

**FLORIDA COUNCIL
of
BROMELIAD SOCIETIES INC.
Newsletter**

This Newsletter published by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. & mailed to all paid up members of those Bromeliad Societies of Florida which make up the Council. Non-members may subscribe for \$2.00 per year.

Make checks payable to:

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

Mail to:

Carol Johnson, Editor at cover address

MATERIAL PRINTED HEREIN IS THE PROPERTY OF FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES AND MAY BE REPRODUCED ONLY IF CREDIT IS GIVEN AND OWNERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGED.

VOLUME XVI - ISSUE I

FEBRUARY 1996

CATCHING UP - STAYING EVEN

TWO COMMON BROMELIADS, NEOREGELIA FIREBALL AND CRYPTANTHUS CASCADE, ARE NOT LISTED IN MONOGRAPH XIV NOR ON ANY BINOMIAL LISTING. BOTH WERE BROUGHT INTO CULTIVATION WITHOUT PROPER HERBARIUM SPECIMENS OR INFORMATION ON COLLECTION LOCALES OR ELEVATION. UNTIL SOMEONE FINDS THEM AGAIN IN THEIR HABITAT AND FOLLOWS THE PROPER PROCEDURES, BOTH OF THESE PLANTS WILL REMAIN "FREE AGENTS". QUESTION: WHAT DOES THIS DO TO NEOREGELIA FIREBALL HYBRIDS?

JAMES & SARA BOYNTON HAVE ADDED AN UNUSUAL TWIST TO THE FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. THEY PURCHASE SPECIAL ISSUE POSTAGE STAMPS AND USE THEM TO MAIL THE NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH.

THE \$200.00 ANNUAL STATE OF FLORIDA CORPORATION TAX FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HAS BEEN RESCINDED BY ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE. THE FEE HAS RETURNED TO \$61.25 ANNUALLY. DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MAY 1, 1996.

WHEN FURNISHING THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOU ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE NEWLY ASSIGNED AREA CODES. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CHANGES AND IT IS IMPORTANT IF THE PROPER AREA CODE IS TO BE LISTED IN THE AUGUST DIRECTORY. WHEN RENEWING YOUR BSI (JOURNAL) MEMBERSHIP IT WOULD BE WELL TO LIST AREA CODE CHANGES, ALSO, SINCE A NEW BSI DIRECTORY IS HOPEFULLY FORTHCOMING.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY THE ARTICLE INCLUDED HEREIN REGARDING THE WEEVIL. FLORIDA COUNCIL HAS BEEN THE PRIME SUPPORTER OF WEEVIL RESEARCH AS WELL AS THE MAIN SOURCE OF FUNDING FROM THE BEGINNING. FROM NOW ON THE NEED FOR FUNDS WILL INCREASE GREATLY. PLEASE URGE YOUR LOCAL SOCIETY TO PITCH IN. THE TREASURER'S REPORT PRINTED HEREIN DOES NOT INCLUDE \$2,900.00 PAID OUT IN JANUARY 1996, WITH MORE TO BE PAID OUT IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THE APRIL MEETING OF FCBS MAY BE POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 27 IN ORDER TO INCLUDE A PERSONAL VISIT FROM DR. RON CAVE, WHO WILL BE IN FLORIDA AT THAT TIME ON OTHER BUSINESS RELATED TO THE HONDURAS RESEARCH STATION. DR. CAVE IS CONDUCTING THE WEEVIL RESEARCH FOR THE COUNCIL IN HONDURAS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING HIM AND GETTING A FIRST HAND REPORT.

WEEVIL UPDATE - JANUARY 1996

MEXICO: I was in Mexico for 6 months from the end of April 1995. My research program there was on insects associated with Heliconia, but some weekends were free to look for weevils in bromeliads. I lived in the country between Xalapa (the capital of the state of Veracruz) and Coatepec. Coffee is grown there under the shade of larger native trees, most of which support epiphytic bromeliads, especially Tillandsia (deppeana, fasciculata, heterophylla, ionantha, juncea, limbata, lucida, multicaulis, punctulata, schiediana, streptophylla, tricolor, and utriculata) and several Catopsis species. I found Metamasius callizona larvae or pupae or adults in a small percentage of fallen bromeliads, and not just in Tillandsia but also in Catopsis.

I did not find parasitoids in any of the weevil larvae that I collected. I had a large (1 X 1 X 1 meter frame covered with hardware cloth) outdoor cage built to house infested Tillandsia bromeliads and weevils in the hope of attracting parasitoids. This cage was left in Mexico in the care of Dr. José García, a botanist who is interested in bromeliad biology.

HONDURAS: Dr. Ronald Cave of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana continued his work on parasitoids of weevils. The FCBS Weevil Fund paid for his local travel in Honduras and paid for his technician's time. In 1995, he collected 130 small weevil larvae, 254 large weevil larvae, and 59 pupae from 5954 bromeliads identified as Catopsis hahnii, Vriestia nephrolepis and Tillandsia oreogenes. Infested plants had 1-3 larvae and/or pupae of Metamasius quadrilineatus. He obtained 51 parasitoid fly larvae or pupae from weevil larvae, and these all belonged to a species of the genus Admontia. He was successful in keeping adult flies alive for up to 3 weeks by providing them with a diet of dilute honey (10% honey, 90% water) in cages. The adult flies were not observed to mate nor were the females observed to lay eggs. It is now important to study the behavior of this fly and to experiment with it to learn how to culture it in the laboratory. When these things have been discovered, stock of the fly can be brought to a quarantine facility in Florida for further study.

FLORIDA: A culture of Metamasius callizona continues to be maintained in a small greenhouse at the Entomology and Nematology Department, University of Florida. Pineapple tops are used as food for the weevil larvae and adults. This culture is maintained so that a plentiful supply of weevil larvae will be at hand when the time is ripe to rear large numbers of Admontia (or another parasitoid) for release in Florida. A community college student has a part-time job taking care of the greenhouse and its contents, and he is paid by the FCBS Weevil Fund.

Metamasius callizona was detected at Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, late in 1995 by a Division of Plant Industry inspector. This brings to six the number of counties in which the weevil has been found in Florida. The others are Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Lee and Charlotte.

Howard Frank, January 1996

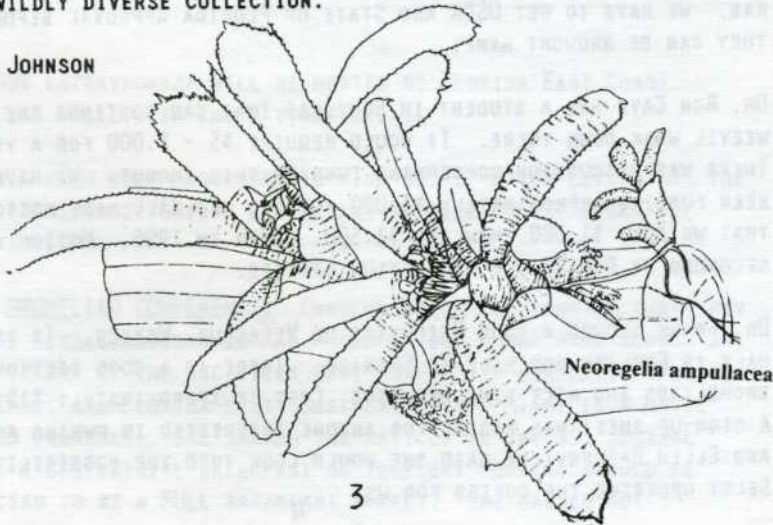
WILL THE REAL NEOREGELIA AMPULLACEA PLEASE STAND UP ?

BEING VERY NEARLY AT THE EPICENTER, GEOGRAPHICALLY, OF THE JULY WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GET MY GREENHOUSES SORTED OUT AND READY FOR COMPANY. ON NEARLY EVERY BENCH I HAVE DISCOVERED PLANTS OF NEO. AMPULLACEA (AT LEAST THAT IS WHAT THE TAG SAYS). FOR FUN, I PULLED THEM ALL AND PUT THEM TOGETHER IN ONE SPOT. THERE ARE PROBABLY A DOZEN FORMS OF NEO. AMPULLACEA, EVERY ONE IN SOME WAY DIFFERENT FROM ALL THE REST. IN ADDITION, THERE IS NEO. AMPULLACEA CV. PUNCTITISSIMA AND NEO. AMPULLACEA CV. PUNCTITISSIMA RUBRA. SINCE THE SPECIES IS LISTED AS EITHER THE SEED OR POLLEN PARENT OF INNUMERABLE HYBRIDS, IT WOULD BE VERY NICE TO KNOW WHICH OF MY DOZEN FORMS IS THE VALID SPECIES.

IN RECENT YEARS I HAVE BEEN TRADING PLANTS WITH BRAZILIAN BROMELIAD GROWERS, SENDING THEM HYBRIDS OR SPECIES FROM OTHER HABITATS AND RECEIVING NATIVE BRAZILIAN SPECIES IN RETURN. I BELIEVE THAT OVER THE YEARS THE SPECIES BROMELIADS ORIGINALLY BROUGHT INTO THE U.S. HAVE BEEN CORRUPTED TO THE POINT OF ALMOST BEING LOST. THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO NEO. AMPULLACEA. BRAZILIAN SPECIES OF *VRIESEA GUTTATA* AND *DYCKIA FOSTERIANA* SENT ME RECENTLY BEAR ONLY A REMOTE RESEMBLANCE TO THE FORMS ALREADY IN MY COLLECTION.

IN A PRIVATE COLLECTION JUST BEING A PRETTY PLANT IS GOOD ENOUGH, BUT WHEN PLANTS ARE OFFERED FOR SALE, THE PROPER NOMENCLATURE IS IMPORTANT. THE LESSON I HAVE LEARNED, AND I PASS IT ON, IS DO NOT MAKE USE OF VOLUNTEER SEEDS ON SPECIES PLANTS WHERE THERE IS A CHANCE THOSE SEEDS HAVE BEEN CROSS POLLINATED BY OTHER PLANTS IN A WILDLY DIVERSE COLLECTION.

CAROL JOHNSON



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.
MINUTES FROM JANUARY 13, 1996 MEETING (CONDENSED)

SUBMITTED BY BETTY ANN PREVATT, ACTING SECRETARY

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:30 P.M. BY AL MUZZELL, CHAIRMAN, AT THE HOME OF WHIT MERRIN IN PLANT CITY.

THE ROTATION SCHEDULE FOR OFFICES FOR 1996 ARE: JACKSONVILLE, CHAIRMAN; CALOOSAHATCHEE, VICE-CHAIRMAN; IMPERIAL POLK, SECRETARY. IMPERIAL POLK DECLINED. HATTIE LOU SMITH, OUTGOING SECRETARY, WAS NOT PRESENT. BETTY ANN PREVATT FILLED IN AS SECY. FOR THIS MEETING ONLY. BETTY ANN & GENE MCKENZIE SERVED AS ALTERNATES UNTIL CBS CAN APPOINT NEW REPS.

TREASURER'S REPORT: CAROL JOHNSON PASSED OUT THE YEAR END REPORT. (THIS REPORT IS REPRODUCED IN THIS ISSUE). THE REPORT WAS ACCEPTED AS REPORTED. CAROL JOHNSON WAS ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CONTINUE THRU 1996 AS PERMANENT TREASURER.

WEEVIL REPORT WAS GIVEN BY DR. HOWARD FRANK. HE SHOWED SLIDES FROM HIS 6 MONTH STAY IN MEXICO. WHILE THERE, HE DID RESEARCH ON THE WEEVILS.

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT WEEVILS ARE FOUND IN FLORIDA AS FAR NORTH AS CHARLOTTE COUNTY ON THE WEST COAST AND FORT PIERCE ON THE EAST COAST. THERE ARE 16 KINDS OF WEEVILS FOUND IN BROMELIADS IN THE U.S., MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

THE TECHNID FLY RESEARCH HAS FINALLY BECOME SUCCESSFUL IN HONDURAS. WE HAVE TO GET USDA AND STATE OF FLORIDA APPROVAL BEFORE THEY CAN BE BROUGHT HERE.

DR. RON CAVE HAS A STUDENT IN HONDURAS THAT CAN CONTINUE THE WEEVIL WORK DOWN THERE. IT WOULD REQUIRE \$5 - 8,000 FOR A YEAR. THERE WAS DISCUSSION CONCERNING FUNDING THIS AMOUNT. WE HAVE BEEN FUNDING APPROXIMATELY \$3,000 A YEAR. ED HALL MADE MOTION THAT WE FUND \$1,500. NOW AND \$1,500. LATER IN 1996. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DON BEADLE AND MOTION CARRIED.

DR. FRANK SHOWED A BOOK EPIPHYTES OF VERACRUZ, MEXICO. IT IS HALF IN ENGLISH AND HALF IN SPANISH. THERE IS A GOOD SECTION ON BROMELIADS AND NICE LINE DRAWINGS. COST IS APPROXIMATELY \$15. A SIGN-UP SHEET WAS PASSED FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN OWNING A COPY, AND ELLEN BASKERVILLE SAID SHE WOULD LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF SELBY ORDERING THE COPIES FOR US.

DR. FRANK REQUESTED \$100. REIMBURSEMENT FOR A CAGE BUILT AT THE RENTAL HOUSE IN VERACRUZ WHICH WAS FOR THE WEEVIL NURSERY. HE ALSO ASKED FOR MONEY TO PAY A STUDENT LAB ASSISTANT IN GAINESVILLE. THE COST IS \$100. A WEEK FOR APPROXIMATELY 20-25 HOURS. BECAUSE AN INDEFINITE PERIOD WOULD EXHAUST OUR FUNDS, A THREE MONTH PERIOD WAS SET AT A COST OF \$1,300. THIS COULD BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT MEETING IN APRIL. TOM WOLFE MADE MOTION TO PAY DR. FRANK \$1,400. (\$100. FOR CAGE AND \$1,300. FOR STUDENT). TED NUSE SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOC. HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTING TO THE WEEVIL FUND REGULARLY BUT NOT MUCH IS COMING FROM OTHER FLORIDA SOCIETIES. THE WEEVIL AFFECTS EVERYONE, NOT JUST THOSE WHO LIVE IN SOUTH FLORIDA. ED HALL SUGGESTED USING THE 1996 EXTRAVAGANZA PROCEEDS FOR THE WEEVIL FUND. CAROLYN SCHOENAU MADE A MOTION THAT THE FLORIDA COUNCIL DONATE THE PROCEEDS FROM THE 1996 EXTRAVAGANZA PLANT AUCTION TO THE WEEVIL FUND. TOM WOLFE SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

EXTRAVAGANZA: SARASOTA IS HOSTING THE 1996 EXTRAVAGANZA AT SELBY GARDENS ON SEPTEMBER 14. THIS IS FREE WEEK AT SELBY AND THEY HOPE TO ATTRACT A LARGE CROWD FOR THE SALE. DON BEADLE TALKED ABOUT PLANS THEY HAVE MADE SO FAR AND ASKED FOR IDEAS TO MAKE IT BETTER. THERE WAS MUCH DISCUSSION REGARDING WAYS TO INCREASE ENTHUSIASM AT THE PLANT AUCTION. 1995 AUCTION EXPENSES WERE HIGH BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF SUPPLIES REMAINING SO THE SARASOTA GROUP WILL NOT ENCOUNTER MUCH EXPENSE IN 1996.

THE 1997 EXTRAVAGANZA WILL BE HELD IN THE MIAMI AREA, PERHAPS WITH BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA (MIAMI) JOINING WITH BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY. FINAL PLANS WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

THE 1998 EXTRAVAGANZA WILL BE HOSTED BY FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY IN THE DAYTONA AREA.

SARASOTA REPS WERE REQUESTED TO FIND OUT IF HARRY LUTHER AND THE BROMELIAD IDENTIFICATION CENTER ARE IN NEED OF ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE: CAROLYN SCHOENAU REPORTED THAT THEY HAVE 40 REGISTRATIONS SO FAR - AND EXPECT A LOT MORE SOON. SHE ASKED IF ANY OF THE SOCIETIES WERE PUTTING IN DISPLAYS. FLORIDA EAST COAST AND FLORIDA WEST COAST SAID YES. MIAMI IS A MAYBE AND CBS PROBABLY. SHE STATED THE ARTICLE IN THE BSI JOURNAL STATED A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST ON THURSDAY MORNING SHOULD BE CORRECTED TO BE A FULL BREAKFAST BUFFET. SHE PASSED OUT

REGISTRATION SHEETS FOR THE GARDEN CLUB SEMINARS, A PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND HOTEL BROCHURES. ED HALL IS IN CHARGE OF CONFERENCE TOURS AND HE ASKED REPS TO FIND OUT IF ANYONE IN ANY SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO BE ON POST CONFERENCE TOUR SCHEDULE.

JUDGES SCHOOL: BETTY ANN PREVATT, JUDGES REGISTRAR, GAVE A REPORT ON THE SCHOOL PROGRESS. FCBS IS SPONSORING THE SCHOOLS. SCHOOL 1 AND 2 HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AND SCHOOL 3 WILL BE HELD IN TAMPA ON FEBRUARY 24. FINANCIALLY THE SCHOOLS ARE PAYING FOR THEMSELVES. THERE ARE PRESENTLY 20 STUDENTS.

MOSQUITO EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY: ED HALL WOULD LIKE TO SEE A DISPLAY MADE AVAILABLE TO SOCIETIES TO USE AT THEIR SHOWS. THIS WOULD BE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC REGARDING MISLEADING INFORMATION ABOUT MOSQUITOS AND BROMELIADS. AL MUZZELL SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THIS, AS SOME OF THE INFORMATION IS ALREADY AVAILABLE.

WEST PASCO BROMELIAD SOCIETY: WEST PASCO SOCIETY HAS BEEN RE-ACTIVATED AND WAS REPRESENTED AT THIS MEETING BY EVELYN HAYES AND DIXIE VASSILIOU.

THERE IS A NEW BROMELIAD SOCIETY LOCATED IN THE BOCA RATON AREA, AND ED HALL VOLUNTEERED TO CONTACT THEM.

APRIL MEETING: THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 13 IN GAINESVILLE AT THE U. OF FLORIDA, ENTOMOLOGY AND NEMATOLOGY DEPT. WHERE DR. FRANK'S WEEVIL RESEARCH IS GOING ON.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:45 P.M.

HEREWITH BEGINS VOLUME XVI OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER. WE BEGAN WITH A MAILING LIST OF 200, AND IN 1995 THIS HAD INCREASED TO 751 COPIES PER MAILING. NEARLY HALF OF THE 751 ARE DUAL FAMILY MEMBERS, SO OUR MEMBERSHIP IN FLORIDA EXCEEDS 1,100. ONLY ONE COPY IS MAILED PER ADDRESS. 1995 COST PER ADDRESS WAS \$2.5126, WHICH IS FUNDED BY A \$1.00 PER ADDRESS ASSESSMENT. THE BALANCE OF THE COST IS UNDERWRITTEN BY THE COUNCIL AND FUNDED PRIMARILY BY THE ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA RARE PLANT AUCTION. IF OUR MEMBER SOCIETIES DO NOT FINANCIALLY ASSIST WITH FUNDS FOR WEEVIL RESEARCH, IT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE NEWSLETTER ASSESSMENT OR ABANDON THE PUBLICATION.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

1995 CONSOLIDATED TREASURER'S REPORT AT 12/31/95

BEGINNING BALANCE, GENERAL FUND 8,381.77

DEPOSITS:

PREVATT, REIMB.	234.00	
NEWSLETTER ASSESSMENTS	765.00	
EXTRAVAGANZA AUCTION	1,541.00	
BSCF REIMBURSEMENT	<u>55.00</u>	<u>2,595.00</u>

\$10,976.77

1995 EXPENSE:

STATE CORP. TAX	61.25	
ADV. JUDGES SCHOOL	234.00	
PRINT VOL XV (4 ISSUES)	1,556.85	
MAIL " "	330.12	
SERVICE CHG. COMPUTER	50.00	
CHAIRMAN'S EXPENSE	21.60	
<u>EXTRAVAGANZA:</u>		
SPEC. MAILING	49.81	
SPEC. PRINTING	142.31	
PRINT ENVELOPES	123.38	
PLANT I.D. CARDS	36.43	
LICENSES (REIMBURSED)	55.00	
SUPPLIES (RIBBONS, FILE SUPPLIES, COPIES, ETC.)	<u>52.59</u>	<u>2,713.34</u>

BALANCE, GENERAL FUND, 12/31 \$ 8,263.43

WEEVIL FUND:

BEGINNING BALANCE	8,358.83	
DEPOSITS	<u>2,360.00</u>	
	10,718.83	

EXPENSE:

SHARE	700.00	
ESCUELA PANAMERICANA	<u>1,592.50</u>	<u>2,292.50</u>

BALANCE, WEEVIL FUND, 12/31/95 8,426.33

COMBINED BALANCE, RECONCILED \$ 16,689.76

