JOURNAL

OF THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

VOLUME 61(6): 241-288 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2011

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Front Cover: Starling visiting *Puya chilensis* . Photo by Alasdair Moore

Back Cover: *Puya chilensis*, Tresco Abbey Garden. Photo by Alasdair Moore

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Editor's Notes

Evan Bartholomew

After a breakneck schedule and incredible amount of work, this is the final issue of JBS Volume 61. I set out with all intentions of completing the 2011 issues before the end of the calendar year, but a heavy travel schedule, computer malfunctions, and too many distractions to mention kept me from quite getting there.

Many thanks to all of the people who have helped to get this volume completed and have kept patience with me as I learn the ropes.

Many people have been asking for a publication schedule, and it is listed below. This schedule will have the journal officially caught up by the time of Orlandiana 2012.

SCHEDULE:

62(1) Jan-Feb 2012 - Article submissions by April 23rd, sent to printer May 1st

62(2) Mar-Apr 2012 - Article submissions by May 23rd, sent to printer June 1st

62(3) May-June 2012 - Article submissions by June 23rd, sent to printer July 1st

62(4) Jul-Aug 2012 - Article submissions by July 23rd, sent to printer August 1st

62(5) Sept-Oct 2012 - Article submissions by Sept. 23rd, Sent to printer Oct. 1

62(6) Nov-Dec 2012 - Article submissions by Nov. 23rd, sent to printer Dec 1

I will be holding strict deadlines for article submissions. Please make sure you provide captions with your photographs, and spell and grammar check your documents before forwarding them to me.

Please note the errata regarding JBS 61: 5: pp. 236-7 (2011) which is published on page 282 of this issue. As well, the deadline for nominations for the Wally Berg Award (page 276) have been changed to June 1st, 2012.

I have received an incredible manuscript from Mulford Foster's great-grandaughter. She has supplied scans of old family photos, but does not have any photographic content specifically related to his work with and discovery of bromeliads. I am looking for additional photo content for this manuscript which will be published in this journal in the coming year. If you have *any* additional photographic content, please direct it to my attention as soon as possible.

There are many announcements and pages regarding the upcoming World Bromeliad Conference in Orlando, Florida. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the information included.

Thanks for reading!

CONFERENCE CORNER

In a short six months, we will be celebrating Orlandiana 2012 – have you made your reservation? Registration rates increased to $175 on March 1, 2012.

Registration information and hotel rates can be found on the web site, www.bsi.org. The Caribe Royale is a lovely all suite hotel, furnishing refrigerator, microwave and coffee pot in all rooms. The conference committee has worked to offer a fun-filled, educational week of events included in the registration fee.

There have been a few changes in the event schedule since our last published update: Bus Tours of members homes (included in registrations) are now on Wednesday of conference week and Nursery tours (at a small additional charge) are scheduled for Monday, October 1.

Members are encouraged to participate in the Poster Sessions scheduled for Thursday afternoon. If you would like to offer a 15 minute presentation on your favorite aspect of growing bromeliads, contact Martha Goode, BSI Affiliate Chairman.

Peter Bak has generously donated *Pitcairnia feliciana* as a special gift to everyone who attends the Saturday night banquet. Thank you Peter for your most generous contribution.

Don't forget: If you or your club would like to learn more about what it takes to host a conference, just e-mail: vicepresident@bsi.org.

Bonnie Boutwell
BSI Vice President

Membership Secretary Position

The BSI is looking for a volunteer to serve as Membership Secretary. Qualifications for this position include - should be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly...no wait, that's something else. The Membership Secretary works closely with the President and other BSI officers and promotes membership in the society in accordance with policies established by the Board. The Membership Secretary maintains membership records, issues renewal notices and receives membership applications and renewals; computes and announces annually the number of directors allocated to each Region based on membership per Region and maintains a current directory of BSI membership; performs other related duties as they apply to the BSI. Interested parties should contact the BSI president at president@bsi.org

Entering Plants & More In WBC 2012

Alan Herndon

With the 2012 World Bromeliad Conference being held in Orlando (easy driving distance from many prime bromeliad growing areas) we expect to have a large crop of entries in the judged show. As an exhibitor, you will be asked to fill out an entry form and present this form to the Classification table along with your plants and other entries. Classification will check your entries for conformance with the show rules and further check the information on the forms for completeness and accuracy. They will then assign your entry to the proper Division, Section and Class according to the Show Schedule. You can make this process easier on yourself and everyone else by following a few basic tips:

First, fill out the entry form as completely as possible before you get to the Classification Table. This means filling out exhibitor information and the plant name for horticultural entries and adding a description and/or title for artistic entries. If you are entering a bromeliad for judging, make every effort to determine the correct name of the plant before the World Conference. Use all available local resources. If you have an awesome plant, and have had no luck determining the correct name, the volunteers at the Classification table will gladly attempt to provide the correct name. Just remember, this will take time, and slow down the entry process.

Second, have pity on the people entering the data. Fill out the requested information on the entry form in a manner that makes it absolutely clear what should be on the official entry card. In short, avoid abbreviations (no matter how clear they may seem), leave extra space between entries if needed for clarity and use extra lines on the entry form to ensure a lengthy description is easy to read. If Classification determines that the name of the plant needs to be changed, make sure the change is done cleanly.

Also, it is a good idea to totally avoid notes written to yourself on the entry sheet. These notes may end up on the entry card. If you need to write notes to yourself, please consider downloading a data entry form from the website, fill out that form with all of your notes, and use that form as a guide to prepare your official entry form without notes for use by Data Entry.

Third, the main job of Classification is to determine where your entry belongs according to the Show Schedule. You may be asked questions about your entry, such as 'How long have the plants been growing in this setting?' in trying to determine the correct classification. Please review the Show Schedule to see what kinds of questions may be asked, and have your answers prepared.

Finally, if, as expected, we use printed labels generated by the data entry program, we ask that you remain with your plants until the labels are attached. This will speed up the process of preparing plants for Placement. After all, no one can identify your plants and ensure that the labels are placed correctly as quickly as you.

ORLANDIANA 2012
20TH WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS, SOCIETY, OR INDIVIDUAL AD IN THE WBC 2012 PROGRAM

AD REQUEST FORM

I (We) wish to place an advertisement in the WBC 2012 Program – Orlandiana 2012.

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5278 SW 24th Dr
Gainesville, FL 32608
(Email contact is bsi@gator.net)

*** For technical questions regarding ad format, contact:**

Sherolyn Rymal, Program Graphics Chairman
sherolynsisco@aol.com

2012 World Bromeliad Conference Schedule of Events

Monday, September 24	
All Day	Hotel Check In, rooms available
Tuesday, September 25	
9:00am-9:30am (?)	BSI Annual General Meeting (Everyone Invited)-Curacao 5
9:30am-5:00pm	BSI Board Meeting-Curacao 5
9:00am-5:00pm	Judges School #1-Curacao 7
12:00pm-1:00pm	BSI Board Luncheon/Judges School Luncheon-Curacao 6
Wednesday, September 26	
9:00am-5:00pm	Plant Auction Prep Room Open-Curacao 3
9:00am-5:00pm	Raffle Holding & Prep Room Open-Curacao 2
9:00am-5:00pm	Conference Registration-Grand Sierra Registration-North
10:00am-12:00pm	Welcome to Orlandiana 2012-Grand Sierra E Keynote Speaker: Gregory Brown & James Thurrott-BSI Future
1:00pm-4:00pm	Raffle & Silent Auction Items-Open-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
1:00pm-9:00pm	Show Entries Accepted/Classification & Placement Grand Sierra Hall, Rms F,G,H,I
1:00pm-9:00pm	Sale Area-Vendor Set Up-Pavilion Area
1:00pm-9:00pm	Society & Commercial Displays Set up-Areas Vary
12:30pm-5:30pm	Bus Tours to Homes (Free for registrants)-Meet in front of the convention area
8:00pm-9:30pm	Meet & Greet All Registrants-Curacao 5 & 6
8:30pm	Judges Ceremony at the Meet & Greet
Thursday, September 27	**SHOW DAY**
8:00am-9:00am	Late Show Entries-Grand Sierra Hall
9:00am	Judging Begins-Grand Sierra
8:00am-3:00pm	Conference Registration-Grand Sierra Registration-North
8:00am-5:00pm	Sale Area-Vendor Set Up-Pavilion Area
8:30am-9:00am	Judges & Clerks Continental Breakfast-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
9:00am-3:00pm	Plant Auction Prep Room Open-Curacao 3
9:00am-5:30pm	Raffle Holding & Prep Room Open-Curacao 2
10:00am-12:00pm	Raffle & Silent Auction Items Set Up-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
12:00pm-12:30pm	Judges & Clerks Luncheon-Grand Sierra East
12:30pm-1:30pm	Registrant Luncheon-Grand Sierra East
2:00pm-4:00pm	Poster Session-Curacao 7 & 8
12:00pm-5:30pm	Raffle & Silent Auction Items-Open-Grand Sierra Foyer-North

12:00pm-5:30pm	Selling of Raffle Tickets for Early Sale Entry-Conference -Registration Desk-Grand Sierra-North
6:00pm	Raffle Drawing for Early Sale Entry/Cash Bar-Grand Sierra Foyer
7:00pm-10:00pm	Show Area Open for Registrants ONLY-Grand Sierra F,G,H,I
7:00pm-10:00pm	Sale Area Open for Registrants ONLY-Pavilion Area
7:00pm-10:00pm	Plant Holding Area Open-Curacao 1

Friday, September 28

8:00am-5:00pm	Conference Registration-Grand Sierra Registration-North
9:00am-5:00pm	Show Open- Grand Sierra F,G,H,I
9:00am-5:00pm	Sale Area Open- Pavilion Area
9:00am-3:00pm	Plant Auction Prep Room Open-Curacao 3 NO DONATIONS AFTER 3PM!
9:00am-5:00pm	Raffle Holding & Prep Room Open-Curacao 2
9:00am-5:00pm	Plant Holding Area Open-Curacao 1
8:00am-5:00pm	Conference Registration-Grand Sierra Registration-North
9:00am-12:00pm	Seminars-Curacao 5&6, Curacao 7&8 9am-Dr Terrie Bert-Evolution of Bromeliads 10am-Dr Larry Giroux-Cryptanthus 11am-Andy Siekkinen & Robert Kopfstein-In Search of Mexican Silver: Hechtia argentea
9:00am-5:00pm	Raffle & Silent Auction Items-Open-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
2:00pm-5:00pm	Seminars-Curacao 5&6, Curacao 7&8 2pm-Eloise Beach-Growing Chester Skotak Hybrids 3pm-Francisco Oliva-Tepuis of Venezuela 4pm-Barry Landau-Social Media & Bromeliads
2:00pm-4:00pm	Publications/Electronic media Editors Meeting-Curacao 4
6:00pm-7:00pm	Preview Auction Items/Cash Bar- Grand Sierra East
7:00pm-10:00pm	Rare Plant Auction-Grand Sierra East

Saturday, September 29

9:00am-5:00pm	Show Open- Grand Sierra F,G,H,I
9:00am-5:00pm	Sale Area Open- Pavilion Area
9:00am-5:00pm	Conference Registration-Grand Sierra Registration-North
9:00am-5:00pm	Plant Holding Area Open-Curacao 1
9:00am-5:00pm	Raffle Holding & Prep Room Open-Curacao 2
9:00am-1:00pm	Bus Tour-Leu Gardens-(Small Fee)-Meet in front of convention area
9:00am-12:00pm	Seminars-Curacao 5&6, Curacao 7&8 9am-Dennis Cathcart-Bromeliads in Habitat 10am-Peter Bak 11am-Harry Luther-Gardens by the Bay

9:00am-5:00pm	Raffle & Silent Auction Items-Open-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
1:00pm-4:00pm	Bus Tour-Natural Habitat-(Small Fee)-Meet in front of convention area
6:00pm-7:00pm	Cash Bar-Grand Sierra Foyer-North
7:00pm	Banquet-Grand Sierra East Keynote Speaker: Tom Wolfe-BSI Past

Sunday, September 30

9:00am-3:00pm	Show Open- Grand Sierra F,G,H,I
9:00am-3:00pm	Sale Area Open- Pavilion Area
9:00am-3:00pm	Plant Holding Area Open-Curacao 1
9:00am-12:00pm	Cryptanthus Society Annual Membership & Board Meeting - Curacao 5
10:00am-12:00pm	Dept of Agriculture Plant Inspection-Phyto Certificates Issued - Grand Sierra Foyer North
3:00pm	Break Down of Show & Sales Area

Monday, October 1

9:00am-?	Commercial Nurseries Tour (Small Fee) - Meet in front of the convention area

Updated 02/29/2012
*Subject to change before final.

BSI JUDGES SCHOOL I AT THE 2012 WORLD CONFERENCE

School I for World Conference Judges School series will be held on Tuesday, September 25,in Orlando, Florida. There are six schools in the series and are held at each conference. The last series finished in New Orleans, therefore it starts over with School I in Orlando.

If anyone is interested in attending, they should contact Betty Ann Prevatt, Judges Certification Committee Chairman, before September 1st.

Contact below:

Email: bprevattpcc@aol.com
Telephone: 239-334-0242

Canistrum lanigerum and Vriesea triangularis

Harry E. Luther

Figure 1. *Canistrum lanigerum.* Photo by Dr. Phil Nelson

When *Canistrum lanigerum* was described in 1999, it was not thought to be a very colorful species. Some plants, especially this topotypic example collected with the type plant, have developed bright red inner leaves in cultivation prior to flowering. Oddly much of the color fades as the actual flowering advances

Figure 2. *Vriesea triangularis.* Photo by Dr. Phil Nelson

The name *Vriesea triangularis* is frequently encountered in bromeliad horticulture but rarely if ever associated with the correct plant. In contrast, this true example of the species was received as an unknown Vriesea for ID. *Vriesea triangularis* was described by Padre Reitz in 1952 and until now was known only from the type collection from Santa Catarina state in southern Brazil. The plant is easily grown in bright, indirect light and humid conditions.

Big, Bold & Beautiful - Variegated Alcantareas

Peter Tristram & Bruce Dunstan

Figure 1. *Alcantarea* 'White Star'. Photo by Peter Tristram

(Based on an original article by Bruce Dunstan, first published in Bromeliaceae, the Queensland Bromeliad Society Journal, in 2009. It has been rewritten with additional material.)

Thanks largely to the efforts of Bruce Dunstan, Australia can boast more than a little notoriety in variegated *Alcantarea* production.

Over the past 7-8 years Bruce has been growing ***a lot*** of Alcantareas from seed. The company he works for has been producing large numbers of Alcantareas for landscape clients and also people who want something different for their gardens. When they are growing the seedlings through the varying sizes in the production process occasionally striped plants can be selected out and put aside. Soon it was pretty obvious that variegates were coming up occasionally so Bruce began collecting way more seed than would normally be needed, sowing seed specifically for variegates. This resulted in trays of green seedlings, numbering in the many, many thousands, that looked like turf and mostly being disposed of. Usually it will be noticed if a plant has variegation by the 5th or 6th leaf, but some don't show their stripes until they are a bit older. Plants that look great at an early stage (3-4 leaves) often don't have enough chlorophyll to maintain healthy growth as they mature, and succumb. The more striping they have also slows their growth rates to the point that some of the better seedlings have taken years to get to a decent size even with the high rates of fertiliser used to push them along.

Visiting other growers and seeing variegates certainly got him interested in these

plants. His first introduction to a variegated *Alcantarea* was at Keith Golinski's nursery Bromagic. Keith had a seedling batch of *Alcantarea glaziouana* and one of the individuals was variegated. Keith was happy to sell him green plants but obviously was going to keep his stripy plant. Bruce's first variegated seedlings came as progeny from those green individuals from Keith. At the time he thought the variegation may have been transmitted genetically from the parents, coming from a batch of seedlings that contained a variegated individual, but now he tends to think some species are more prone to variegation and *Al. glaziouana* appears to be one such species. A variegated plant is not necessary in the first place, just a lot of seed and space! It appears Keith's plant has never been seen since, or perhaps it simply reverted, losing its stripes.

He was able to add more proof to his theory on genetic variegations when he sowed every last seed collected from a variegated *Alcantarea extensa* that was named for Bobby Powell. Bobby, who lives on the Gold Coast south of Brisbane, grew an *Al. extensa* to maturity. Bruce was luckily given some of the seed by Arno King, who at this stage was feeding his interest in Alcantareas with seed and pups from his collection and seed from New Zealand. Of the 35 or so seedlings to germinate for him there was one striped seedling. It wasn't until it was 40mm tall and in its own tube that he noticed its stripes. Needless to say this seedling was kept and potted on and grown as fast as was possible. It flowered in early 2007 and was self pollinated producing copious amounts of seed which were all diligently collected, sown and grown on. Absolutely no variegated seedlings resulted, all green or grey as the case was. So it seems there is no way to rapidly multiply the variegated plants by seed.

This is an excerpt from Bruce's original article where he talks of the various collections he has seen featuring variegated Alcantareas, as well as his methods of propagation:

Figure 2. *Alcantarea* 'White Star' & 'Yellow Star' bred by Bruce Dunstan. Photo by Peter Tristram

*The best collection of variegated Alcantareas I have seen was in Brazil at the farm of Oscar and Helenice Ribeiro. I was lucky to travel to Brazil in 2006 with 5 plant buddies and stay with Bruno Rezende Silva. Bruno took us to Oscar and Helenice's farm (*Bromeliário Imperialis*) up in the Organ Mountains and as we drove up we were able to see wild populations of Alcantarea imperialis and geniculata. Oscar has grown many thousands of Alcantarea imperialis seedlings from a wild collected seed batch and the variation within this seedling progeny is impressive. Colours range from grey greens right through to dark reds or purples. There are also variations in the amount of waxy coating the top surfaces of the leaves also have. We were there during winter and this is when you see this character and the plants colours displayed best. Oscar had more than 20 variegated Alcantarea imperialis plants that we saw on that day. There were green plants with white stripes, red plants with golden bands, albo marginates, and true variegates. I was blown away by them, having never seen anything like it before, plus I'm quite partial to variegated plants. One of my travel companions, Mark Paul is not quite as enamoured by variegated plants calling them 'diseased', but over time he is slowly changing his opinion and even has one of my variegates in his garden, though over the years he has given me lots of 'diseased' individuals to put in my 'shrine to variegates' AKA my tunnel for special babies, at work.*

On the same trip we also saw collections of variegated Alcantareas at Tropiflora in Sarasota, at Morriera's collection at Isla Grande south of Rio de Janeiro. Bruno also had a variegated glaziouana in his garden, which he cut most of its leaves off to use them in one of his sculptures. Variegated Alcantarea glaziouana are visible growing up on inselbergs along the coast in and around Rio de Janeiro, they become more noticeable in rainy or darker conditions when the stripes show up from the grey background of the surrounding foliage.

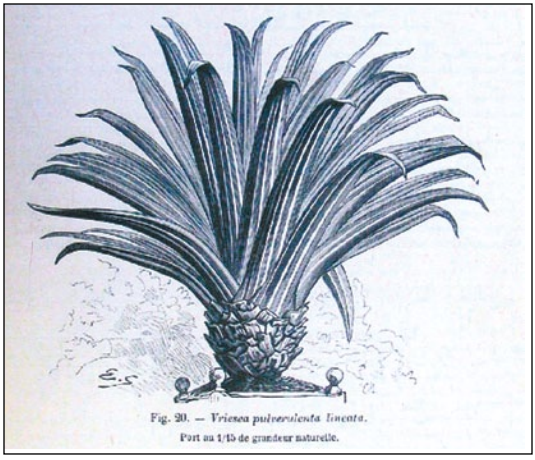

Figure 3. *Al glaziouana* as Vr. *pulverulenta lineata*

Over the years, Bruce improved his methods of production to multiply their numbers. Most Alcantareas can be encouraged to produce adventitious pups when they are young. Planting them very high to expose the plants' bases where the pups can emerge along with high fertiliser rates are the best way to start, along with removing lower leaves to expose the dormant buds or developing pups. The variegated plants tend to produce three types of pups: green, white or yellow solidly variegated or plants with no chlorophyll and if you are lucky, variegated little replicas of the parent plant. These are treated in the same way as other adventitious offsets and removed and potted on. Unstable plants were given the 'screwdriver' treatment, destroying the growing point to encourage the lateral buds to initiate. It requires a strong constitution and fortitude to attack your valuable plants with a screwdriver so it's best to practise on green individuals. This method of propagation also shows just how tough and resilient bromeliads can be.

Stable plants need to be brought to flowering size as soon as possible. This is best achieved by regular watering to both the top of the plant as well as the potting mix the plant is growing in. Alcantareas in containers usually shed water with the leaves directing water away from the potting mix below them. It's best to water bigger specimens once a

Figure 4. *Alcantarea* 'Bobby Gold'. Photo by Peter Tristram

Figure 5. Mark Paul's variegated *Al. imperialis* chimera. Photo by Peter Tristram

week in and around the root zone as well as normally. Regular applications of slow release fertiliser are also applied to ensure rapid growth. Come spring and once the emerging flower spike is up above the foliage it is then removed, as any future development is wasted pup-production potential. Pups appear as both adventitious and larger pups inside the mature plant's rosette of leaves. It can take more than 12 months to successfully remove all of these pups without damaging them in the process. Patience is a virtue and many pups have been destroyed by not waiting. Stable marginate and medio-variegated plants produce consistently similar pups though adventitious pups are often green, albino or unevenly striped (as mentioned before).

Not all variegated Alcantareas are seed generated, and, as with other bromeliads, variegation can happen in the offsetting process. One such interesting chimera was produced by a red *Al. imperialis* in the collection of Mark Paul, a very knowledgeable Australian *Alcantarea* enthusiast as well as 'green wall' entrepreneur. Bruce has been working with this plant for years and so far a couple of fully medio-variegated specimens have been grown to a large size. They are very attractive too, variegated gold and red. This has been quite a trial though and many 'screwdrivered' unproductive plants have been dumped. Bruce is still waiting for HIS first 'stripy' Al. imperialis seedling though.

Without a doubt, Bruce is the Alcantarea 'King' of Australia. An impressive range of plants produced by his nursery adorn private and public gardens, parks and public places, hotels and commercial venues, especially in Queensland, his home state. Furthermore, his wonderful variegated Alcantareas are starting to reach the market.

The striped *Al. extensa* he named **'Bobby Powell'** has now produced a completely stable, completely wide-gold-banded plant marketed as **'Bobby Gold'** and other notable registered cultivars (of *Al. glaziouana*) include **'Moray'**, **'White Star'** and **'Yellow Star'** with

Figure 6. Al. P.I.T.A. and Bobby Gold, the best two *Al. extensa* types. Photo by Peter Tristram

some more nearing maturity. His work has inspired many others to grow Alcantareas, especially from seed and has revolutionised their rapid production. Early releases of Bruce's 'babies', generously donated to the rare plant auctions at conferences, including

Figure 7. Spectacular variegated *Al. imperialis* at Oscar and Helenice's Bromeliário Imperialis, near Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Photo by Bruce Dunstan

the 18th World Bromeliad Conference, Bromeliads Downunder, held in Cairns in 2008, often raised many thousands of dollars each for the various causes!

Never-the-less, variegated Alcantareas have been around for years, in fact no doubt as long as Alcantareas have been adorning the monolithic rock faces of Eastern Brazil. Oscar and Helenice Ribeiro's chance production of variegated *Al. imperialis* from collected seed, as described by Bruce above, is testament to this inevitability. Recent specimens were mainly introduced into cultivation outside of Brazil by Chester Skotak, from Brazilian collections and most, if not all, of these original plants were discovered growing in the wild. Recent discoveries include **Al. John Stoddart**, another form of *Al. glaziouana* discovered by Rafael Oliveira and described in the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR) at http://registry.bsi.org and **Al. P.I.T.A.** (yet to be registered), a stunning *Al. extensa* form with pure white variegation rivalling, or more appropriately complementing the Australian **Al. Bobby Gold**. Chester is also having luck in producing occasional variegated *Al. imperialis*, with photos of his plants circulating on the internet and some recently being sold to customers far and wide. Continued propagation of these absolutely breath-taking plants is only possible through adventitious pups though. It is also worth reading the short article by Derek Butcher in the BCR about *Vriesea pulverulenta lineata*, most likely *Alcantarea glaziouana* var. *lineata*, as described in 'Revue Horticole' in 1888 and the first recorded variegated *Alcantarea*.

A keen eye *can* find them in the habitat, in among the millions of unvariegated plants festooning those hundreds of ageing inselbergs. On a trip to Brazil a few years ago, a group of variegated *Al. glaziouana* were pointed out to me by Mark Paul, high on a sheer cliff overlooking a popular surfing beach near Rio de Janeiro. They were easily identified through binoculars from the beach, but, evidently after rain, from the back of the surf break, they are an adrenalin rush to the keen *Alcantarea* spotter. They are hard to discern

Figure 8. Variegated *Al. glaziouana* adorning a patio. Photo by Peter Tristram

Figure 9. Variegated *Alcantarea*. Photo by Eloise Beach

Figure 10. Variegated Alcantareas in Chester Skotak's collection. Photo by Eloise Beach

when dry due to the white indument with which this species is often coated. In cultivation it seems it is *glaziouana* that is most reliable to produce variegates too. Apart from **Al. John Stoddart** other forms of variegated *Al. glaziouana* are to be occasionally seen in Brazilian bromeliad gardens, no doubt collected from accessible parts of cliffs.

There is a story behind many plants and **Al. P.I.T.A.** is no exception. Retold to me over a dodgy Skype connection by Chester, this plant was evidently a real pain in the *#!% from the 'word go'. The story goes that, many moons ago, a trio of intrepid collectors of varying repute, Chester Skotak, Pedro Nahoum and Rafael Oliveira, were somewhere north of Rio towards Vitoria when a magnificent variegated plant was spotted, within collecting range, on a granite bluff. The plant was prised off its igneous home, slid down to welcoming hands, the trio then descending to a collection point. There, the plant began to be discussed, in Portuguese with much gesticulation and oratory, by the Brazilian contingent. Much bemused, Chester asked what the fuss was all about at which the two locals ceased discussions and presented him with the plant. It seemed there was no easy answer as to who should get it, so the foreigner was then asked to take the specimen. Chester took the beautiful plant back to Costa Rica, multiplied it and some were returned to the two Brazilians. The spectacular plant can be seen in many Brazilian collections and it is now becoming available in the U.S. and other parts of the world. Interestingly, in the wild, multi-offset clumps of cliff-dwelling *Alcantarea* are rarely seen, mostly individual plants that die after blooming and dispersing their thousands of seed. It is in cultivation that the necessary nutrition and nurture can be provided to successfully propagate numbers of them.

Figure 11. *Alcantarea 'P.I.T.A.'*. Photo by Eloise Beach

BSNSW Spring Show 2011 Results

Carolyn Bunnell

Figure 1. Bromeliad arrangement

Figure 2. *Catopsis subulata*

Figure 3. Bromeliad Arrangement

Figure 4. Champions Table

Figure 5. *Neoregelia* 'Maid Of Honour'

Figure 6. *Nidularium innocentii*

Figure 7. *Tillandsia* 'Selerepton'

Figure 8. *Tillandsia rodrigueziana*

A most successful show nearly equal in attendance to our last Autumn Show. Lots of enthusiastic bromeliad collectors lined up outside the door well before opening time and swarmed in. Entries in the Competitive Sections were down a little especially in the Novice Section. We do hope that we have a greater response for our 2012 Shows.

Sale plants were in plentiful supply and we received many favourable comments from the public.

Many thanks to all those who worked very hard to make the weekend a great success – you know who you are – especially June Herzog and her 'Kitchen Team' who provided a constant supply of refreshments for the workers and the beautiful Devonshire Teas for the public.

Photos: courtesy of Terence Davis

Bromeliads of Tresco Abbey Garden, Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, England

Eileen Killingley

Figure 1. Arch from the ruins of 10th century St Nicholas Priory . Photo by Lara Killingley

During our trip to England in June/July of 2006 I was constantly delighted by the blooming hedgerows, brilliant red poppies in canola fields, roses frothing their way to rooftops on beautiful old stone buildings, and also the brilliant flower baskets which hung outside every pub and from lamp posts in cities and villages alike.

However, it was not until we visited Tresco Abbey Garden on one of the 5 inhabited islands in the Isles of Scilly[1], 30 miles off the coast of Cornwall, that I was completely fascinated by what I found there.

The Garden dates back to 1834 when the then lord proprietor of Tresco, Augustus Smith, began building a garden around the ruins of St. Nicholas Priory (which in turn dates back to 964 AD).

I am sure that when he began, Lord Smith would have appreciated the wonderful old arches and stone walls of the ruined Abbey as protection for his plants. However, over forty years he imported and planted many of the sometimes large and exotic specimens seen in the gardens today, and his descendants, the Dorrien-Smith family, have continued to develop the gardens for more than a hundred years so that today it has grown to cover

[1]The Isles of Scilly—an archipelago of 40 islands, with 5 inhabited, 28 miles off the tip of Land's End.

17 acres, and also houses a magical collection of figureheads (known as Valhalla) from the many wrecks around the Scillies. It has been described as 'a perennial Kew—without the glass' and is one of the most remarkable sub-tropical gardens in the world, where even bananas, date palms and citrus flourish in this south-west extremity of England, which owes its relatively mild climate to the influence of the warm Gulf Stream.

Figure 2. Stout brown trunks of *Fascicularia bicolor* forming a bank . Photo by Lara Killingley

There are some 20,000 species from 80 countries and include the lovely cypress and Californian Montery pines, with their distinctive silhouettes, forming part of an important wind break, allowing some of the more tender plants to flourish. (Unfortunately, the fierce gales in 1990 destroyed many of these trees but they have since been replanted.) Succulents appear everywhere in the garden and are grown in such interesting ways, including mesembryanthemums which give wonderful patches of colour as they grow on and over the lovely old grey stone walls.

There are so many beautiful and interesting features to this garden, but what really excited me were the bromeliads—and not just any old bromeliads, but some of the biggest, most fascinating specimens that I have ever seen.

These included the giant *Puya chilensis*, *P. alpestris*, with their metallic blue flower spikes (blooming at the time of our visit) and *P. berteroniana*. (This latter species is so similar to *P. alpestris* that it has often been mistaken for it; however, *P. berteroniana* is a much larger and showier plant, with leaves reaching 4 to 5 feet.)

In a lovely article on puyas, Alasdair Moore of the Tresco Abbey Garden[2], tells us that, "The basic form of these species is a large rosette of slender, pale green, blade-like leaves, which make for a plant both striking and graceful. Over the years they form extensive clumps, spreading along the contours of the land, the rosettes standing up to 2 m high".

Puya chilensis was first introduced on Tresco in 1848 and was planted on a terraced bank

[2]**Moore, A. (2003)*Puya* <http://www.tresco.co.uk/the_abbey_garden/Articles/article_puya_puya.asp>**

Figure 3. Starlings attracted to the nectar of *Puya chilensis*. Photo by Alasdair Moore

in the middle of the garden. It now occupies, to the exclusion of all vegetation except the wily bramble, a commanding site over 30 m long and 8 m deep. This thick swathe of puya has inched its way down the bank over the past 154 years, leaving behind it snaking trails of stout brown trunks . (In fact we saw, where it had been trimmed in one area, that the remaining brown trunks formed a wall about 4 feet tall and 10 or 12 feet long, behind the guard rail along the pathway.)

Each spring the clumps of *Puya chilensis* send up great spikes, 2-3 m high, atop which cluster the flowers. The actual flower head is about 1 m long and packed with racemes of chunky flowers, the sterile tips of which stick out, affording a perch for thirsty birds. In silhouette, the ensemble is akin to a huge medieval mace. The individual waxy blooms are 6-8 cm long, providing a deep receptacle for the nectar that the birds, bees and even some gardeners find so compelling".

Moore goes on to say that "The individual puya flower is a thing of beauty and wonder. The flowers of *P. chilensis* are a strident green-yellow, bright without being lurid, as if lit from within. *Puya berteroniana* has one of the most improbably coloured flowers that I have ever seen. It is a deep shade of metallic blue-green, which luxuriantly offsets the orange pollen tipped stamens."

Figure 4. *Puya berteroniana*. Photo by Alasdair Moore

Moore also explains that it is this lush burden of pollen which causes the starlings, sparrows, blackbirds, and thrushes to appear orange-crested in the spring as they are attracted to these magnificent puya flowers for their nectar.

But it is not only birds that like the nectar from Puyas—apparently, the spectacled bear in Ecuador also enjoys this sweet treat, which they obtain by biting off the top foot or so of the inflorescence which they can then sit down to enjoy.[3] Bears also apparently brave the spiny tips and long, hooked spines to graze on the leaves, but these spines can also be deadly, especially for the sheep of the Andes. Their woolly fleeces become easily entangled and the poor animal can find itself helplessly pinned at the edges of the huge clumps, so that they die there.[4] Birds, also, are often impaled on the spikes!

While there are nearly 200 species of *Puya* (199 species and 11 varieties, Luther 2002),[5] because of their size and harsh growing conditions (native to the Andean highlands of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and northern Chile where the upper habitats of the genus are perpetually humid, cloudy and wind-swept, often with snow storms, while the lower habitats are the high, cold, arid plateaus of Peru, Bolivia and Northern Chile where winter temperatures can reach as low as -20^{0}C, and at other times are exposed

[3]**Butt, L. (2004) *The Puya and the Bear*,** Bromelia Post **(Central Coast Bromeliad Soc.), October 2004.**

[4]**At n2 above**

[5]**Manzanares, J. M. (2005)*The Genus Puya*,** In**: Jewels of the Jungle – Bromeliaceae of Ecuador, Part II: Pitcairnioideae, p. 288.**

to intense solar radiation and month-long droughts),[6] large size and spiky nature, few are seen in cultivation. However, 8 species are to be found at the Tresco Abbey Garden, *including Puya alpestris*, an *alpestris* hybrid, *P. berteroniana*, *P. chilensis*, *P. coerulea*, *P. mirabilis*, *P. spathacea* and *P. venusta*) and I have been able to find around 14 species listed in Australia, including three of the giant *Puya raimondii* which are growing at the Adelaide Botanic Garden. Others include *Puya alpestris*, *P. berteroniana*, *P. butcheriana*, *P. chilensis*, *P. coerulea* (and varieties *monteroana* and *violacea*), *P. ferruginea*, *P. floccosa*, *P. laxa*, *P. mirabilis*, *P. sanctae-crucis*, *P. spathacea*, and *P. venusta*.

Therefore, although puyas would look at home in a cactus and succulent garden, and are terrestrials rather than epiphytes, they are actually cool weather plants. When I checked with the Royal Botanic Garden here in Sydney I was told that while, with the exception of *Puya chilensis*, all of the bromeliads which I had noted on Tresco (*Puya alpestris*, *P. berteroniana*, *P. chilensis*, *Fascicularia bicolor* and *Ochagavia carnea*) were represented in the Sydney location, they were also grown at Mt. Tomah in the Blue Mountains, where the cooler winters better suited them, and they are also grown at the botanic gardens in Adelaide and Tasmania. Apparently they also flourish in parts of Ireland.

At Tresco, apart from puyas, there were other bromeliads, including massive clumps of *Ochagavia carnea* and *Fascicularia bicolor*, and, although, unfortunately, neither were in bloom at this time, they were still large enough to make impressive displays.

Ochagavia carnea, which is another species which has fascinated me (from journal photographs) has a pink, tennis-ball size inflorescence with rose-colored bracts, pink/

[6] **Rauh, W. (1990) *Part II: Genera and Species*, In: The Bromeliad Lexicon, pp. 397-398.**

Figure 5. A view of Tresco Abbey Garden. Photo courtesy of Tresco Estate.

Figure 6. *Ochagavia carnea*

lavender petals and bright yellow stamens that nests in a loose rosette of shiny, succulent, barbed, recurved leaves which are about 18 inches long. A native of the Chilean coast, it grows on rocks and on the ground in sunny locations at elevations of 150 to 2800 feet.

Figure 7. A view of Tresco Abbey Garden with giant *Agave salmiana* in the foreground. Photo courtesy of Tresco Estate

While *O. carnea* looks very similar to *O. litoralis*, *O. carnea* is the larger of the two species, and can be recognized by its very long, more slender pointed leaves and the very large well-developed stem and flower head.

Ochagavia litoralis, which has apparently been around for a long time in New Zealand (where it blooms every year in full sun and no special treatment), appears to have stouter, wider leaves. It is, however, more difficult to flower in Australia, except in the south and Tasmania, although an Internet site on *Ochagavia* in the Royal Botanic Gardens (Sydney) shows one in brilliant colour.

The genus *Ochagavia*, belonging to the subfamily *Bromelioideae*, lists four species (*Ochagavia andina*, *O. carnea*, *O. elegans* and *O. litoralis*)[7] and is endemic to Chile. Like the genus *Puya*, while the rosette is quite dense, the plants do not form tanks that hold water.

Closely allied to *Ochagavia* is *Fascicularia* (from central and southern Chile)—a genus currently represented by only the one species, and history shows that there was much confusion in the past when only herbarium specimens were available for comparison.

I had been fascinated by this plant since seeing it featured on the cover of the May-June 2005 issue of the Journal of the Bromeliad Society and so I was excited to see it on Tresco. Like *Ochagavia*, the inflorescence nests low in the centre of dense foliage that has sharp-toothed margins. However, unlike *Ochagavia*, the inner leaves of this species colour up a bright crimson at anthesis, forming a beautiful contrast with the pale blue, woolly-appearing, flower bracts and the sky-blue petals and yellow stamens as the individual

[7]**Zizka, G. and Novoa, P. (2004) *Ochagavia: Very Attractive Chilean Endemics*, JBS 54(5)**

flowers open up.

I saw *Fascicularia bicolor* again a couple of days later when invited to Gugh, a smaller island attached by a sandbar to St. Agnes island (which itself is only about 1 mile long by half-a-mile wide). It was growing in a garden behind a low dune near to the beach, and there among the sea thrift, heather and chamomile daisies, was a thriving clump of this species. It was not blooming at the time, but had healthy new pups forming all around the edge of the quite large clump.

While the Scillies do have the warming influence of the Gulf Stream they are also subject to cold winter gales, with fierce seas, and, growing where they were, just feet from the sea, these fascicularias would collect spray from the ocean at regular intervals. In the article accompanying the JBS cover photograph, the author, Dutch Vandervort from Ventura, California, had written ...."These plants are tough and resilient.....Their natural habitat is the littoral area [meaning pertaining to the shore of a lake, sea or ocean] of Chile, central and southern coast. They may tolerate salt, but I no longer add it to the water I give mine—not even as an occasional treat. Though they are shy bloomers, when they do bloom they are magnificent! The secret is benign neglect! Ignore them, do not actively try to kill them, but leave them somewhat stressed and they bloom much more frequently."

This 'find' on Tresco was really a delightful surprise, as the only other bromeliad that I saw on the trip was *Aechmea fasciata*—in a conservatory, and as indoor decorations in Hong Kong airport—and seeing these 'quite different from the usual' bromeliads on Scilly gave me such a thrill that I wanted to let other people know about them.

Figure 8. A group of *Puya chilensis*. Photo by Alasdair Moore

Call For Nominations For The Wally Berg Award Of Excellence

Theresa M. Bert

Introduction

The Wally Berg Award of Excellence was initiated in 1999 to honor the late Wally Berg (1927-2000) of Sarasota, Florida. Wally and his wife Dorothy were extraordinary bromeliad growers. Their private collection was one of the most diversified and unique in the world. The garden-and-waterfall setting of their bromeliad gardens was magnificent and immaculate. Wally was an enthusiastic supporter of the BSI. He donated many rare plants for sales and auctions that benefited the BSI, the Bromeliad Research Center at Selby Botanical Gardens, research on the "Evil Weevil", and other worthy causes. He volunteered many hours of service at Selby Gardens. He had a broad knowledge of bromeliad horticulture and science and frequently spoke to bromeliad societies on a variety of topics, especially about his adventures exploring and collecting bromeliads in Central and South America. Wally also served the Sarasota Bromeliad Society by holding many offices and donating plants for the society's activities and sales. He introduced several Aechmea taxa into culture and created several hybrids. He frequently won top awards at World Bromeliad Conferences and at Florida local and regional bromeliad shows. For his contributions to the "bromeliad world," a number of bromeliad species were named for him.

For a more information about the BSI Wally Berg Award of Excellence, see http://www.bsi.org under Judging and Awards. Some of Wally and Dorothy Berg's achievements and adventures are featured on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website: http://fcbs.org under Photo Index--Programs--see "Berg Cage" and "Bromeliads in Habitat."

Following are the award criteria and procedures for nomination. Individuals, couples, or members deceased within the past two years, are eligible. Nominees must be past or present members of the BSI and nominators must be present BSI members in good standing. Past recipients of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence have been Dorothy Berg (on Wally's behalf), Dennis Cathcart, John Anderson (posthumously), Harry Luther, Grace Goode, and Elton Leme.

Award Criteria

1. The individuals must be past or present members of the BSI.
2. The individuals should be bromeliad growers who are nationally or internationally recognized for diversity of species cultivated and excellence of cultivation.
3. The individuals should actively pursue one of the following activities:
    a. collecting and identifying bromeliads in natural environments, including collecting new species/varieties/cultivars; the members of the various bromeliad societies and organizations, including the BSI and the BIC, should benefit from this activity;
    b. promoting the appreciation and cultivation of bromeliads at the international level, including such activities as organizing and participating in collecting trips with international representation, giving presentations and seminars to national and international audiences, and writing manuscripts for publication in national or international books, journals, or other media (e.g., Internet, CD ROMS).

4. The individuals should actively support efforts to further the scientific, taxonomic, or cultural understanding of bromeliads through donation of time, effort, or money to recognized organizations, institutions, or groups of individuals (e.g., the BSI, BIC, Selby Botanical Gardens, bromeliad clubs or councils).
5. The individuals should be active in a local, regional, or national bromeliad society and be recognized by other members of that society for their contributions to the functioning of that society and its activities.
6. If the individuals are bromeliad hybridizers, they should be internationally recognized for excellence in one or more of the following categories:
    a. innovation in creating bromeliad hybrids,
    b. success in cultivation of bromeliad hybrids,
    c. promotion and distribution of bromeliad hybrids.
7. The individuals should be generally recognized as experts in one or more of the following aspects of bromeliads:
    a. ecology, evolution, or taxonomy,
    b. cultivation or hybridization,
    c. display or exhibition.
8. The individuals should be generally recognized for their generous nature in sharing knowledge of bromeliads and for personal giving for the benefit of other people interested in bromeliads and for bromeliad organizations at all levels.

Procedures for Nomination

1. Nominators must be present members of the BSI.
2. The nominator should submit the nomination in writing, preferably by electronic mail. The nominator should provide a brief resume of the accomplishments of the nominee(s) in bromeliad-related activities (e.g., service, offices held, major awards won) and a letter describing the way in which the nominee(s) meets at least four of Criteria 2-8 listed above.
3. Past nominees may be re-nominated if they meet the current award criteria. Previous award winners are ineligible for re-nomination.
4. Please send nominations to Theresa Bert, 9251 13th Ave. Cir. NW, Bradenton, FL 34209-8305. E-mail: theresa.bert@myfwc.com or (because some messages are inadvertently blocked) webmaster@bsi.org. Thank you.
5. ****Nominations must be received by *June 1, 2012*.**

The winner's name will be published in the BSI Journal and posted on the BSI website. The winner or his/her representative will receive the award at the 2012 BSI World Conference in Orlando, Florida, USA. One award is made every two years, at each BSI World Conference.

Contact Theresa M. Bert:
E-mail: theresa.bert@myfwc.com or webmaster@bsi.org

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Guzmanias 'Gary Hendrix' and 'Pink Nova'

Geoff Lawn, BSI Cultivar Registrar

Figure 1. *Guzmania* 'Gary Hendrix'. Photo by Herb Plever

Former BSI President Jerry Raack of Ohio recently enquired about his variegated *Guzmania sanguinea x wittmackii*, wanting to know it's cultivar name. The Cultivar Register had only one entry which seemed the closest match, namely G. 'Pink Nova' but the official photo showed bright yellow petals, not white as per Jerry's photo. This anomaly was resolved from other photos Jerry submitted which proved that 'Pink Nova's flowers are white in the bud stage but open and age to canary yellow. This cultivar's variegation is variable, degenerating to sparse white thin lines sometimes, at least in U.S.A. and Australia. Jerry's original plant of variegated G. *sanguinea x wittmackii* came from Herb Hill of Raintree Tropicals in Lithia, Florida where its variegation was outstanding in 1990, as shown in the accompanying photos (Figures 2, 3).

The BCR has no record of who produced and named 'Pink Nova' as recent enquiries with Herb Hill drew a blank, so the breeder remains a mystery. Whether 'Pink Nova' arose as a seedling mutation from the grex of G. *sanguinea x wittmackii* , or as a vegetative sport, is unknown. When well grown, a mature rosette can reach 50cms. diameter. The BCR entry reference of BromTree 1990 catalogue listed 'Pink Nova' so The Bromeliad Tree nursery in Miami, Florida (owner John Laroche) stocked it at that time and was possibly the original source of G. 'Pink Nova'.

Jerry Raack's variegated G. *sanguinea x wittmackii* had "(Hendrix)" on the label, so I enquired with long-time breeder Gary Hendrix in Florida .Gary confirmed that he did the original cross in March, 1977 between a *G. sanguinea* from John Banta and a *G. wittmackii* "purple clone" which Gary had collected in Ecuador. None of the progeny were variegated and all stock (under parentage only) went to Herb Hill in 1979. This clone with green/purple foliage and a pink inflorescence reaches 60cms. diameter and was shown by Herb Hill at the World Bromeliad Conference in Corpus Christi, 1982, as photographed by Herb Plever of New York (Fig. 1). As Gary Hendrix's original cross was never named, in honour of its breeder, I am registering it as G. 'Gary Hendrix', albeit 35 years after the event--but it's better late than never.

ERRATA:
In JBS 61: 5: pp. 236-7 (2011) the parent plant of *Vriesea* 'White Lightning' was quoted incorrectly from information the author received. According to BSI Journal Editorial Advisory Board member Harry Luther, the article photos therein show the variegate is consistent with having sported from V*riesea platynema* var. *flava*, with its concolorous green leaves except for the purple "fingernails", plus yellow floral bracts and wider, bolder white foliage stripes.

Figure 2. *Guzmania* 'Pink Nova'. Photo by Jerry Raack

Figure 3. *Guzmania* 'Pink Nova'. Photo by Jerry Raack

.

x *Ortholarium* 'Selby'

Geoff Lawn, BSI Cultivar Registrar

In 2003 *Orthophytum heleniceae* was discovered by Brazilian collectors Helen & Oscar Ribiero in Andarai, Cachoeira da Garapa, Bahia State at 1300 metres altitude. The plant which would be used for the holotype specimen (E. Leme 5794) had offsets and seeds, both specimens of which were sent to Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida. There curator and director Harry Luther sowed these seeds, from the same clone as their acquired live specimen (MSBG 2003-0253) . By 2007 the advanced seedling batch had mostly matured and flowered and all appeared true to the type species with one exception.

Figure 1. x *Ortholarium* 'Selby' infloresence. Photo by Dennis Cathcart

This lone grex sibling was different inasmuch it lacked the inner corolla of yellowish green leaves so distinctive of *Orthophytum heleniceae* in bloom. Its inflorescence structure showed differences also, such as the reddish-green ovaries (not all green as per the species) and smaller, narrower petals, as observed in photos shown here. Upon close examination Harry Luther determined that it was a bigeneric, with probably a Nidularium in its parentage. This single cultivar (MSBG 2007-0594) was catalogued as a hybrid of *Orthophytum heleniceae* and named 'Selby'.

By 2009 x *Ortholarium* 'Selby' had increased in sufficient numbers so several plants, together with their background history, were released to U.S. growers to cultivate and circulate in horticulture. This cultivar is similar to the "sunburst-type" Orthophytums so-called in online bromeliad chat forums, because of their flattish, scapeless rosette conformation with recurving outer foliage and flushed or highly-coloured centres in bloom. Examples of desirable "sunburst types" include O. 'Andrea', *navioides, amoenum, albopictum, burle-marxii* var. *burle-marxii, burle-marxii* var. *seabrae, humile* and *hatschbachii*.

When well grown x *Ortholarium* 'Selby' has about 40 narrowly-tapering, lightly-spined, semi-rigid, solid red leaves (in bright light) and reaches 60cms. or more in diameter, multiplying by short-stemmed, basal offsets. Culture should reflect its ancestor's habitat as a terrestrial and vertical rock crevice dweller, so a fast-draining, yet moisture-retentive, gritty mix is appropriate. A high percentage of coarse perlite for rooting pups or in the growing mix plus regular light feeding usually produces excellent growth.

Figure 2. *Orthophytum heleniceae* (MSBG2003-0253B). Photo by Dr. Phil Nelson, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Figure 3. *x Ortholarium* 'Selby'. Photo by Dennis Cathcart

Events Calendar

AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND:

MARCH 15-18, 2013. Cool Broms Conference, Auckland, NZ. Info by emailing coolbroms@bsnz.org or check out www.bsnz.org for conference news.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

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

MAY 5-6, 2012: La Ballona Valley Bromeliad Society will have its 57th Annual Show & Sale. It will be at the Culver City Veterans' Memorial Complex at 4117 Overland Dr, Culver City, CA. Show hours: Sat 12:00 - 5:00; Sun 10:00- 3:00; Sale hours: Sat 10:00 - 5:00; Sun 10:00-3:00. Free entrance and free parking. Demonstration on bromeliad cutlure on each day at 2:00pm. Contact: Don Misumi, phone 323-2949839 or dgmisumi@aol.com

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The BSI Seed Fund has found a new chairman! Many thanks to Bryan Windham of Kenner, Louisiana for taking on this responsibility.

More information to follow soon!

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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.

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