



Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

October, 2006

This Month's Meeting

REMEMBER

Please bring a friend. Guests are always welcome!!

Bring a raffle plant! Plants must have names and be sure they are free of scale.

Bring plants for show & tell.

Bring a plant for the friendship table.

Wear your name tag!

This month's meeting will be Tuesday, October 3, 2006, at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Dennis Cathcart will be the guest speaker at this month's meeting. The topic will be "Bromeliads in the Landscape." Dennis and his wife, Linda, own Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota. Tropiflora is one of the largest bromeliad nurseries in the country and recently celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Dennis has been exploring Latin America and Mexico for 40 some years and became interested in bromeliads on a trip in 1968. Three species of bromeliads carry the specific epithet *cathcartii* and several cultivars have been named for Dennis and Linda. They both have been long-time members of our society and have constantly made generous contributions to our activities.

It is always a pleasure to welcome Dennis and Linda to our meetings. Dennis will be bringing his beautiful plants to sell and doesn't mind if other members bring plants also.

Last Month's Meeting

We were honored to have Harry Luther give his presentation on bromeliads from N to Z. We had the opportunity to learn about the origins and differences between species of bromeliads we are familiar with, as well as those we rarely see.

Ann Kavanagh reminded us about the trip to Grant Groves' nursery in Winter Garden on Saturday, November 4th. Seats on the bus are still available. The October meeting will be your last chance to sign up for this trip. The total cost is just \$10 for each member.

Dennis Cathcart left flyers for Tropiflora's 7th Annual Fall Festival to be held October 6th through October 8th. There will be hourly raffles to benefit Selby Gardens during the festival. Dennis welcomes any plant donations from FWCBS members for raffle prizes.

Dennis also announced a get-together on Saturday, November 11, at Tropiflora with the four Florida East Coast bromeliad societies. We will have more details about the event in next month's newsletter.



Show & Tell for September 12, 2006

Phil Budworth:	<i>Aechmea</i> 'Hacienda'
Kathy Jenkins:	x <i>Neomea</i> (unknown cultivar)
Alton Lee:	<i>Billbergia pyramidalis</i> <i>Ronbergia morreniana</i> <i>Tillandsia jalisco-monticola</i> X <i>T. rothii</i> (or X <i>T. roland-gosselinii</i>)
Gary Lund:	<i>Aechmea kuntzeana</i> <i>Tillandsia concolor</i> X <i>T. capitata</i> 'Rubra'
Linda Sheetz:	x <i>Canmea</i> 'Jaspe' <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Lorena'
Helga Tarver:	<i>Tillandsia exserta</i>



Neoregelia 'Lorena'
(*carolinae* x *concentrica*)
X (*concentrica* x
'Takemura Princeps')

Upcoming Events

7th Annual Tropiflora & Fender's Flora Fall Festival
October 6, 7 & 8, 2006
Tropiflora, 3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota, FL

16th Annual Fall Plant Festival
October 14 & 15, 2006
USF Botanical Gardens, Tampa, FL
<http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden/calendar.htm>

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Annual Sale
November 18 & 19, 2006
Terry Park, 3410 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, FL
For more information contact Larry Giroux; email:
DrLarry@comcast.net

Refreshments



Bill & Marianne Schumacher will be in charge of the refreshments. Food for the table is being provided this month by: Mike Gimeno, Bill Sneden and 2 gentlemen who didn't put their names on the sign-in sheet. Any member is welcome to bring a dish to share.



A top-dressing of eucalyptus bark around plants discourages snails, slugs, ants, and roaches.

Bromeliad Problems

Here are some common problems and possible causes:

<u>Brown marks on leaves:</u>	watering in direct sun; over-watering; poor drainage; light intensity too strong; improper use of pesticides
<u>Leaves elongated (long and thin):</u>	not enough light; too much nitrogen in fertilizer
<u>Leaf tips brown or yellow:</u>	drainage inadequate; too cold or dry; not enough air movement; alkaline water
<u>Leaves wilting:</u>	lack of water; bad drainage
<u>Bottom leaves brown at base:</u>	over-watering; mixture too dense; bad drainage; leaves imbedded into mixture
<u>Bottom leaves yellow/brown (dying):</u>	characteristic of a healthy plant that sheds older leaves as it ages