers. Near bedlam and panic also ensued when the 'chick' behind the counter advised that overseas credit cards could not be used. Well, a couple of hours down, with order restored, a car was finally at our disposal, so off we charged.

It didn't take long for majestic Alcantareas to be seen as we headed towards Domingos Martins, of Billbergia fame. This area is the land of the many forms of *Al. extensa* and *Al. vinicolor*, though other species could be seen on the many rock faces, usually across ravines though so the binoculars were well used.

Figure 2: What a view! *Alcantarea patriae* standing sentinel

Figure 3: Massive granite inselberg at Pedra Azul

We were headed for a famous 'pedra', or rock, called Pedra Azul. This massive blue-green inselberg rises straight out of the already 1000m mountain range, to over 1800m. Despite the cool, drizzly weather this sight was one of the highlights of my trip.

All around, on every exposed rock-face, were millions of variously coloured and sized *Al. vinicolor*. Groups of deep reds were interspersed among deep green and red-blotched variations. In motel gardens were many large-growing, cherry red forms too. Also interspersed among the vinicolors were what looked like smallish *Al. extensa*, with compact, silver-banded rosettes flushing deep purple in the cool air just as what we call *Al. extensa* in Australia does too. Many stunning photos were taken and too much time also taken, so we were off to search for giant silver rosettes, reputed to be further inland and much lower down.

Copious quantities of mandarins, bananas and nuts purchased from the locals were consumed on the road, with no time for a relaxing stop at a town cafe. We were a fair way from Vitoria by now, passing by towns such as Castelo, but few inselbergs were near the snaking roads in this area. At this lower altitude (around 200m) the climate was much hotter and drier than in the mountains to the east. With Mark at the wheel, the poor little hire car was copping a flogging. After an hour or so some inselbergs were spotted a short distance away and the road passed fairly close. Behold, massive silver rosettes appeared on the sheer walls. Closer and closer, then a little town, Jeronimo! (Jerônimo Monteiro, the town's name that is.)

Now these plants looked interesting!

The accessible rock walls looked to be on farms, so with directions as to which track to take from the obliging locals, we eventually found a farm and farmer with a rock-wall view. The owner was most helpful, showing us the best way to our goal, though still quite a trek in the yellowing afternoon sunlight. His kids however, peered out from behind all manner of hiding spots wondering, no doubt, what the hell these 'gringos' were up to.

In no time the chooks, bananas and cows were left behind as we struggled towards a narrowing ravine, the left side unreachable and a sheer 300m+ cliff, but the right side gave access to a sloping granite monolith, magnificently adorned with spectacular specimens of the massive silver-rosetted Alcantarea species. What a sight! These majestic plants were like *Al. heloisae* crossed with *Al. odorata*, on steroids; like a giant white extensa, just as predicted. We WERE excited!

Figure 4: *Al. patriae* near the cliff top

The rosettes averaged almost 2 metres in diameter with the inflorescences well over 3 metres. The many mature plants were past flowering, and heavy with seed on their highly elongated recurving branches resting atop a long, sturdy, silver-banded, red-bracted stem. It seemed the past season had been a good one for blooming, especially on the upper slopes, where the thousands of plants began to mingle with the other vegetation. Attempts to reach a plant in seed proved impossible as the granite was coated in a combination of gritty weathering and black algae. My rock-throwing skills were left wanting, my shoulder complained, loudly and Mark had forgotten the rope - very useful for seed collection. The slope would definitely make an interesting slide in the wet! Eventually a few younger specimens were found within reach further up the chasm, sprouting copious adventitious pups, so it was decided to collect a few which were to eventually survive the rigors of the postal service to Australia and quarantine.

Many other broms were to be observed. There was a leathery-leafed Vriesea species, possibly *oligantha*, on the shadier rock walls, at the tops of which grew huge, overhanging, grotesquely beautiful clumps of the spiny beast, *Encholirium horridum*, octopus-like with its dozens of razor-wire tentacles feeling the air. Fortunately we did not have to battle through any of these. On a more accessible slope were a couple of interesting Pitcairnia species and in the shrubs and small trees were lovely silver pincushions of *Tillandsia loliacea*. No doubt there were others, especially higher up as the monolithic 'pedras' tower to over 500m, but time was up if we were to catch our flight!

For our departure the kids came out and, while waving farewell, Mark casually backed the little, red, tin-metal hire car straight into a pretty-damned-big steel tripod, which (as we wondered what had happened) came crashing down, to the awe and amusement of the onlookers. Fortunately, only the rear bumper was slightly grazed! Imagine the fuss if it had pirouetted over the roof!

Figure 5: Friendly kids watching our departure

There was no time for an al fresco meal with a cold cerveja as we sped, *Road Runner* style, along the narrow, winding, truck-infested roads, more on the wrong side overtaking than on the right. Defying certain death we made it to the airport, ditched the car (could have been messy!) and made the flight by the skin of our teeth.

What a great day!


Figure 6: *Al. patriae* blooming in cultivation

Now the story continues in Australia where, after a few years, a couple of those tiny Alcantarea hair pups, from the rock walls at Jerônimo Monteiro, have bloomed. Without a doubt the species is *Alcantarea patriae*, described not long after our trip from that area by the Brazilian, Leonardo Versieux. The colours described by Leonardo, the completely yellow, fragrant flowers against the green branch stems, the colours of the Brazilian flag, inspired a feeling of patriotism in him, hence the name. The silver, wax-coated foliage and huge, frosted, red-bracted inflorescence stem are a bonus.

This is an imposing species and a striking addition to the wealth of Alcantareas already in cultivation.

Figure 7: *Al. patriae*. Beautiful inflorescense stem bracts

Figure 8: The gorgeous patriotic bloom of *Al. patriae*

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ORLANDIANA '12

20TH WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE · ORLANDO, FLORIDA

CONFERENCE CORNER

Although it has been a long time in coming, BSI is heading back to Orlando, FL to celebrate the 20th World Bromeliad Conference.

The Florida Council will host the event scheduled from September 24 – October 1, 2012 at the Caribe Royale Hotel in Orlando. The FCBS conference committee is working hard to ensure a memorable experience for all.

Conference registration information and hotel rates can be found on the web site, www.bsi.org. Check the site often for conference updates.

In addition, we will keep you up to date on all the plans right here in "Conference Corner".

Looking forward to seeing y'all in Orlando!

Bonnie Boutwell
BSI Vice President

Bromeliad Icons In Old Publications: Part 6

This article is a continuation of a series last published in JBS 59(6)

Leo Dijkgraaf

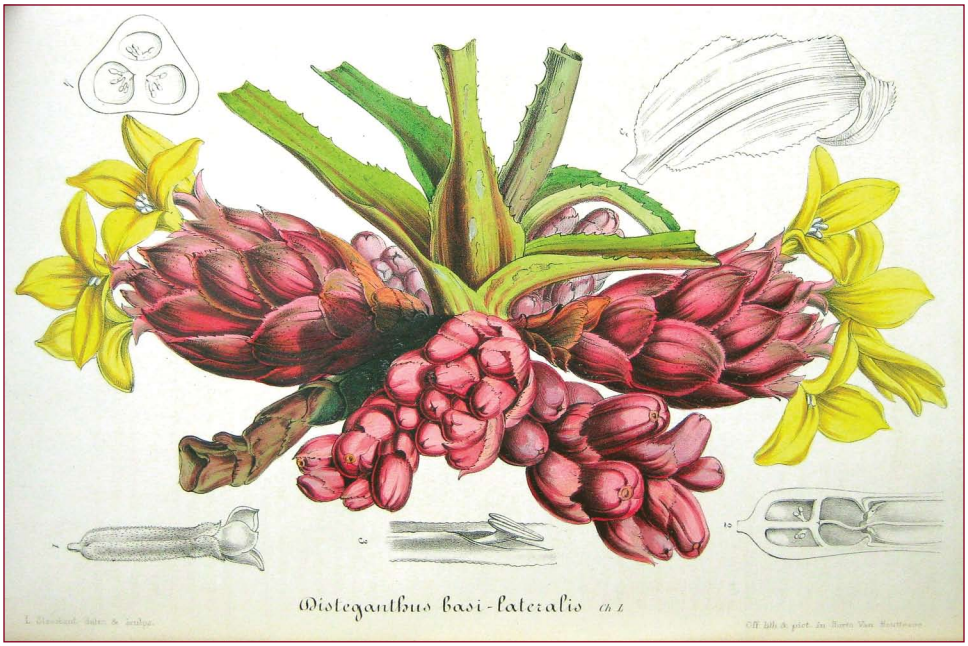

Figure 1. *Disteganthus basilateralis* Lemaire. Drawing and lithography L. Stroobant, Flore des serres vol.3 page 227 (1847)

The overview of horticultural and botanical publications in Belgium brings us to *Flore des serres et des jardins de l'Europe*, a monthly periodical started by Louis Van Houtte. In his twenties Van Houtte had traveled in Brazil and Central America to collect plants. Back home again he worked a few years in Brussels for the botanical garden, at the time a commercial company.

He soon started his own horticultural firm in Gentbrugge (now part of Gent) where he also founded a horticultural school and served as burgomaster. The Van Houtte Hortus was very large and had its own printing department in the middle of the garden to make the catalogues of the Hortus and the magazine. Van Houtte ran the firm for 50 years. About 2500 plates were published in the 23 volumes of Flore des serres in the years 1845-1880, most of them chromolithographs by G. Severeyns, L. Stroobant and P. De Pannemaeker, however with only 20 bromeliads. The plants depicted were for sale in the nursery.

Frenchman Charles Lemaire edited the first 10 volumes. He had come to Belgium on invitation by Van Houtte and had already worked in Paris for several periodicals. The list of names of other contributing botanists includes H. Baillon, E. Boissier, A. Brongniart, A. de Candolle, J. Linden, E. Carrière, J. Decaisne, K. Koch, E. Morren, H. Reichenbach, J. Planchon, M. Scheidweiler (who was also editor for some years), H. Wendland and H. Witte.

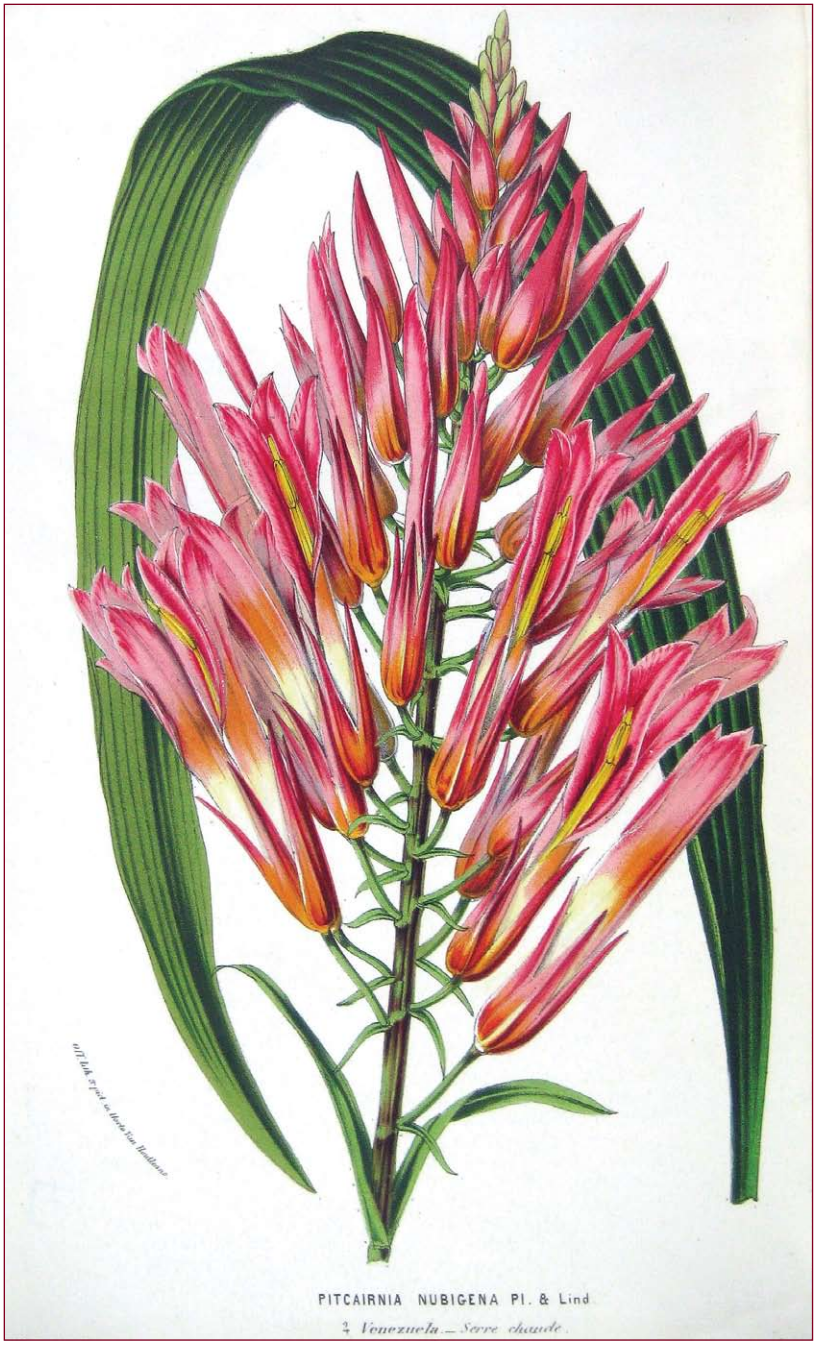

Figure 2. *Pitcairnia nubigena* Planchon & Linden. Flore des serres vol.8 page 265 (1852)

Figure 3. *Quesnelia liboniana* (De Jonghe) Mez. Published as Billbergia liboniana De Jonghe. Journal d'horticulture pratique de la Belgique vol.9 plate 1 (1851)

The first volume was published in three languages. For vol.11-14 the title was expanded with the line *journal général de'horticulture*. With vol.15-23 this had changed into *annales générales de'horticulture.* Van Houtte was a member of the horticultural and botanical society in Gent and as such was one of the initiators of *Annales de la société royale d'agriculture et de botanique de Gand* in 1845. When he started his own journal Flore des Serres in the same year, the horticultural society was not pleased as the journals were direct competitors. Van Houtte resigned as member. After a failed attempt to merge the two journals in 1849, Morren's *Annales de Gand* lost the subsidy of the government and had to stop. To give an idea of the current value of the works, both were recently (2006) offered in an antiquarian catalogue, *Flore des serres* for 25,000 Euro and the 5 volumes of *Annales de Gand* for 11,000 Euro.

A new species of a new genus was *Disteganthus basilateralis* Lemaire (Figure 1). Lemaire writes that a living plant was sent from Cayenne in French Guiana by Eugène Mélinon to the museum of natural history in Paris; later he saw this species flowering in the nursery of Louis Van Houtte where L. Stroobant made the hand-coloured lithograph. The flowers are emerging from the base of the plant, which grows as a terrestrial in wet forests and produces stoloniferous offsets, forming large colonies.

Also new was *Pitcairnia nubigena* Planchon & Linden (Figure 2), a species "from the clouds" as the name implies. It grows at altitudes of 1800-2400 meters in the Andes in Venezuela as a terrestrial in cool moist forests. The collectors Nicolas Funck and Joseph Schlimm found it on the Paramo de los Conejos in the state of Mérida in 1847. Planchon writes that it flowered in the greenhouse of Linden in Brussels in 1852. Citing part of the description: "This species distinguishes itself among the most beautiful of its group by the gay green foliage and the brilliant racemose inflorescence with carmine flowers and vivid metallic reflection".

The *Journal d'horticulture pratique de la Belgique, où guide des amateurs et jardiniers*

was published in Brussels from 1844-1857 in the unusual small format of 11x17 cm. Successive editors of the 14 volumes were Michel Scheidweiler, Alexandre Ysabeau and Henri Galeotti. There were 10 plates in each volume, among the few bromeliads was the newly described species *Billbergia liboniana* (Figure 3). The plant was received by De Jonghe from Libon who collected it in 1848 near Petropolis in Brazil. A offshoot of the plant flowered in 1851. It was transfered to the genus Quesnelia by Mez.

A succeeding journal, the *Journal d'horticulture pratique de la Belgique, revue de l'horticulture belge et d'etrangère* with 5 volumes published in 1857-1861, was also edited by Galeotti and later by Funck. There are no plates of bromeliads in there.

While Lemaire was editor of Flore des serres he also directed in the years 1851-1854 the 4 volumes of *Le Jardin Fleuriste, journal général des progrès et des intérêts horticoles et botaniques*, each volume in 24 parts published by F. and E. Gyselynck, printers and lithographers at Gent. Among the 430 plates were 15 bromeliads, however they were almost all remakes of drawings from the English journals. An exception is the one of Dyckia princeps, a new species described by Lemaire and illustrated with an original drawing (Figure 4). This plant is known from the type collection only and typified on the basis of this illustration and description. Horticulturist Jean De Jonghe of Brussels writes in a letter to Lemaire: "According to his notes on his voyage to Brazil, Libon has found this Dyckia in 1847 close to the mountain Itacolumi not far from the city of Ouro Preto in Minas Gerais, where it grows on rocks. Some shoots of this Dyckia arrived at Brussels in August 1847 where they were cultivated because of their particularity. One flowered in June 1851, what a long time and how much care needed to get a first result! In December of that year two other plants flowered".

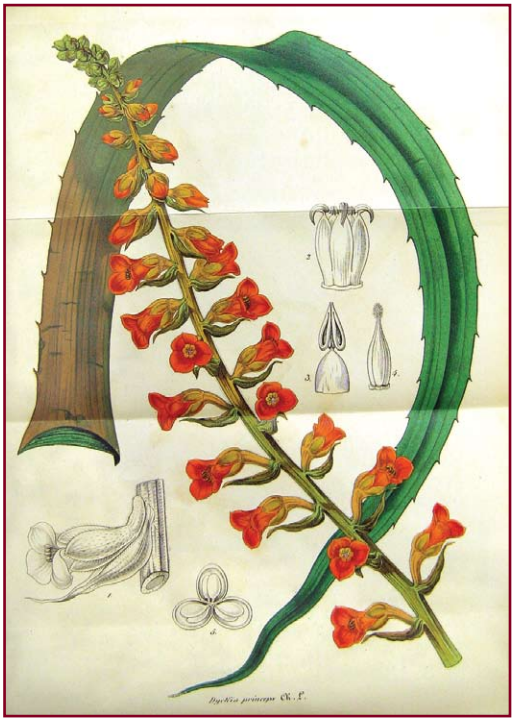

Figure 4. *Dyckia princeps* Lemaire. Le Jardin Fleuriste vol.3 plate 224-225 (1853)

In 1854 Ambroise Verschaffelt founded *L'Illustration Horticole, journal spécial des serres et des jardins* which he published for the first 16 volumes with (again) Charles Lemaire as the editor. At the start it was printed by the

Figure 5. *Quesnelia marmorata* (Lemaire) R.W. Read. Published as *Billbergia marmorata* Lemaire. Drawing and lithography L. Stroobant, L'Illustration Horticole vol.2 plate 48 (1855)

same company as *Flore des serres.* Verschaffelt was a horticulturist in Gent, since 1850 in charge of the firm founded by his grandfather. He sold the firm and the journal to Jean Jules Linden in 1869; the editorship of the journal then went to Édouard André and that meant the end of the career of Lemaire,. He returned to Paris in poverty (no pension). Linden was born in Luxemburg and started at the age of 19 collecting orchids. In Brazil he traveled with the collectors Funck and Ghiesbrecht and later he made travels to Mexico and the Caribbean. His renowned horticultural firms in Gent and Brussels were based on the culture of orchids and he published some beautiful illustrated books on that family of plants. With Linden as director of *L'Illustration Horticole,* the journal continued up to volume 43 in 1896; his son Lucien edited volume 28-43 and Émile Rodigas, botanist and zoologist at Gent, was the other editor in that period. The full title of the journal had changed in the meantime to *L'Illustration Horticole, revue mensuelle des plantes les plus remarquables*. The numbering of the plates restarted several times but about 1500 plates were produced including 35 of bromeliads. Many drawings and lithographs were made by L. and P. Stroobant (father and son) and P. de Pannemaeker.

Mathieu Libon who worked for several firms in Belgium (Jacob-Makoy in Liège, De Jonghe in Brussels, Linden) collected in 1853 the ornamental plant illustrated and described by Lemaire as *Billbergia marmorata* (Figure 5). The purple-mottled leaves give the plant an appearance reminiscent to marble, hence the name. It is an epiphyte from central-eastern Brazil. The generic name evolved via Aechmea to Quesnelia as explained long ago in an article in the BS Journal (Read 1965).

The next species illustrated here has been published twice in 1877 with a colourplate. The first time in *L'Illustration Horticole* under the name of Caraguata musaica by André (Figure 6). A plant was sent in 1871 by Gustav Wallis, a German gardener and explorer, from Ocaña in Colombia to Jules Linden in Belgium. The horticultural company of William Bull did also receive a plant and both flowered in 1875 at the same time, one in London and the other in Linden's Italian branch in Pallanza. In a

second publication, shortly thereafter in *La Belgique Horticole*, the name had become *Massangea musaica*. The genus Massangea was new and named by Édouard Morren in honor of Ferdinand Massange de Louvrex who had a flowering specimen of this plant in 1877 at St. Gilles near Liège. The first description of the species appeared in *L'Illustration Horticole* in 1873, made from a non-flowering plant ; it was baptised by Linden and André with the name *Tillandsia musaica*. Now we know it as *Guzmania musaica*. The irregular transverse lines on the leaves forming a mosaic give the plant its name, however there are several varieties described later without these markings.

Another discovery by Wallis, near Para not far from the river Amazone in Brazil in 1866, flowered in the greenhouses of Linden at Brussels in 1870. This magnificient plant (Back Cover) was named *Bromelia fernandae* by Édouard Morren after Fernande, a daughter of Linden; the current name is Aechmea fernandae. This terrestrial species can grow fairly large with leaves of 1,5 meter, but the height is only 40 cm.

The last periodical from Belgium mentioned here is of some later date: *Revue de l'horticulture belge et étrangère*, with 40 volumes from 1875-1914. Count Oswald de Kerckhove de Denterghem was the founder and chief editor. Other editors were F. Burvenich, E. Pynaert, A. van Geert and H. van Hulle. It was the time hybridizing grew popular and that is reflected in the illustrations, of the 5 plates of bromeliads that I did see (in vol.1-24) there were 4 of Vriesea hybrids.

Figure 6. *Guzmania musaica* (Linden & André) Mez. Published as Caraguata musaica (Linden & André) André. Drawing and lithography P. de Pannemaeker, L'Illustration Horticole vol.24 plate 268 (1877)

TO BE CONTINUED...

Exploring In Brazil, Pt. 2

This article is a continuation of an article published in JBS 60(6)

Peter Waters
Photos by Jeannette Waters

Figure 1: Morumbeca summit

...The next day we were up very early for breakfast and soon on our way back up the same road. It had been raining during the night and it was much more difficult driving as the road was very boggy. At one steep point, we got stuck and we all had to get out and push. It was not going to be easy climbing today.

We quickly began our trek into the forest. There were quite a few bromeliads, mainly vrieseas and the track was well marked for the first part. At a small house in a clearing, we found our guide waiting. He would show us the best way to the summit. How someone could live out here I don't know, as it was miles from anywhere. After a few kilometres, we suddenly left the track and headed straight up through the undergrowth. This was very difficult going, two steps forward, one back, but luckily only for half an hour and then we came out into the sunshine and into long grasses and ferns. We continued upwards for several hours and the surprising thing we realised was that the mountain was quite two-dimensional, with two steep sides of sheer cliffs. We were heading up a track getting narrower as we went. When we finally came to the summit it was frighteningly narrow in some places. Jeanette had been struggling for some time to keep up, which rather surprised me, but the reason became clear when we returned home and the doctor informed her that she had had pneumonia for several weeks!

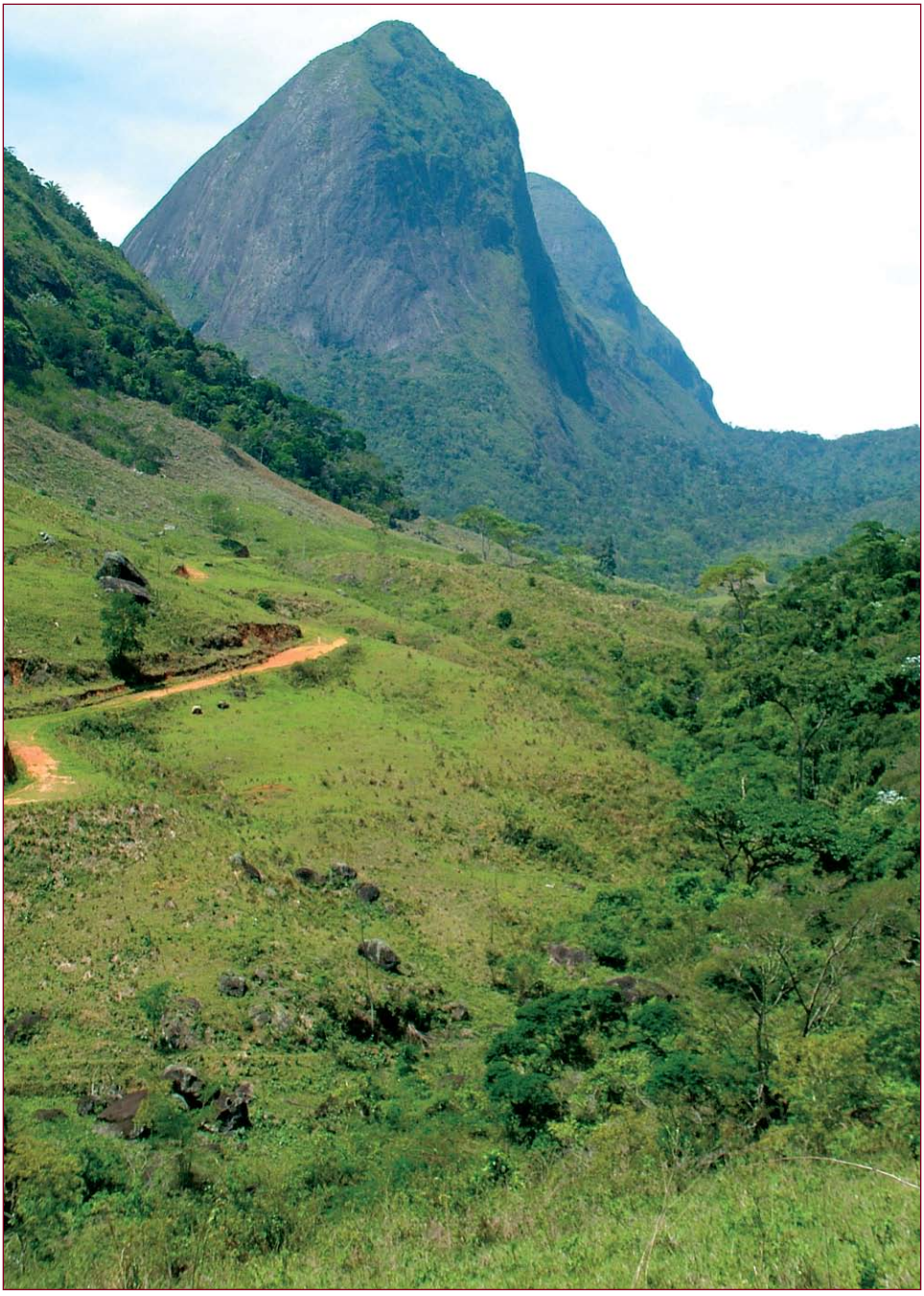

Figure 2: Typical terrain in the region

Figure 3: *Alcantarea farneyi*

At the summit there were indeed bromeliads, although not many kinds. There were clumps of *Alcantarea farneyi*, a new habitat for that species, a vriesea similar to *Vriesea crassa*, an unknown pitcairnia, and *Aechmea caesia*. The view from the top was breathtaking and we spent some time there before heading back down. We came across a few fallen trees which have a good chance of bringing some bromeliads down to earth, but there wasn't much luck in finding anything different. As we came out of the forest we arrived at a tall thin tree with a clump of what appeared to be neoregelias. As we wondered how we could get one of these down, Rafael disappeared for a short time and came back with a very long bamboo pole. This worked a treat and we had a couple of plants on the ground in no time. It seemed to be a new species, wide yellow leaves with purplish-brown tips. This was exciting as it was a very attractive plant.

We set out on our return journey, by now knowing every inch of the road and a few hours later arrived at the stream where Rafael had seen a neo the day before. He clambered over the rocks and found the large clump of a smallish tubular plant. Elton said that he already had it but it had not been described yet. By now it was starting to get dark but we still had one more call and that was the lonely tree near the hotel. We stopped at a farmhouse just before it and collected another bamboo pole which we trailed along the road. At the tree it was well after sundown but we could see to collect a few plants of what turned out to be *Neoregelia carcharodon* 'Rainbow'. There were many clumps on the tree. This was an exciting find and gave us plenty to talk about at dinner that night.

The next morning we were up early again, ready to go as our transport arrived at the hotel. We knew we had a 40km drive ahead of us, and while the first part was good road, it pretty soon deteriorated. After a brief stop on the main highway to inspect some pitcairnias on a roadside bank, we turned onto a metalled side road and headed for the hills. We were keeping a lookout for any signs of bromeliads and not seeing much when Rafael shouted to stop. We were on a steady incline as farmland changed to bush, and I couldn't see the reason for the excitement. We piled out and clambered up a clay bank and there before us lay a carpet of bromeliads, not only on the ground but over logs and on branches. There were many hundreds of plants and it was difficult to move around amongst them. We forgot about the snake danger as we tried to identify the different species. The most visible were *Quesnelia quesneliana* and *strobilispica* with their striking inflorescences but there was also *Billbergia euphemiae, Neoregelia farinosa, Vriesea scalaris, Nidularium procerum* and other species. We also found some very nice *Aechmea patentissima* clinging to a cliff-face.

Although it seemed like a supermarket to me, Elton did not appear too excited so I presumed there was nothing new there. He did however spend some time taking pictures. This can be quite a long process as he is meticulous in preparing for his pictures. He says he treats every photo as though it may be the cover picture of a book and he can take ten shots of each part of the plant, at different exposures or flash settings so that he will get the best possible result.

When we moved on you can imagine that we scrutinised every tree and nearly missed a clump of bromeliads on a power-pole. This was a much more significant find as it was *Quesnelia edmundoi var intermedia* which I gather was not expected here. As we passed through a small village we called into a farmhouse restaurant to book for lunch and then continued on up a bumpy road to a waterfall. It was very picturesque with a large pool and huge rocks. It was a prime spot for bromeliads and we shortly found some more of the previous quesnelia and very large *Vriesea fenestralis* which were well up a large tree. There were nidulariums by the falls on the other side of the river and Rafael was soon swimming across. *Nidularium procerum, rutilans* and *innocentii* were there. After an hour or so we returned to the restaurant. I use this term loosely as it was just a couple of tables in the very untidy backyard and the cooking seemed to be conducted on the back porch of the house by a very old couple. The place was a shambles and there was no way one would eat there, but in actual fact the food was great. "Just don't look at the kitchen", I kept saying to myself.

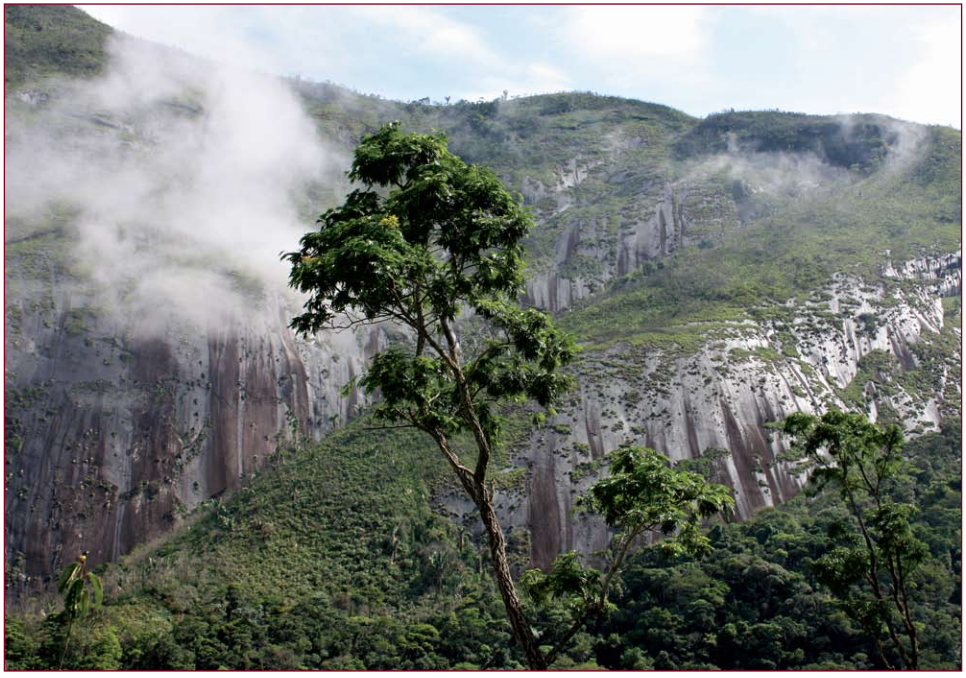

Figure 4: Alcantareas growing on the face of a cliff

Figure 5: Morembuca Forest

After lunch we carried on, the road becoming quite bumpy but not too bad and the scenery was very interesting. Even though we were still relatively close to the most populated areas in Brazil you got a feeling of the vast size of the country as you saw the hills rolling into the distance with the small patches of forest still on the tops. In the cleared land there are still many large trees usually quite separate from each other and some are covered in bromeliads, while others have none. The difference is firstly the age of the tree, young trees have none, but also the type of tree. Bromeliads only seem to cling to trees that don't shed their bark, and have smoother trunks. Every time we saw some broms I wanted to stop and have a close look, but Elton or Rafael would say that it was only *Aechmea nudicaulis* or *Aechmea ramosa* which seemed to be everywhere.

Eventually the road petered out and became a track through rock strewn fields. We were now quite high and the clouds were all around us as we arrived at the end of the road at a stream. We tumbled out and immediately started our searching. It wasn't easy to find bromeliads here but eventually we found some clumps of a vriesea which appeared to be something new. There were many *Aechmea fasciata* and much to Rafael's chagrin, Elton found a variegated specimen. As I mentioned before, Rafael had a knack of finding variegated plants and thought it was his perogative to find the first one.

A small way up the stream there was a very large impressive waterfall with water cascading down a sloping sheet of rock about a hundred metres high. Unfortunately we couldn't find anything of interest around here and as the light was beginning to fade we started off on the way home just as the rain came. The road became very muddy and the potholes filled with water and it was dark before we were halfway home.

The next day's trip was to an area called Bela Juan, which was easier to access as we no longer had the 4WD. We left early as it was going to be another full day and would involve a lot of travelling. Almost from the start the road began to climb and although it was mainly through farmland it was quite steep. There were many cliffs and bluffs and every one of them carried their own crop of alcantareas. The alcantarea seeds do not disperse widely and are not carried by birds so they tend to remain in their own area. This probably

Figure 6: *Vriesea aff. crassa*

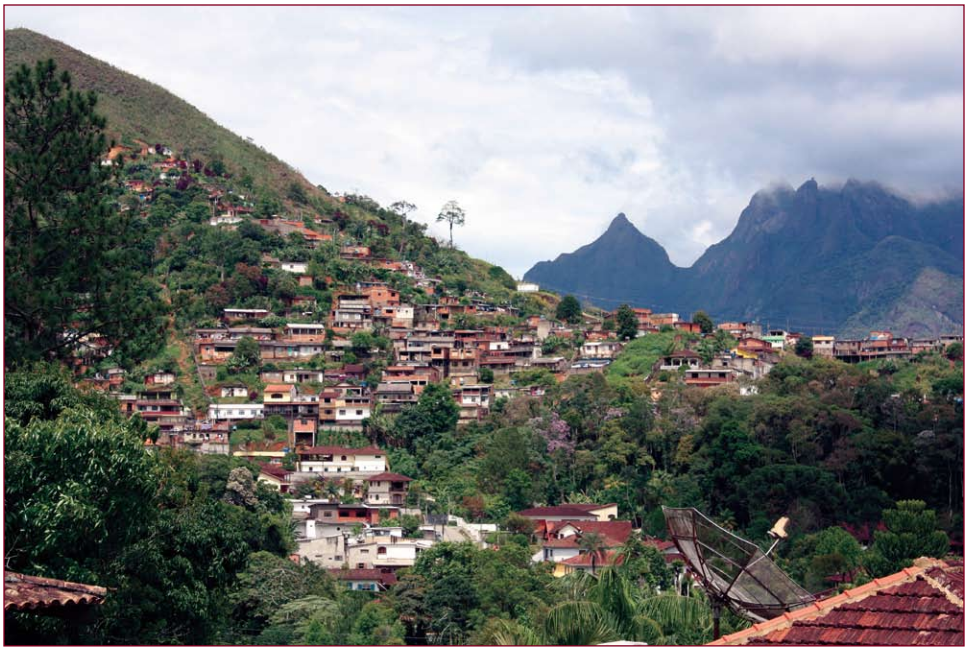

Figure 7: Organ Mountain from Teresópolis

Figure 8: *Tillandsia stricta*

accounts for the fact that there are so many undescribed species. Each group differs from the others. In this region *Alcantarea heloisae* and similar seems to be the predominant type. At one site we climbed a steep hill to reach a rock bluff with an interesting alcantarea and I found a pitcairnia which Elton thought might be new. He took specimens and will await its flowering to see if that is the case.

The view was amazing as we climbed higher. We stopped several times to check sightings but nothing was too interesting until we came upon a large tree with clumps of a type of vriesea. Elton & Rafael recognised it as *Vriesea fidelensis* which was described not long ago and found north of here. It is a medium large plant with faintly patterned leaves. Rafael had been told about an unusual neoregelia that someone had seen in this vicinity and we spent quite some time wandering about the open type of forest. Alas, we had no luck, though I was dead keen to come across another new bromeliad.

Not long after this we crossed the top of the range and found ourselves dropping down into a valley containing a marble quarry. Soon the road became impassable to cars, so we walked for a way and found another cliff with the usual alcantareas and pitcairnias which seem to often grow together. There didn't seem to be much else in this area, so we back-tracked for about ten kilometres and followed the road along a river to a place that Elton had seen before. Across the river on the facing rockwall dozens of *Encholirium horridum* were perched, their shining silver leaves turning pink and purple in the late afternoon sun. We couldn't get across but took some photos instead. After this we decided to head back to the hotel as we were exhausted after the day's effort.

While searching for bromeliads is quite exhilarating, it can also be tiring, always on the lookout for that new species.

That was our last night at our base hotel and in the morning we packed up. With the car very full of bromeliads, we headed north-east towards San Fidelis. Driving along the main highways you could easily be in New Zealand. It is rare that you see any bromeliads and the vegetation is very similar to home. Occasionally you come across one of the giant rock mountains and there will be thousands of alcantareas on the cliffs, but usually in this area just farmland with some trees. At one point we veered off onto a narrow side-road and on a sharp bend we came to a vertical rock wall about twenty metres off the road. This was the habitat of *Vriesea gastiniana* which clung precariously to the sheer cliff. We spent some time searching around the base for plants but only managed to find a couple of poor specimens. What is it that makes the seeds grow on the cliff-face but not on the ground? You would think that a majority of the seed would fall to the rocks at the base. *Vriesea gastiniana* is another of the silver leafed plants that resemble a tillandsia, with a rather insipid flower spike, obviously night pollinated.

Soon after lunch we arrived at our destination, Pedra Lisa, a small resort in the shadow of some enormous rock mountains. At first we thought Elton was joking when he said that tomorrow we would be climbing the largest, but we had the uneasy feeling that he was serious. We booked into the hotel and spent a few hours wandering about admiring trees that were covered in bromeliads and taking photographs. Many tillandsias and large clumps of a red *Aechmea nudicaulis* were especially striking. There were lots of other recognisable species around, such as *Billbergia horrida*, *Neoregelia compacta* and *Aechmea ramosa*. In the meantime Elton and Rafael had driven further up the road to survey the area and find a starting point for the climb.

Figure 9: *Quesnelia quesneliana*

The next morning we woke to a downpour which was good and bad. The good news was that the climb was off as the rocks would be too dangerous but the bad news was that this was to have been our last adventure. As a consolation prize we decided to walk along the road to

have a look at an aechmea in a tree that they had seen last night, but now the road was too muddy and not driveable in our car which was not a 4WD. To our amusement as we walked, we were joined by a small pig which followed us like a dog for several kilometres. We reached the paddock with the bromeliad and sent Rafael up the tree to inspect what turned out to be an *Aechmea ramosa* but with a difference in the colour of the inflorescence.

On the way back we were accosted by a man on a horse who thought we were stealing his pig.

Because our plans had been disrupted by the rain, we decided to head back to Teresopolis to the Leme villa and spend the night there, with the opportunity to study some more bromeliads. This suited me fine as there were many more bromeliads there than in the wild.

I was delighted to add more to my growing collection of plants to take home and selected some specimens of species that we already have in New Zealand but that looked quite different. A good example is *Vriesea vagans* of which the clone I obtained is much bigger and has foliage with distinctive markings. I was also very interested to watch Elton make a description of a new hohenbergia. He drew all the parts of the plant and described them on his computer within an hour, obviously the practice of the previous 300 new species helped. The following afternoon we packed up and headed back to Rio. By the time we were dropped off at our hotel we were somewhat exhausted but very pleased with the way the expedition had gone.

The next day while Jeanette was shopping, I took a bus out to Rafael's nursery to pick up some bromeliads I had gathered from his collection. One of the interesting finds was a new *Neoregelia carcharodon* with very spotted leaves and large spines, quite different from the other types I had seen. I also managed to get a *Neo* 'Rafa' and some new 'Hannibal Lecter' hybrids. Rafael had made many variegated neoregelia crosses, mainly unnamed and some of these were quite stunning.

The next few days I spent cleaning plants and we made a few sightseeing trips around the city, and we organised a day trip out to Petropolis to visit Luiz Felipe de Carvalho who used to be the president of the Brazilian Bromeliad Society and the owner of Bossa Nova nursery. He still owns a manufacturing business in the city but the nursery is now defunct and was bought by a private collector to show off his large array of bromeliads. Some of the best specimens of Brazilian bromeliads that you will ever see, including many different variegated alcantareas, were all displayed to perfection. Rafael had taken us to meet the owner and we spent several hours admiring the plants.

On Saturday morning a staff member of Felipe's business came to take us to the bus station and put us on the right bus. Petropolis, like Teresopolis is in the Organ Mountains and as we know this is one of the most heavily populated places in Brazil for bromeliads.

Luiz Felipe and Vera de Carvalho own a lovely shop in Petropolis called Billbergia and it sells all kinds of art. The courtyard is of course full of bromeliads. Their home, about five kilometres away is on several acres on the side of a hill, surrounded by big trees and native bush and there are bromeliads everywhere. This is apart from the cultivated plants. They are growing wild on every tree and wall and even on the guttering of the house. There were many recognisable species, as the earliest imports to New Zealand would have come from this area. His collection is huge and he has five or six shadehouses staggered up the hill. After lunch we had a close look at the plants and saw some beautiful and rare species. Jeanette was probably more interested in the birdlife. The most amazing, colourful birds inhabit this area and she spent some time trying to photograph them.

We were sorry to leave as the daylight ran out and we made our way back to Rio. Packing plants and luggage kept us busy in the morning and by mid-afternoon we were ready to go. Our plane was not departing until 8pm, but as we were ready and had to vacate the hotel, we went to the airport early, arriving about 5pm. None of the Aerolineas Argentinas counters were open so we could not check in. After waiting some time I found someone from the airline and asked when the check-ins started. "Oh, your flight's gone. It left at 3pm". "Why?" "Change of schedule". Obviously we should have checked earlier. No more flights that night so we were sent to a hotel nearby. By the time we reached Buenos Aires, we had missed the connection and so we arrived home a day late. However the plants were fine and that was the main thing.

Figure 10: *Pitcairnia encholiriodes*

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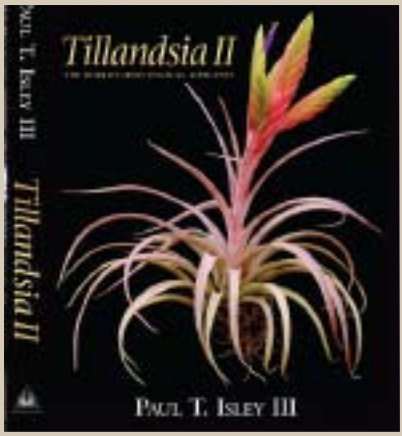

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New Cultivar: *Aechmea nudicaulis* 'Rafa'

Geoff Lawn, BSI Cultivar Registrar

This month we are starting a column to present new cultivars. Geoff Lawn, who is the current BSI Cultivar Registrar, will be selecting a few plants per issue to feature in this column. For more information on new cultivars, the Bromeliad Cultivar Register is an excellent resource with a wealth of information. You can visit the website and view and search the archives as well as browse new registrations at http://registry.bsi.org/

Aechmea nudicaulis is a highly variable tough species native to Mexico, central America, West Indies and South America, as far south as southern Brazil. There are 8 described botanical varieties and 1 forma, mostly epiphytic but occasionally saxicolous and terrestrial. Some types have a wide geographical range whilst others are restricted, from sea level to 1800 metres altitude. Usually tubular and stiff-leaved, the mostly green, spiny rosettes are 30-70cm tall in bloom. Distinctive in most clones are foliage "thumbnail" indents in mid-leaf. The inflorescence is typically an upright spike of vivid scarlet scape bracts and yellow petals, short-lived but eye-catching. Fertile berries formed are often orange but turn black when seed ripens.

Select named species cultivars include cross-banded and variegated clones. Listed in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register are 'Big John', 'Dee Butt', 'Good Bands', 'La Tigra', 'Lightning', 'Mary Hyde', 'Parati', 'Silver Streaks Nudicaulis', 'White Lightning' and 'Xavante'. An Advanced Search of the Register on the BSI website *http:// bsi.org* currently show 11 hybrids using *Ae. nudicaulis* as a seed or pollen parent.

A choice distinctive *Ae. nudicaulis* cultivar introduced into North American horticulture in recent years acquired several names such as "Brazil", "Rafa" and "var. capitata". The silver cross-banded and speckled foliage can turn bronze in strong light. This clone has been identified tentatively from photos by Harry Luther as a form of var. cuspidata . The recently-registered cultivar name 'Rafa' by Florida grower Eloise Beach honours it's discoverer, the Brazilian nurseryman and plant explorer Rafael Oliveira who found it circa 2001 near São Fidélis in Rio de Janeiro State.

Figure 1: *Aechmea nudicaulis* 'Rafa'. Photo by Andy Siekkinen

New Cultivar: *Alcantarea* 'Landsendt Blue Grey'

Geoff Lawn, BSI Cultivar Registrar

Figure 1: *Alcantarea* 'Landsendt Blue Grey'. Closeup of inflorescence. Photo by Peter Tristram

In recent years Alcantareas have become the genus in vogue. Many have come into collections with questionable identity as to which species they represent. Some have been given either cultivar names or tagged as to where collected in the wild, until they are botanically described or more information comes to light. .

Such a case is a yellow-bracted form of *A. imperialis* with creamy white petals, unlabelled seed from which was imported from Landsendt Nursery, Auckland, New Zealand into Australia in 2005 by Brisbane grower Arno King who then described the seed batch as *Alcantarea* 'Blue Grey' after the seed parent's foliage colour. Landsendt Nursery have since distributed this form in New Zealand as 'Glauca'.

That imported seed batch has produced a maturing uniform population with few variants, indicating it breeds true to type from self-set seed. The leaves are bluish green coated powdery grey and the rosette can reach over 1-1/2 metres diameter with the inflorescence up to 3 metres tall. Sydney grower Mark Paul has studied Alcantareas extensively in Brazil and advises that there is a distinct large natural population of this yellow-bracted form at Petrópolis in Rio de Janeiro State.

Enquiries with Landsendt Nursery as to its horticultural origin lead to Auckland grower Len Trotman who imported 25 so-called *Alcantarea imperialis* "green" in 2000 from Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota, Florida. Whether those imported plants had this yellow-bracted strain among them is doubtful, because from photographs Dennis Cathcart had never seen it, so the source remains a mystery.

After much discussion the decision was made to name and register this attractive, majestic cultivar as *Alcantarea* 'Landsendt Blue Grey' after the New Zealand nursery stock from where this particular strain emanated. If possible such identification and naming problems are better sorted out prior to stock release, then registered in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR) with photos so growers have a permanent, accurate point of reference.

Figure 2: *Alcantarea* 'Landsendt Blue Grey'. Photo by Peter Tristram

BSI Board Of Directors Meeting Summary

Jay Thurrot

Figure 1: BSI Board Of Directors

The BSI Board of Directors held their annual meeting in June at the Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach, Florida. The annual board meeting provides an opportunity for the Directors to discuss issues in a relaxed, face-to-face environment as well as a chance for them to get to know each other rather than as a name on an email address.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

MARILYN MILLER	**NEW ORLEANS, LA**
DANIEL WOLF / DEBBIE GERSTNER-WOLF	**HOUSTON, TX**
JAMES FIFE	**RIVER RIDGE, LA**
JORGE LUIS RIVERA	**ANAHEIM, CA**
ROLAND ANTHONY	**BRISBANE, QLD**
SHIRLEY GRILLS-KONEFAL	**HOLLYWOOD, FL**
BRUCE CLIFFE	**SYDNEY, NSW**

Figure 2: A portion of the pathway wandering through the Mounts Botanical Gardens in West Palm Beach. Photo by Larry Giroux

Issues discussed at the meeting included the upcoming World Conference in Orlando, Florida. A presentation was made by Betsy McCrory, chair of the 2012 conference, and printed information was distributed at that time to the Directors. Discussion also took place regarding the BSI Seed Fund. After 26 years in this position, Harvey Beltz has expressed a desire to retire as chair of the Seed Fund. It was suggested that a notice be placed in the Journal requesting a volunteer to serve in this position (see ad page 46).

Regarding recent changes at Selby Botanical Gardens and the impact of those changes on the BSI sponsored Bromeliad Identification Center(BIC), a motion was passed acknowledging that it is to the mutual benefit of BSI and the gardens to have a formal relationship and charging a liaison committee that was formed last year to establish the guidelines for this link. Selby Botanical Gardens, in turn, has expressed their desire to continue with their long-standing relationship with BSI. At the same time it was noted that the current BSI By Laws referencing the BIC must be revised to reflect the new title established by Selby for its bromeliad research and identification activities.

Sadly, we bid farewell and offer our thanks to Andrew Flowers for his dedicated and outstanding service as Journal Editor. At the same time we welcome Evan Bartholomew as new editor and have established a committee composed of BSI officers to offer direction and assistance to Evan as he takes on this monumental task.

In other action, the Board approved a new "conflict of interest" policy in keeping with requirements for a non-profit organization.

Finally, in a "first" for a BSI Board meeting, Webmaster Nick Bethmann arranged a teleconference session through Skype for Board members who were unable to attend the meeting. The session lasted for only a portion of the meeting, but it clearly demonstrated the utility of this type of electronic media and all present were in agreement that further sessions linking BSI board members around the world will be used in the future.

Figure 3: Event attendees Alan Herndon, Nick Bethmann, Jay Thurrott, Charlie Birdsong and Dan Kinnard on the bridge to "Bromeliad Island" at Mount Botanical Gardens. The Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches, who hosted the BSI delegation, is responsible for planting the island at the Gardens. Photo by Larry Giroux

Figure 4: A blooming specimen of Alcanterea imperialis seen on the tour. Photo by Larry Giroux

Events Calendar

AUSTRALIA:

SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2011. Bromeliad Society of Australia Spring Show, Burwood RSL

OCTOBER 29-30, 2011. Bromeliad Society of New South Wales Spring Show, Concord Senior Citizens Centre, 9-11 Wellbank Street Concord.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AUGUST 6-7, 2011. South Bay Bromeliad Associates, 2011 Bromeliad Show and Plant Sale. Rainforest Flora Nursery, 19121 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrence, CA. Contact Bryan Chan (818) 366-1858 or bcbrome@aol.com

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2011. Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society hosting the Florida Extravaganza at the Plaza Spa and Resort in Daytona Beach. The Cryptanthus Society's International Show will be held at the same venue on the same dates.

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 1, 2012. 20th World Bromeliad Conference, Caribe Royale Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Contact bbout@aol.com

MEMBERS ONLY SEEDBANK

The BSI Seed Fund is currently in need of a chairman. Many thanks to Harvey Beltz for his years of service keeping the seed fund alive. The seed fund is an important and valuable offering to members, and a service that benefits the whole community.

Looking for a bromeliad lover willing to volunteer free time to manage the BSI Seed Fund. If you have an interest, please contact Jay Thurrott (president@bsi.org) for further details.

The Bromeliad Society International

The purpose of this nonprofit corporation is to promote and maintain public and scientific interest in the research, development, preservation, and distribution of bromeliads, both natural and hybrid, throughout the world. You are invited to join.

OFFICERS

President..... Jay Thurrott, 713 Breckenridge Dr., Port Orange, FL 32127, USA. president@bsi.org
Vice-President..... Bonnie Boutwell, 1319 America St.,Mandeville, LA 70448-4119, USA. vicepresident@bsi.org
Editor..... Evan Bartholomew, 13-3588 Moku St., Pahoa, HI, 96778, USA. editor@bsi.org
Membership Secretary..... Dan Kinnard, 6901 Kellyn Ln, Vista, CA 92084-1243, USA. membership@bsi.org
Secretary..... Sara Donayre, 1240 Jefferson St., Hollywood, FL 33019-1807, USA. secretary@bsi.org.
Treasurer ..... Edward Doherty, 4039 Herschel Avenue, Dallas, TX 75219, USA. treasurer@bsi.org.

DIRECTORS

(To e-mail Directors, write "firstname@bsi.org," Not all Directors have e-mail)

2009-2011.....Australia: Lynn Hudson, Greg Aizlewood, Olive Trevor. New Zealand: David Anderson. California: Holly Mena. Central: Penrith Goff. Florida: Steven C. Provost, Gary Lund, Vicky Chirnside. Northeast: Leslie Graifman. Southern: Rei Irizarry. International: Eric Gouda, Luiz Felipe Nevares de Carvalho.

2009-2012.....Australia: Peter Tristram. California: Rodney Kline.

2010-2013..... Florida: Alan Herndon. Louisiana: Charlie Birdsong. Texas: Gene Powers. International: Lyn Wegner. Western: Hannelore Lenz.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Affiliated Shows .....Charles Birdsong, 13922 Eastridge Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817, USA. shows@bsi.org.
Affiliated Societies .....Martha Goode, 826 Buckingham Ct, Crystal Lake, IL 60014, USA. affiliates@bsi.org.
Archives and Historical.....Robert and Janet LaRoe, 401 Oakford Road, Sarasota, FL, 34240, USA.
Conservation.....Position vacant. conservation@bsi.org.
Cultivar Registration .....Geoff Lawn, 31 Greenock Ave., Como, Perth WA 6152, Australia. cultivars@bsi.org.
Finance & Audit.....Elizabeth Patterson, 4205 Gloster Road, Dallas, TX 75220, USA.
Judges Certification .....Betty Ann Prevatt, 2902 2nd St., Ft. Myers, FL 33916, USA.
Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center location under review bic@bsi.org.
Nominations ..... Larry Giroux, 3836 Hidden Acres Circle N, North Fort Myers, FL 33903, USA. Larry@bsi.org
Publications Sales.....Robert & Karen Kopfstein, 6903 Kellyn Ln., Vista CA 92084, USA. publications@bsi.org.
Research Grant.....Gregory K. Brown, University of Wyoming, P.O. Box 3165, Laramie, WY 82071-3165, USA. grants@bsi.org
Seed Bank.....Harvey C. Beltz, 6327 South Inwood Rd., Shreveport, LA 71119-7260, USA.
Media Library .....Keith Smith, 1330 Millerton Rd., Auburn CA 95603-1243, USA. slides@bsi.org.
Web Site .....Nick Bethmann, 726 Forsyth St., Boca Raton, FL 33487-3204, USA. webmaster@bsi.org.
World Headquarters.....Tom Wolfe, 5211 Lake Le Claire Rd., Lutz, FL 33549-4833, USA.

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