

I am growing many kinds of Bromeliads, the interesting plants of the Pineapple family. I am offering for sale several sizes of plants, and believe them to be true to the names I am listing.

Bromeliads require a soil with perfect drainage. Most prefer a filtered shade, and water in their "cups," at all times. Most are perfect house-plants, tho a few grow too large for indoor use. Some like to grow as air-plants, and drink thru scales on their central foliage. All are easy to keep happy.

When ordering, please include sufficient postage to carry them to you, except where price is quoted as "postpaid." I always send extra value, and refund any unused postage over 25c. I try to keep a supply of the different sizes in stock and offer the following plants, subject to my ability to do that. *Postage is up*

ACANTHOSTACHYS Strobilacea. A rare bromeliad from Brazil, an epiphytic plant with pendent and spiny leaves. Bears red cones and bright yellow flowers. Will grow in moss, sandy soil or leafmold and make a fine hanging-basket. \$3.84

AECHMEAS - The berry-bearing bromeliads.

Angustifolia. A sturdy semi-tubular gray-green plant, with erect flower-spike. Red bracts and yellow flowers, the petals followed by clusters of porcelain-like white berries, lasting for months, eventually turning blue. Grown in strong light, maroon spots develop on the foliage. \$2 - \$1.

X Bert. Stocky rosette of leathery leaves, marked with purple-brown crossbands and dark spines. Red bracts, pale flowers. L. \$5 - \$4, M. \$3, Sm. \$2.

X "Black Magic." Very dark and shining red, shaped like Ae. Foster's Favorite. Fine for wall-vase. Grow in good light. \$2.50.

Blumenavil. Small semi-tubular plant with dark gray-green leaves showing bluish fingernail markings at the blunt tips, if grown in bright light. Cone-like yellow and pink flower-head, on arched flower stem. \$2.

Bracteata. A beautiful bright-green, bottle-shaped plant, when mature. Has heavily spined leaves and stiff open flower spike, pendant, brilliant red bracts and black berries. A striking plant for large patio or sub-tropical garden. Mailing sizes, \$2 - \$1.

Bracteata, red-leaf form of above, sometimes called Aechmea Macracantha. \$2-\$1.

Bromeliifolia. Medium large plant, with a grayish cast to its attractive green foliage, which is waved on the leaf margins. Leaves recurve into a scroll at the tips. Rose-red bracts, woolly white cob-like inflorescence. Flower petals are greenish yellow and turn black as they fade. Grow in bright light. \$2 - \$1.

Bromeliifolia, var. Rubra. Somewhat taller than the above, with a reddish cast to the foliage, especially if grown in nearly full sun and poor

cauliculata. Medium sized rosette of stiff erect green leaves, rounded at the tip. Cone-shaped flower-head of deep yellow flower petals. \$1.50

Caudata Variegata. Upright rosette of stiff leaves, soft gray-green, with longitudinal stripes. Young growth is suffused with pink. Openly branched pyramidal flower-head of yellow petals. \$5 - \$4 - \$3.

Chantini. Strikingly beautiful and much sought after bromeliad. Silver crossbands on olive-green background. Inflorescence is very showy with rosy-red bracts and bright red to yellow flowers, tipped white. \$5 - \$4 - \$3 - \$2. Have a few seedlings, \$1 each.

Chantini Hybrids. Crosses of Ae. chantini with Ae. Fasciata Purpurea, Ae. Bert and other choice named varieties. Strong young plants, labeled percentage. Worth trying. \$4 - \$3 sizes.

Chantini, var. "Pink Goddess." Amazing new giant Aechmea Chantini, with rich foliage and large pink blooms. This lovely bloom lasts for months. ~~\$8 - \$5~~ \$3 - \$2.

Comata. Attractive medium size rosette of quite broad leaves. Leaf tips are blunt with the point in a notch. Erect flower-head of yellow-petaled flowers. \$3 - \$2.

Distichantha, var. Schlumbergeri. Stiff gray-green leaves taper to a sharp point, like an agave. Erect rose-red colored flower spike lasts well. Nice in a large pot for patio or planted in a sub-tropical garden. \$3-\$2 sizes. Fasciata. This broad leaved, vase-shaped beauty has been very popular for many years. The leathery green leaves, covered with white scales, are richly tigered silver-white. Rose and blue flower-head remains lovely for many months, longer in soft shade. \$3.

Fasciata, var. Purpurea. In strong light, this famous "Purple King" is completely suffused with dark purplish rose. The crossbands of silver are more narrow than in the above. \$5 - \$3. ²Seedlings, \$2. Fasciata, var. Silver Queen. Selected clone from Aechmea Fasciata, quite heavily frosted with silver, exposing only occasional crossbands of bluish-green. \$3.50.

"Filiaculia, shiny green leaves, 4 ft. long flower stems with pink bracts and white butterfly "blooms", growing in every breeze - followed by blue berries. Silver shade. Small plant, \$1 ea.

AECHMEA - continued -

- Fasciata*, var. S.Q. from *Aechmea Fasciata*, quite heavily frosted with silver, exposing only occasional crossbands of bluish-green. \$3.50.
- Fasciata*, var. White Magic. Very strong broad white frosty leaves. Flowers similar to above, pink bracts, blue flowers, in larger flower-head. \$5.
- Fosteriana*. Sun-loving, erect plant with pea-green foliage, mottled and crossbanded with purple-brown, in a zig-zag pattern. Short, leaning, flower-panicle has crimson bracts and yellow flower petals. Seldom makes berries. \$3 - \$2.
- Foster's Favorite*. This well-loved small upright plant has shiny wine-red foliage, grown in light. Has a pendant flower-spike of red berry-like flowers with dark blue petals. A lovely plant and easy to grow. \$2 - \$1.
- Fulgen's*, var. Discolor. Dark olive-green leaves, purple underside, covered with white powder. Flowers purple, berries deep red, attractive for months. \$3 - \$2.
- Gamosepala*. Neat green rosette with spike of beautiful blue bloom. \$2 - \$1.
- Luddemanniana*. Rosette of mottled green, changing to red with bronze base, in strong light. Erect flower spike has rose petals and green sepals, then turns to a dense head of blue and white berries, later a beautiful purple. These last a long time, even months. \$3 - \$2 - \$1.
- X Maginali*. A lovely hybrid. Rosette has maroon color underside of leaves, apple green upper side. Salmon-red bracts, brilliant blue flowers, followed by round orange-brown long-lasting berries. \$3 - \$2.
- Mertensii*. Neat, semi-tubular plants. Leaves margined with dark spines and at times, reddish-purple coloring at the base. Bracts red to orange, flowers yellow to red, berries blue. These are pretty for weeks. \$3-\$2-\$1.
- Mexicana*. Large rosette of mottled green leaves, becoming rose-tinted in the sun. Flowers in winter, large panicle of crimson, followed by white berries. \$3.4 \$2.4 \$5.4
- Miniata*, var. Discolor. A medium sized, shade-loving rosette, glossy green above, shiny maroon underside of leaves. Similar to *Ae. Fulgens*, var. discolor, but without the white powder. Round, compact, flower-head, with red berries tipped with violet flowers. L. \$3 - M. \$2.
- Miniata*, var. *Miniata*. This is identical to the above, except the entire plant is a beautiful, shiny, green. \$3 - \$2.
- Nudicaulis*, var. *Cuspidata*. Very stiff tubular plant of gray-green, with silvery crossbands and teeth on margin of leaves. Delicate flower-spike of soft pink bracts and yellow bloom, which is quite lasting. \$2 - \$1.
- Orlandiana*. A wide plant of medium size, with light green leaves, barred and spotted reddish-purple and black, when grown in strong light. Blooms in winter, a showy compact orange and yellow flower-head. Needs perfect drainage. \$4 - \$3 - \$2.

Pectinata. Sturdy open rosette of light green, mottled darker green and shaded rose, preferring strong light. Lower part of foliage turns rosy-red. Slow to bloom, but a lovely plant for the house or patio. \$5-\$4-\$3. Penduliflora. Medium size, spreading rosette of long rosy-bronze leaves, most colorful when grown in strong light. Yellow petals, small red bracts, later berries develop, first white with green tips, then pink, then blue. \$3 - \$2.

Pennockii. Pretty upright tubular plant, with mottled foliage, similar to the beautiful Chantini, except in color. \$3. ~~Sturdy, leaves, more~~ Pinelliana. A sturdy rosette of gray-green leaves, flushing rose-lavender under strong light conditions. Has teasel-like bloom. Beautiful in an urn, for the patio, or splendid landscaping plant, where not freezing. \$3. Pinelliana, var. Minuta. Compact plant for sunny window. Finely-toothed leaves, rosy-gray in good light. Red bracts, small head of yellow flowers in spring. \$3 - \$2.

Pubescens. Gray-green plant of a few arching leaves, dusky purple on back, margined with coarse spines. Erect red stem holds small bright red bracts, and the white berries on a candabra-shaped head finally turn blue. \$2. Pubescens, var. Rubra. Similar to above except brownish-red plant. Some wheat-like flower head. \$2.50.

Racinae, "Christmas Jewels." Shiny green plant with drooping stem of red berries and yellow flowers, remains beautiful during winter. \$4 - \$3 - \$2.

Royal Wine. Broadly arching leaves make up this lovely house-plant. Apple green on top, brilliant burgundy-wine color on underside. Slightly pendant flower-spike of orange berries and blue flowers. \$3 - \$2.

Tillandsioides, var. Kienastii. Small, epiphytic rosette, blooming when a small plant. Serrated edge on leaves, bracts green, yellowish or red. Flower petals are yellow, followed by berries, first white, then blue.

Ideal house plant. \$2 - \$1.
Tillandsioides, var. Lutea. Nice small green plant, like above, except flowers are yellow. \$2 - \$1.

AECHEA - continued -

Triangularis. This rare, and unusual plant grows very slowly. It has wide apple green leaves, edged with dark brown teeth, the tips of leaves bending outward and downward. Rose-colored bracts and lavender to purple petals. ~~Is \$4 -~~ M. \$5.

Victoriana, var. Victoriana. Shiny green plant, erect stem of bright-red berries; from each of which emerges a very dark blue flower, edged white. \$2 - \$1.

Weibachii, var. Leodiensis. Rosette of sepal-orange leaves, which are very shiny. The erect branching flower stem has red bracts and red berries tipped with lavender flowers. \$3 - \$2.

ARAEOCOCCUS flagellifolius - A rather small plant with long, narrow, whip-like reddish leaves, arising from a spindle-shaped base. Small, pink flowers, on short spike, are followed by black berries. \$2.

BILLBERGIA - Easy to grow. Strong light brings out their color.

Amoena. Tubular shiny green leaves, attractive rose to red bracts. Sepals and petals are green with dark-blue tips. \$1.

Braziliensis. (Sometimes confused with Zebrina). Tall, tubular species, very silvery, with broad silver bands between narrow bands of greenish-gray. Pendant spike with large rosy-pink bracts and blue flower petals and stamens. \$2 - \$1.

Cass Hybrid. Pretty green, upright plant from Calif. Bright red bloom. \$1. Catherine Wilson. This lovely tubular plant is heavily splashed with cream and suffused with pink. Bloom is semi-erect with rose bracts and blue and green flowers. \$3 - \$2.

Cyanea. Frosted green, upright plant, brilliant red flowers. \$1.

Distachia, var. Maculata. Called by some growers, "Alberti Hybrid." Compact plant, upright tubular form, leaves powdery green, lightly stained purple, heavily spotted yellow. A graceful and popular plant. Makes a lovely cluster. \$1.

Distachia, var. Rubra. Upright vase-like growth. Leaves of soft maroon, grown in bright light. Pendulous inflorescence, rose bracts, green flowers, tipped blue. \$2.

Distachia, var. Ruberosa. A silvery-rose colored plant. Leaves look like pinkish purple haze in the sky, with silver clouds shining thru. Pendulous flowers rise above the urn and are green tipped with blue, with rose bracts. \$2.

Elvenia Slosson. Very tall strap-like deep-green foliage, which turns bronze in strong light. Flower stems are sometimes over two feet long. Bright red

Euphemiae Rubra. Open rosette of reddish purple leaves. Clear pink bracts and dark blue petals on cascading flower stem. Nice in wall-vase. \$2.50.

Euphemiae X (by) Horrida. Gray tubular plant, with silver bands. Becomes flushed a bronzy-red in light. Bloom like above. \$2 - \$1.

Fantasia. One of the brightest billbergias of them all. Light cream splashes cover this tubular, foot-high plant. Bright red bracts and red-violet flower petals decorate this urn-shaped hybrid's coppery-green leaves. \$3 - \$2.

Fantasia X (by) Saundersi, Hybrid. These vary in color according to light.

Favor both parents. \$1.

Gerda. This hybrid by Mr. Foster is a sturdy plant, becoming a lovely maroon, in strong light. Barred and frosted silver, it has rose bracts and deep blue flowers. \$4 - \$3 - \$2.

Horrida. Medium size, stiff bristly leaves form a tubular plant, suffused with brownish-red and crossbanded with a few narrow silver bars. Erect flower spike, rose bracts and greenish petals tipped blue. \$2.

Horrida, var. Tigrina. Richer colored and more silver banded than above. \$3-\$2.

Hybrid, #2. An unnamed new hybrid by Mr. Foster. Soft green, gets yellow spots in strong light. \$1.

Kline's Wine. A husky small vase-like plant, maroon in strong light. Blue flowers. Lovely! ~~Let's see~~ \$2.

Leptopoda. The "Permanent-wave" plant, as each leaf of this small plant curls under. Spotted cream, rose bracts, blue-tipped petals. \$2 - \$1.

Lietzei. Dainty small plant, upright narrow leaves, rose to red bracts, violet tipped chartreuse petals. Choice house-plant. \$2.

Muriel Waterman. A truly handsome bromeliad! Rich burgundy, with silver bands, when grown in light. \$5.

Nutans, "Queen's Tears." Dainty plant, narrow silvery bronze foliage, makes a clustering rosette. Rose bracted, nodding flowers, green petals edged violet, a tear-drop forming on the stigma. \$1.

Nutans (#2), a larger form of above, from California gardens. \$1.

Nutans X (by) Saundersi, a hybrid called "Rainbow Plant." Compact tube of bronzy leaves, richly blotched ivory, with rose tinting. Crimson bract leaves, with drooping, dark-blue flowers. A rather slender plant. \$1.50.

BILLBERGIA - continued -

Pyramidalis. Broad-leaved open rosette of this long-time favorite is a golden-green color and blooms in late summer. Erect head of bright-red bloom, each petal tipped blue. Good bedder, here. \$2 - \$1.

Pyramidalis, var. Concolor. Winter bloomer. A darker green rosette, smaller than above. Commonly called "Torch billbergia" for its upright bright red bloom. \$2.

Pyramidalis, var. Striatum. A most beautiful variegated form of the above, and quite rare. Leaves are soft green, more pointed and beautifully striped cream. ~~\$5.~~ ^{\$3} \$3.

Santa Barbara. This small neat plant is a "sport." Foliage variegated, green striped white and tinted pink. \$3 - \$2.

Saundersii. A small, stiff-leaved, tubular plant, olive to bronzy green, blotched ivory and tinted pink. Blooms are red bracts and blue flowers. \$1.

Saundersii Hybrid. Taller, rose-tinted plant, blotched ivory. In strong light, both foliage and blooms are a rich rose-red. \$1.

Saundersii, var. Green-clone. Larger when mature, with green leaves heavily spotted with cream. The similar flower spike is longer and cascading. \$1.

Saundersii, var. "Rubra." Very dark-red background, cream spots, blue flowers. \$1.

Speciosa. Selfcross between forms of Bill. Amoena. Purplish-green leaves, gray scales, small marginal spines. Loose drooping rose bracts, pale flowers, tipped blue. \$2 - \$1.

Theodore L. Mead. A lovely bromeliad produced by this well-known Florida horticulturist. A luxuriant grower, with spreading shiny green foliage.

Large, pendant bloom, with bright-pink bracts, green and blue flowers. Superb plant for wall-vase or hanging basket. A clump seems everblooming.

A plant is soon a clump. \$1.

Violet Beauty. Attractive hybrid with blue-green foliage, rose colored bracts and large violet flowers. Blooms several times a year. \$2.

Vittata. This tall plant becomes reddish-brown in light, with wide silver bands. The trailing flower-spike with pink to red bracts, pink sepals and dark blue petals, cascades to below the base of the plant. \$4 - \$3.

Zebrina. Tall, tubular plant, gray-green, lightly banded and flecked with silver. Large rose bracts on cascading flower stem, old gold petals. \$3-\$2-\$1

BROMELIA Balansae. "Heart of Flame." Large, spiny, out-door plant, fine for border. The center of this plant turns fire-red, then a two-foot flower-stalk, with dark red petals, margined white, followed by orange-yellow "berries." Mailing sizes, \$3 - \$2.

CANISTIKUM

Lindenei, forma exiguum. Beautiful, large rosette of soft green, spotted dark green. White flowers bloom in the water, in the central "cup." A

lovely patio plant. \$3 - \$2.

"Fosterianum, olive green, small leaf brown, red tuckip flower"

CATOPSIS -

Sessiliflora. Small epiphytic rosette, 5 to 12 inches high, with green leaves curving outward. Small flowers on slender stalk have white petals, almost hidden by broad green floral bracts. Never a large plant. Best grown as an epiphyte. \$2.

CRYPTANTHUS. "Earth-Stars." Attractive dwarf bromeliads, grow in sandy compost, in a shaded location. A good house plant.

Acaulis. Small, green star-shaped rosette. \$1 - 50c.

Acaulis, var. Ruber. Chocolate-red, usually frosted. \$1 - 50c, sm.; 3 for \$1.

Bahianus. Wavy-edged foliage, brown-red when grown in full sun. Rosette stands above ground on a four-inch stiff stem. \$1.

Blittatus, or "rosea-picta." Pinkish-brown leaves, banded lengthwise with two stripes of silvery-green. Rosettes. \$1 - 50c.

Bromelioides, var. Terminalis. Upright, soft-leaved rosette, in brighter light the bronzy flush becomes reddish bronze. \$1.

Bromelioides, var. Tricolor. Similar in growth to the above, but variegated white and green, and in strong light, stained pink and red. \$3 - \$2.

Fosterianus. Distinctive, large flat rosette. Very thick, stiff, wavy-edged, dark-brown leaves, with silvery zig-zag crossbands. This is really love-

ly. \$3 - \$2.

Foster's Hybrids. Larger than most and fine colors, usually rich, dark tones. Most are unnamed. Our selection. \$1 ea.

X "It." The most beautiful variegations you can imagine! The large star-shaped plant has stripes and margins of bright colors, according to the light given it. "Out of this world!" as some express it. A few young

plants at the standard price, \$15 each.

Zonatus Zebrinus. Large growing, flat "Star," reddish-brown with irregular

CRYPTANTHUS - continued -

- (Zonatus Zebrinus)
zig-zag bands. \$2 - \$1.
Zonatus, forma Viridis. Beautiful, all-green, "earth-star," with silver zig-zag bands. Becomes large. \$3 - \$2.

CRYPTBERGIA -

- Meadii, or "Pinkie." Upright plant of mottled green and pink leaves. Suitable for planters, pots and the window garden. Loves light and turns pink. \$2 - \$1.
Rubra. Wide-open reflexed rosette, deep bronzy-red. Orange bloom. \$2 - \$1.

DYCKIA - Terrestrial bromel, for rock garden, cactus garden and pot plant.
Altissima. Rosettes of spring green leaves. Orange blooms. \$2 - \$1.
Fosteriana. Compact, frosted-silver rosette of serrated-edged leaves, almost lavender, when growing in strong light. \$2.

GUZMANIA -

- Lingulata Cardinalis. Spineless, slender, metallic purplish leaves in this rosette. A raised cup of cardinal-red bract leaves, with cream-white flowers. Brilliant and lasting bloom. \$3.
Lingulata X (by) Magnifica. A lovely epiphyte with large raised star-like head of scarlet, lasting from Nov. to April. Flowers white, leaves soft green, with red lines. \$3.
Lingulata Minor. Small rosette of yellowish-green leaves, sometimes pencil lines begin at the base and extend toward leaf tips. Bright orange-red bracts, with small white flowers, last for months. Splendid house plant. \$5 - \$4 - \$3.
Lingulata Splendens. Large rosette of brownish-red leaves. Funnel-shaped purple-red flower-head, with small yellowish bracts tipped with white. \$3.
Patula. Pink pencil-stripes on brown leaves. This is a lovely foliage plant. The blooms are small and white. \$3.
Zahnii. Very pretty plant with strap-like, papery, olive-green leaves, pencil striped maroon-red. The center tints to coppery red. Branched inflorescence with pink to yellow bracts and white flowers. \$4.

NEOREGELIA - Large, open rosettes, with "cups" in center, which hold water. Small cut-flowers are sometimes put in these "living vases."

Alba-flora. A small plant of bluish-green, marked with purple crossbands. Sword-shaped flower-spike with fiery-red bracts and yellow flowers. Just right for a hanging pot, or basket, with its many stolons growing out from base of plant. \$3 - \$2.

Ampullacea. A small plant with many branches. The leaves are narrow, slightly rolled, medium green with mahogany crossbands. Small blue flowers in the cup, during spring and summer months. Give more light for deeper color in leaves. \$2 - \$1.

Carcharodon. A large, outdoor plant, heavy gray leaves with maroon specks and blotching. Attractive for large pot in the patio. Deep red leaf tips. Takes nearly full sun. \$3 - \$2.

Carolinae. Spreading rosette of soft green leaves, which turn a brilliant cerise when about to bloom. A perfect house-plant, as it remains lovely so long. \$3.

Carolinae, var. Morechalii. Similar to above, except inner leaves are more coppery red, remaining so for many months. Flowers are lilac. \$3.50.

Carolinae, var. Tricolor. This stunning plant is the favorite of many. A perfect rosette of striped, glossy green leaves, with ivory white stripes running lengthwise of the leaf. When given enough light, these stripes become rose tinted, and at flowering time, turn a brilliant carmine red. This color is held for nearly a year. Flowers in center cup are violet edged with white. I am often sold out. I try to keep sizes. L. \$6 - \$5, M. ~~\$4~~ - \$3.

Concentrica. A stocky plant, pale green thick leaves, slightly flecked, bordered with black spines. Center turns red-purple before blooming. \$3.

Eleutheropetala. Reddish rosette of narrow pointed leaves, spreads open and turns red, when ready to bloom. \$3.

Marmorata. I have several lovely hybrids Mr. Foster never named. Most are more or less red, according to light exposure. All are beautiful. I will send a good young plant of one of these for \$2.50. Ask for Foster's.

Marmorata, var. Marcon. Called "Chantilly" in France. Light green sturdy rosette turns quite yellow-green in strong light. Maroon spots and leaf tips stand out on the foliage. Lovely. \$3 - \$2.

Marmorata Hybrid. I call it "Rubra." Just the reverse of the above, entire plant grows red in bright light, with yellowish-green spots. \$3 - \$2.

Spectabilis. The "Painted Fingernail" plant. Leathery metallic green leaves,

(Spectabilis)

with cerise-red tips. White lines on underside of leaves, which are entirely spineless. Blue flowers in central "cup." \$3 - \$2.

Zonata. This smaller rosette will take nearly full tropical sun. Olive-green, marbled and banded wine-red on both sides of leaf. Blue flowers in "cup." \$2.

NIDULARIUM - Named from "nest," in which the bloom appears. Give shade and moisture.

Amazonicum. Large rosette of deep metallic purple with green. When it blooms, the inner rosette is brick-red with white flowers in the center. \$3.

Fulgens. Delicate rosette of dainty light-green leaves, flecked with darker green spots. Dark blue, white edged flowers appear in spring, with cerise bracts that turn lavender. Lovely house plant. \$5 - \$3.

Procerum, var. Purpurescens. Stately plant with metallic leaves. Large red bracts, white flowers. L. \$5, M. \$2.50.

Regelioides. Compact green rosette, with deeper green spots. Flowers deep orange. Quite cold hardy - to 32°. \$4 - \$3 - \$2.

PORTIA Petropolitana, var. Extensa - Glossy chartreuse plant for patio, or shady garden. Upright leaves, dark purple spines. Tall stems with pink, green and lavender long-lasting bloom. \$4 - \$3.

QUESNELIA - Sun-loving.

Arvensis. Serrated edged green leaves grow upright, making a bushy plant.

Grows best in sandy soil, with peat-moss, in very bright light. Is said to grow near salt water. When it does bloom, it bears deep pink bracts and purple bloom. \$3.

Testudo. Upright rosette, green serrated edged foliage, brilliant pink bloom. \$3 - \$2 - \$1.

"*Marmorata, tall, urn-like, flecked with catenae, lovely blooms.*"

TILLANDSIA - The epiphytic bromeliads

Bulbosa. Onion-like, swollen base, olive-green, coppery tinted twisted leaves turn away from the base. Red bloom tipped violet. \$3.

Fasciculata. Gray, rosette of tough slender leaves. Branched inflorescence with greenish bracts, blue flowers, tipped red. \$2 - \$1.

Ionantha. Tiny rosette of gray, blooming in full sun. Plants turn very red, tiny blue flowers. Best grown on wall plaques of fern or bark. Mounted on fern. \$3 - \$2 - \$1.

Lindeni. Green, bushy, rosette. Flowering "sword" pink to near red. Fragrant purple flowers. Small, \$4 ea.

Usneoides. The so-called "Spanish moss." Will grow if dampened often. Sample, 50c.

VRIESEA -

- Corcovadensis. Interesting small rosette, of brownish gray. Mine have not bloomed but I like this plant. \$2.
- Gemma. Light green rosette. Flower spike similar to the better known Vr. Mariae, but more dainty. \$3.
- Glutinosa. Rare and beautiful plant for the greenhouse. Light green leaves, with blood-red blotches. Flower stem may get 15 inches tall, covered with bracts the color of a boiled lobster, with a natural varnish. Too tall for a house plant. Requires plenty of water, good light and a very porous potting soil. A few at \$5. *det. 10-2-5*
- Heliconioides. Small, waxy green plant. Upright flower-spike, bright red bracts, edged chartreuse. \$3.
- Malzinei. Compact rosette, leaf wine underside, green over-lay. Yellow bracts, green margins. Fine 12 in. plant. \$2.
- X (by) Mariae, the "Painted Feather." Glossy green plant, red "feather" edged yellow, remains in bloom a long time. The "perfect" house-plant. \$5-\$4 - \$3.
- Philippo-coburgii vagans. "Vagabond Plant." Small rosette sends off shoots from traveling stems. Leaves light-green with black bases. Inflorescence is flat spike with yellow and red bracts, yellow flowers. \$2; small size. 3.50
- Platynema, ~~var. variegata~~. Rosette of leathery bluish-green leaves, with dark wavy lines, apex blotched violet. Some have pale lines, stiff erect flower stem, purple bracts and shiny greenish sepals. \$3 - \$2.
- Rodigasiana. Dwarf rosette, soft dull green leaves, purple base. Branched flower stem, waxy lemon-yellow bracts and flowers. \$3. *det. 10-2-5*
- Simplex, var. Rubra. Tapering leaves form small rosette, deep coppery-green. Reverse glossy, maroon lines toward base. Pendant flower stem, yellow flowers and red bracts. Makes clever plant for wall vase. Likes shade. \$3 - \$2.
- Schwackeana. Olive-green, stocky rosette of spreading wide leaves, spotted

VRIESEA - continued -

(Schwackeana)

with purplish-red dots and edged purple-maroon. Flowers in 2 ranks, bracts bright red, petals yellow. \$4.

Splendens. The "Flaming Sword" plant. Leathery rosettes of bluish-green leaves, marked with deep purple crossbands. Flower-spike is tall and sword-shaped, flattened, fiery-red bracts, yellow flowers. Not hard to grow, but likes soft light. Large, \$7.50 - \$5, M. \$4, Sm. \$3.

SPECIALS - From my stock of quick growing varieties, I select the following:

- #1 - Sample bromeliad plant, labeled, \$1.50, postpaid. ^{\$3.75}
- #2 - Three different young plants, labeled, \$3.25, postpaid. ^{6.50}
- #3 - Six assorted young plants, labeled, \$5.50, postpaid.
- #4 - Six bromeliads, seedling size, labeled, \$5.50, postpaid.

SUGGESTIONS for growing bromeliads -

Bromeliads are wonderful plants and the growing of them has been a great joy to me, for the past three years. During that time, I have tried every new idea I've heard of -- some I had to discard, some work well for me.

My customers and friends ask me for information and advice. My first suggestion is -- join the Bromeliad Society. Then buy their new handbook, "Bromeliads in Color and their Culture." They cost money well spent.

From my personal experience, and likely learned from reading every article and book giving the experiences of others, I will offer these suggestions --

When you acquire a new plant, gently wash out the center folds of the leaves, using tepid water with a tiny pinch of Tide. I use a small brush from a child's paint set. Then rinse the foliage and re-fill the "cup" with fresh water, rain-water if possible. No alkaline water can be used. If this plant has come thru the mail, set it in the shade, out of strong wind, for a day, gradually moving it into its preferred light, but never into full sunlight.

There are a very few bromeliads that will enjoy some sun, but most foliage runs easily and all plants need to get accustomed to stronger light, by gradual moves. I have several varieties, like Aechmea Pinelliana, Aechmea Nudicaulis, Quesnelia varieties and Neoregelias. Here they get some sunlight, thru the branches of the trees. ~~growing outdoors - all year -~~

We all know that bromeliads require perfect drainage. If pots are used, side openings permit better drainage than holes in the bottom of the pot. When I must use old-fashioned pots, I set them on hardware mesh on my benches, so water can run out. When growing as epiphytes, I use sphagnum moss or osmunda fiber about the roots, attaching firmly to the bark, or plaques of tree-fern. We like hanging plants, so often set plants in pots of moss, to suspend by metal hangers, from the

The first rule is -- ALWAYS keep water in the cup, in one corner of the bromeliads. Those that have no cup, do have tiny sponge-like scales, that hold moisture, even from dew and fog. But never keep the potting soil soggy. A little water runs down from the cup to the roots of the plant. I do spray the potting medium gently, every week, unless rain has wet it. Watering can be best controlled under a roof. When a shade-house has a top like mine -- Saran and fiber-glass cloth -- rain comes thru, so I use very easily drained potting medium -- osmunda, shredded Mexican tree-fern, or Hapuu, the tree-fern from Hawaii. A friend of mine composts oak leaves, and grows in it. Almost every grower has a favorite potting mix, which provides the acid required. Peat-moss and shredded tree-fern, with or without coarse builder's sand, osmunda fern, a fiber used in growing orchids, redwood shavings, chopped redwood bark, fir bark, sponge rock, leaf mold, worm castings, cottonseed meal, fish meal and others, are used in mixtures. Just remember to never put animal fertilizers or lime in the soil. I seldom use any but worm-castings in my soil mix, but I do feed thru the foliage, by spraying with a weak 20-20-20 liquid fertilizer, containing the minor elements, about once each month, in warm weather.

In the home, humidity can be increased by setting pots on wet pebbles or wet sand. With my large number of plants, lately I have learned to mist, or lightly spray the air, in my shade-house, as well as in the plastic-covered plant-house. I finish by spraying under the benches and along the walks. Be careful to avoid any oil, or minerals such as copper, arsenic or zinc.

Certain varieties sometimes get scale. I dust with Sevin, a non-toxic treatment, which kills pests on shrubbery and even on vegetables. One can get a liquid form of Sevin. Where one has a few plants, it is suggested they cut onions in water, let stand awhile, strain and spray or wash the foliage. The odor soon leaves. Many dip the entire plant in a weak solution of Malathion or Cygon. Wear rubber gloves and hold a cloth over the soil to hold it in place. Rinse, drain and re-fill the cup with fresh water. Since I have over 3000 plants, I cannot do this. Never leave any concentration of spray in the leaf cup.

Now I will admit a peculiarity in my growing methods. I have found that metal attracts atmospheric electricity. Now I grow my young bromeliads in quart oil cans, aluminum preferred. I set these in melon, grape or avocado crates, in rows

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on the ground. On my benches, I can use clay or plastic pots, and as small a size as will stand upright.

Be sure to label all plants. Plastic markers are inexpensive and long lasting. A letter will record where the plant came from. A small figure will tell the number of offshoots the plant produces.

You will work out clever ideas, as you study the needs of your own bromeliads. I trust some of these suggestions may prove helpful to you, in the growing of your plants. I am told that my plants grow on love! Well, I DO love them! And so will you!

The Bromeliad Society sends out six splendid bulletins each year. These are very helpful.

To join the Society send \$5 to

The Bromeliad Society, Inc.
1811 Edgcliffe Drive
Los Angeles, Calif. 90026

The new handbook called "Bromeliads in Color, and their Culture" is \$5.95. Send check to

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Thank you,

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