Bromeliad Society of Broward County

JULY 2020 SCURF

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

Ochagavia Litoralis in full bloom

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY
P.O. Box 17272
Plantation, FL 33318

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Meeting Update

Another month has gone by and as you know Broward county, like much of America, is actually going backwards in many aspects as we focus on getting beyond the pandemic. We will continue to monitor the guidelines set forth by the CDC and local authorities in hopes that we may be able to resume our meetings come September.

Brad is currently looking for members who'd like to plan a day trip to Michael's Bromeliads in Venice, Naples Botanical Gardens, or Selby Gardens in Sarasota before the end of August. If you're interested, please email him at *bbtwest@msn.com* so he can plan accordingly.

Affiliations: BSBC supports the BSI, Cryptanthus Society and FCBS (2017-2020)

Full Sun Bromeliad Tips

Most bromeliad enthusiasts have learned over the years what their plants prefer when it comes to proper sunlight, watering requirements, fertilization, etc. Sadly though, many learn these plant-specific preferences through trial and error which can be costly not to mention heartbreaking when a plant is lost.

The hardest and most important of all of these parameters to control is sun exposure. It only takes minutes in full summer sun for delicate species like Guzmania, Vriesea, and even many Neoregelia varieties to develop serious leaf burns. Other varieties including some Aechmeas can only withstand limited amounts of direct sun, especially the intense sun we experience here in south Florida between May and September.

To help guide you through proper selection and to avoid learning the hard way, our friends at Bullis Bromeliads created a list of species along with additional tips that will help you make good choices for the areas in your garden that have exposure to full summer sun.

Knowing what, where, and when to plant will save you time and money so that you get the most out of your plants and your investment. As a top grower of quality bromeliads in south Florida, the owners and staff at Bullis want you to know what they've learned over the years. You can find the information below on their **website**.

Many bromeliads can withstand full sun conditions although it is not ideal. All full sun bromeliad species prefer some midday shade. Should you be required to plant in strenuous conditions, please refer to our tips below to help maintain good quality bromeliads in your applications:

Plant during the acclimation period of October-April of the next year allowing plants to become accustomed to full sun

Avoid plantings near/next to asphalt, white walls or buildings, or any highly reflective surfaces

Should you have to plant during May-September; keep in mind bromeliads will stress, bleach, and/or burn

Do not pour more than 1 inch deep amount of mulch, use minimally

Fertilizers can cause new and tender growths of the plant to burn easily, use very sparingly

Although many bromeliads can take full sun conditions, there is a select few that are also salt tolerant. Those names with a ** next to them can withstand salt conditions

Bullis Bromeliads

24350 SW 147th Ave. Princeton, FL 33032 Ph: 305-258-8932

Full Sun & Salt Fact Sheet

**=Salt Tolerance

AECHMEA

- Alvarez
- Amarillo
- Ampla
- Aquilega
- Black Chantini
- Blanchettiana **
- Blanchettiana “Hawaii”
- Bracteata **
- Bromelifolia
- Carioca **
- Carnival **
- Chantini De Leon
- Coppertone
- Correia Aroujai
- Dean
- Dennis B
- Frappuccino
- Gorda
- Hacienda
- Haltonii
- Harvey’s Pride
- Holmesii
- Jubillee
- Little Harv
- Loie’s Pride
- Malva **
- Margarita
- Marie Reginae **
- Mend
- Mexicana
- Mexicana Albo. **
- Mexicana Var.
- Nudicaulus Albo
- Nudicaulis Rubra
- Oregon
- Orlandiana
- Patricia’s Secret
- Patricia
- Pink Brazil
- Pinot Noir
- Rick **
- Samurai
- Surprise
- Tropic Torch Silver
- Yellow Berries **
- Yellow Brazil

ALCANTAREA

- Imperialis **
- Imperialis-Malbec
- Odorata
- Reginae **

ANANUS

- Comosus Green
- Ivory Coast **
- Lucida

ANDROLEPIS

- Paradise **
- Skinerii **

HOHENBERGIA

- Castellanosii **
- Burle Marxii
- Correia Aroujai
- Fudge Ripple
- Pennae
- Stellata

NEOREGELIA

- Allure **
- Andrea
- Big Rose
- Bossa Nova **
- Chile Verde
- Concentrica Bullis
- Cruenta **
- Cruenta Var. **
- Donger (P.) **
- Dragon
- Elwood (P.)
- Fireball **
- Gazpacho
- Green Eyes
- Guacamole
- Hanibal Lecter
- Hawaii
- Jeffrey Block
- Jill
- Johannis
- Johannis “Pink”
- Julia
- Kautskyi
- Lambert’s Pride
- Margaret
- McWilliamsii **
- Mojito
- Multiple Migs
- Passion
- Patricia
- Petra
- Purple Waves
- Royal Burgundy **
- Rubrovittata Fuego **
- Sunshine **
- Super Fireball **
- Susana
- Taigrina
- Tango Mango
- Tequila **
- Tiger
- Tomasito
- Tossed Salad **
- Vacation

PORTEA

- Candy
- Helga Tarver
- Jungle Book
- Jungles
- Petropolitana **
- Tambora

TILLANDSIA

- Adpressiflora
- Oerstediana
- Xerographica

VRIESEA

From Gardens Around The World

Florida weather helps to create some of the best growing conditions for bromeliads. That's one of the primary reasons that we see our beloved plants in a wide variety of settings. From well manicured residential gardens to commercial properties and even tourists destinations and theme parks.

While you are likely aware that this diverse family of plants originated primarily from Central and South America, they are loved throughout the world which is why you're in for a treat... if you're viewing this on a device connected to the internet that is. Otherwise, you'll have to wait until you are to enjoy this global journey down the YouTube rabbit hole!

Our first stop will be the gardens of Pas and Jim Southern located in New Zealand, home to some of the Earth's most amazing natural wonders!

Looking at the quality and maturity of this garden, it's clear that New Zealand's climate helps to create world class bromeliads that are second to none.

CLICK HERE

The next garden on our tour is proof that the Aussie's have a "righteous" climate and know a thing or two about growing award winning bromeliads.

This video posted by Andrew Devonshire, highlights the gardens of Rosie and Rob from South East Queensland, Australia. So grab your favorite "bevvie" and "cork hat" and join us down under for some truly "ripper" broms!

CLICK HERE

If you haven't seen bromeliad gardens from the lush regions of Thailand, then you're really going to like this next stop on our international garden tour.

This garden in Chiangmai, Thailand showcases rare broms, succulents, and a vast array of other tropical plants that will have you updating your list of future vacation destinations.

CLICK HERE

Closer to home, California mixes Florida sunshine with lower temps and humidity giving gardeners there perfect growing conditions.

Artist and avid grower Juliana Raposa shows us her private collection along with tips and techniques that she used to create her own version of paradise. Her use of colors, textures, and space are amazing!

CLICK HERE

Gardener Keith Lightbourn shares his collection of colorful Neos mixed with large Aechmeas and other tropicals during a soothing rain in the Bahamas.

He even goes as far as to include the names of some of the key players in his orchestra of color so grab a pen and jot them down or just replay over and over until you memorize them. You'll agree with Keith, the rain makes the perfect sound track!

CLICK HERE

We wind up this global garden tour by returning to New Zealand for the 'Fiesta', their annual bromeliad show and sale sponsored by the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand (Inc).

This not-to-be-missed event is typically held in February each year when the majority of bromeliads grown in their "cooler climate" look their best.

CLICK HERE

Hopefully you enjoyed this quick trip around the big blue marble to get a small glimpse of what other regions are growing and showing. There is so much to see and appreciate in each of these regions that there is no way for us to share it all in these few links.

Thanks to platforms like YouTube and the generous people who share treasures from their region, you can tour these amazing gardens without leaving your home. Be warned though, once you slip down into the rabbit hole of 'garden surfing', it may be hours or even days before you re-emerge!

The videos you see along the way will hopefully replenish your spirit and give you hope that when this pandemic is finally over, you can actually go see your favorite ones in person. It's just too bad that you couldn't rack up frequent flyer miles while garden surfing to help cover the ticket cost!

From The Editor

Remember meeting with your gardening friends to share pics of a new bloom or perhaps to question them about a challenge you're having with a particular plant? I can now see why isolation is used as a form of torture or to drive a person mad because it works!

I'm not locked in a room starring at four walls, but not being able to spend time with my friends and fellow gardeners or dine in my favorite restaurants is taking a toll on my sanity. Fortunately, I'm spending a lot of my time with my family which hasn't always been possible due to my work. Of course if you ask them, they may be ready for a break from me!

If you're like me, you had a huge to do list back in March in the early stages of the "lock down". You know, those things you put off doing and swore they'd get done "if you only had more time". Then by a strange twist of fate, you suddenly had nothing but time. Well, I finished that list in less than a week leaving my wife and myself to wonder why I put some of them off for so long!

So I created a new list of projects, some of which were garden related, but not urgent enough to make the first list. I tried to drag completion of that list out a bit longer, but alas, it too was done fairly quickly. When you find yourself hoping weeds will grow so you can pull them, you've reached the point where time has become a double edged sword! Here's where I can help you.

If you read last month's issue, you'll recall I posted several pics of a landscape project I completed in Deerfield Beach. I have to confess, they didn't approach me to do that project, I was the one that suggested it was time for those beds to be reborn and I don't even live there!

If you're thinking "did he just drive by a random property and start pulling up plants?" you're not too far off. While this isn't the first time they've allowed me to improve their neighborhood, I saw this as an opportunity to get me out of the house, get my hands in dirt, and fill that primal urge to plant something! After all, I had the time and they had the need so it was a perfect storm.

I recommend this type of activity as possible treatment if you're suffering from the same acute gestalt-like condition that I have. Referred to by laymen as "terrafixationitis", it's a condition where you see something deteriorating and realize that it could be so much more. I've suffered from this rare affliction for decades and not just in garden-related matters. It consumes much of my time and forces me to take action as part of the therapy and treatment for this condition.

While this may sound silly to those who are content to binge watch everything on Netflix rather than get up, get out, and get dirty, I assure you that it's considerably more rewarding than completing a 5 season, 60 episode series in a week! When the TV series ends, they'll be sad that it's over whereas I'm able to stand back and see others enjoy what I've created for years to come. Of course they don't get blisters and a sore back from using a TV remote which is certainly a plus!

Until next time,

-Brad

July Birthdays

Becky Blackwood Sabel Fernandez
Kay McGinn Linda Romalin David Terifay
Eddie Yi Nancy Kerns Jim Kerns

Upcoming Events, Things to See

We are still hoping that our monthly meetings will restart in Sept. as planned although if the infection rates don't start falling soon that may not be an option. We will of course continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed.

If you've given up on 2020 like most of us have, then set your sights on 2021 and plan to make it a year of celebrations filled with once-in-a-lifetime bromeliad events. The BSI World Bromeliad Conference planned for this past June in Sarasota, FL has been rescheduled for June 2021 at the same resort. Justification for going is really a simple math equation:

$$\frac{\textit{It's in FL + Your a brom lover}}{\textit{Probably State Law}} = \textit{You Must Attend}$$

Since you've likely saved money staying home this year, not to mention the weight loss you've experienced due to your awesome pandemic diet, you'll have time and energy to attend the Bromeliad Conference in Auckland, New Zealand the month before in April 2021. What better way to make up for all that you've missed in 2020!