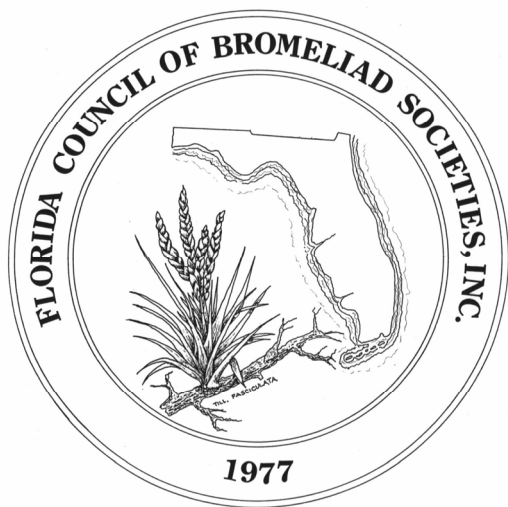


Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc.



In this issue:

**Bromeliad Sources
Mexican Bromeliad Weevil
Pitcairnia**

Vol. 33 Issue 2

May 2013

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(continued on the inside back cover)

Bromeliads on the Rocks!
2013 Bromeliad Extravaganza!

Sponsored by the
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

Hosted by
Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

September 21

Holiday Inn Harborside
401 2nd Street, Indian Rocks Beach 33785
800-726-0865/727-595-9484
Free Parking Free WiFi

Welcome Get Together for Early Arrivals
Plant Sales
Seminars
Banquet
Rare Plant Auction

Information contacts:

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Judy Lund
glund@tampabay.rr.com

See page 13 for more information

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Catching Up ... Staying Even



Newsletter News

You may notice a couple of new graphics in this issue. The line drawing of the bromeliad and the original FCBS logo are scans from the Council's very first foray into publishing, the full color publication *Grande*. There were only four issues of *Grande*. It was a fascinating publication with wonderful photographs of people and bromeliads.

The archive of past issues of the Florida Council newsletters continues to grow at fcbs.org, under About FCBS. The goal is to preserve all past issues of these newsletters online; we are still missing several years but have located many more. It is an ongoing project to preserve the history of the Florida Council.

Current newsletters will join the archive six months after paper publication. Changes are on the horizon, however, that will eliminate the paper newsletter. Nine of the ten FCBS affiliated societies have indicated their preference to receive the newsletter electronically.

This will greatly benefit the societies as it will dramatically reduce their membership dues to the Council. Currently the newsletter assessment (based on mailing four issues a year) is all but \$10 of each societies' Council dues. Your editor believes that newsletters can be delivered through each societies' distribution system to its members or by posting online at the Council site, eliminating any need to pay for the management of direct email to 700+ email addresses. At a time where societies are struggling with rising costs, this direction only makes sense. It also opens the creative color and photographic possibilities!

**Thank you,
Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant So-
ciety and Bromeliad Society of
South Florida
for hosting the April meeting of the
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies**



**Thank you,
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
for your donation of \$675 to the
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies!**



State Roster

**The State Roster will be published in the
August Council newsletter.**

**Please check with your society to ensure
that your contact information is correct.**

**All societies should send corrections and
changes by July 26 to webmaster@fcbs.org**

Florida Bromeliad Sources



ACME Bromeliads

David Smith

14818 Shaw Road, Tampa 33625

Home: (813)962-6279

Evenings and weekends, call for appointment

Email: smithd188@gmail.com

Growing Neoregelia, Vrieseas and landscape Aechmea

Bromeliad Galore

Dave Johnston

6399 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park 33782

Home: (727)544-9187; cell: (727)481-5962

Hours are after 4:00 PM Monday through Friday; all day Saturday and Sunday; call for appointment

johnston28@tampabay.rr.com

Approximately 1000 different species and hybrids in pretty much all genera across the board, including bi-generics.

Bud's Bromeliads

Buddy Singleton

11060 Shirley Lane, North Fort Myers 33917

(239)543-3614; Cell # (239)246-2486

buddyjudys1@aol.com

Visits by appointment.

Color Zone Tropicals

Grant Groves

9940 Black Bear Lane, Winter Garden 34787

(407)616-7595

<http://www.colorzonetropicals.com>

Franne's Backyard Garden

Franne Matwijczyk
2426 Anastasia Way, South
St. Petersburg 33712
(727)867-4356 (by appt only)
Franne@FBGBamboo.com
Nicole@curioustropicals.com
Neoregelia, Aechmea, Cryptanthus, etc.

Jungle Gems

Marty Baxley
4719 Huron Road, St. Petersburg 33708
(727)504-8951
susiebaxley@verizon.net
By appointment
Selections from all genera

Mike's Bromeliads

Mike Michalski
10565 SW 109 Street, Miami
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pgonza7782@aol.com
By appointment only

Michael's Bromeliads, Inc.

Michael and Donna Kiehl
973 First Dirt Road, Venice 34292
Cell: (727)415-7276
Nursery open daily by appointment.
info@michaelsbromeliads.com
www.michaelsbromeliads.com
Visit us on Facebook
We specialize in a wide range of bromeliad types including
Neoregelia, Billbergia, foliage Vriesea and terrestrial varieties.
Visitors are always welcome, please call or email for an ap-
pointment. Our current catalog is available on our website at
www.michaelsbromeliads.com.

The Nature Collection

Shirley and Richard Konefal
2319 Taylor Street, Hollywood 33020
(954)922-5582

By appointment only
grillskonefal@aol.com
www.thenaturecollection.com;
www.facebook.com/pages/The-Nature-
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A retail bromeliad nursery ranging from small collectibles to large landscaping specimens; shipped across the USA.

Plants N Things by George

George and Irene Aldrich
746 NE 35th Street, Ocala 34479-2712
(352)629-1913

By appointment
plantsnthings5@cox.net
Specializing in bromeliads

Powell's Nursery

1002 Bayvista Drive, Tarpon Springs 34689
(727)938-0831

Hours: 8-5 daily (please call first)
thecompletepoet34@gmail.com
Specializing in Neoregelias, Aechmeas, Billbergias, and Nidulariums

Randy's Bromeliads & More, Inc.

Randy Garcia
(813)241-0500
Mail order only
<http://www.randysbromeliads.com>
randysbromeliads@msn.com

Russell's Bromeliads

15100 Lost Lake Road, Clermont 34711
(407)656-5541; Fax: (407)656-7640
Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00
Specializing in quality Tillandsias

T & C Tropicals

Tim and Colleen Hendrix
21 Holly Lane, Plantation 33317
(954)931-1711 or (954)530-0076
By appointment only
timbo-169@comcast.net
Our nursery is located in the heart of beautiful historic Plantation. We have hundreds of different varieties of Neoregelia and Tillandsia.

Tropiflora

Dennis and Linda Cathcart
3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota 34243
(800)613-7520/(941)351-2267; fax (941)351-6985
sales@tropiflora.com
www.tropiflora.com
Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 5:00; Saturday, 8:00 - 3:00
Established in 1976, our nursery specializes in collectible plants such as bromeliads, but includes orchids, succulents, aroids, much more. Our bromeliad collection includes 4,000 varieties of species and hybrids, an inventory of over 1,000,000 plants housed in 6 acres of greenhouses and shade houses. Mail order world-wide. Visitors welcome, no appointment necessary.



News from FCBS Affiliated Societies



Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

In January, members enjoyed a session of show and tell. Also that month, members did plantings at the Sanford Zoo. In March, they cleaned up the gardens at the center, in anticipation of the April sale. They are planning ahead for a program on society pioneers, in August.

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

BSBC started the year with preparations for the 2013 Show in March. In February, members participated in demonstrations concerning preparations for the show. Maureen Frazel and Ann Schandlemayer focused on items in the Artistic Category. The 15th Biennial Show and Sale “Garden Fest 2013, Bromeliads Gone Wild” took place on March 23 and 24 at Volunteer Park in Plantation in collaboration with the Plantation Woman’s Club. Fifty-two sellers, including seven bromeliad sellers covered the large expanse of the beautiful park.

The current meeting place at the Deicke Auditorium will enter a phase of remodeling and the BBSBC will be temporarily using a space at the Plantation Community Church nearby at 6501 W. Broward Blvd. in Plantation.

Elections for the new Board have been postponed to the fall.
Jose Donayre

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

FECBS has its first Lifetime Members: Calandra and Jay Thurrott who were presented with original, beautiful

original framed bromeliad artwork by artist Pen Goff. A new column for our newsletter is called 'Ask Jay!' where you get to ask Jay Thurrott questions that about growing bromeliads in our area. Another addition to the newsletter with photos: "Name that Plant." In March, at the New Smyrna Beach Water-Wise Gardening FECBS manned (womaned) a sales booth. Members also participated in 'Symphony of Flowers' at the Tavern and Chapel in the Gardens in Port Orange.

Everybody's Flower Show, (sneak preview) an abbreviated horticulture show, was part of the Spring Home Show at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach and was in part organized by Rick Ryals and Jay Thurrott along with the Halifax Council of Gardens. Garden Fest 2013, Bromeliad Society of Broward County annual show and sale., in Plantation was judged by member Eve Krauth.

In April, one of the club's major events was the Master Gardeners half-day sale at Volusia County Fairgrounds with Sudi Hipsley, Rick Ryals, Jay Thurrott, Jack Dunlop, Bill McBride, and others. Members Jane Villa-Lobo and Palm Coast residents among our members participated in the Palm Coast Community Flower Show and Plant. Bromeliad Society of South Florida show and sale at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Coral Gables was judged by Jay Thurrott, Calandra Thurrott, Rick Ryal, and Eve Krauth. Eretta Morris and Rick Ryals organized a bus road trip to the gardens, Block Botanical, The Mount, and Morikami Gardens with an overnight stay in West Palm to include members and bromeliacs from the Central Florida area. Calandra Thurrott

Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report

12 January 2013

Ronald D. Cave¹, Teresa M. Cooper¹, and J. Howard Frank²

¹Indian River Research & Education Center, UF, Ft. Pierce, FL

²Entomology & Nematology Department, UF, Gainesville, FL



A total of 227 fly pupae were collected from our *Lixadmontia franki* colony in January 2013, 188 in February, and 287 in March, for a total of 702 this quarter.

Because the fly colony is remarkably improving, we will be able to resume fly releases soon. The next release is tentatively scheduled for late April/early May at the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park.

We have begun testing our Belize colony of the Mexican bromeliad weevil for oviposition rate, survival, and developmental time (egg to pupa, pupa to adult) at different temperatures. Results so far show a slower developmental time and a lower oviposition rate for the Belize form of the weevil compared to the Mexican form.

We are in the process of getting tissue samples from *Tillandsia utriculata* that grows in Florida and from *T. utriculata* that grows in Central America. The samples will be genetically tested to determine if the Florida and Central American forms of *T. utriculata* are the same species. We are continuing our research of host bromeliad effect on the weevil. We plan to test the Florida and Central American form of *T. utriculata* as well as *T. fasciculata* and pineapple. We have tested developmental time and oviposition rate of the weevil on these host bromeliads using leaf material. We will repeat these tests, only this time we will use whole plants, beginning with pineapple.

Publications:

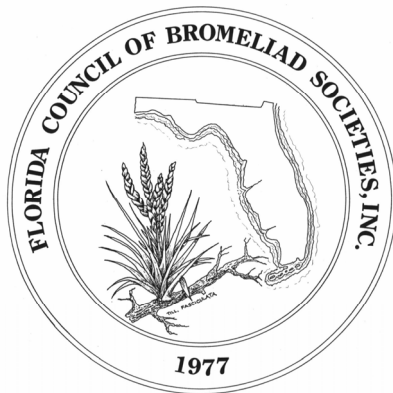
Cooper, T.M., Frank, J.H., Cave, R.D. 2013. Loss of phytotelmata due to an invasive bromeliad-eating weevil and its potential effects on faunal diversity and biogeochemical cycles. *Acta Oecologia* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.actao.2013.01.016>.

Grant proposals submitted:

Cave, R. D., and T. M. Cooper. Comparison of *Tillandsia utriculata* from Florida and Central America for biotic resistance to the Mexican bromeliad weevil. Florida Native Plant Society, \$1,500, notification in May 2013 (not funded).

Weevil Report Archive

An archive of all weevil reports, from 2006 to the present, can be found on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website at fcbs.org. Click on Weevil Information.



“Bromeliads on The Rocks”
2013 Bromeliad Extravaganza
September 21

It is not too early to make plans for the Bromeliad Extravaganza, hosted by Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society.

The Holiday Inn Harbourside is the location of this year’s event in Indian Rocks Beach on Florida’s West Coast. Check out these lovely accommodations at www.hiharbourside.com. In addition to the phone numbers on page 1, you can also email the hotel at reservations@hiharbourside.com.

Several vendors have already signed up for the sale:

Bromeliads Galore
Dave Johnston

Jungle Gems
Marty Baxley

Michael’s Bromeliads
Michael Kiehl

Palm Tree Gardens
David Prawl

Randy’s Bromeliads
Randy Garcia

Underhill Studios
Steven Littlefield

Vendors and anyone who wishes to participate in in Members Sales can contact Gary Lund, Extravaganza Sales Chairman,

at garybrom@yahoo.com for information and sales rules.

Seminar Speakers:

Don Beadle
The Billgergia and I... A Love Story!

Dennis Cathcart
Introduction to Bromeliads

Charley Birdsong
Bromeliad Exploration Along Australia's Gold Coast

Your banquet reservation includes entry to all seminars, the Friday night get together and the Extravaganza banquet.

Dinner choices:
Pollo Colada (chicken with Pina Colada sauce)
Stuffed Prawns (Shrimp with Crabmeat stuffing)
Vegetarian Dish (Pasta)

Cost is \$60 per person; reservation deadline is August 20.
Download the reservation form at fcbs.org.

The Rare Plant Auction follows the Extravaganza banquet.



Pitcairnia

by Karen Andreas

The Pitcairnia was the earliest bromeliad to evolve and is the second largest genus, after Tillandsia. There are more than 450 identified species and varieties, with a range from Cuba and Mexico to Argentina; the largest concentration is in Colombia, Brazil and Peru. The only bromeliad ever discovered outside of the Americas is *Pitcairnia feliciana*, found in Guinea, Africa.

In general, this bromeliad thrives in areas of shade and moisture. It grows epiphytically (as an air plant), can be saxicolous (growing on rocks) but mostly is terrestrial. Many species have long, narrow grass-like leaves; some have short, wide leaves; some species (*heterophylla*, for example) grows both.

In Bromeliads for the contemporary garden, Andrew Steens wrote that “this genus is a collection of oddballs, as it contains many species that don’t conform to our expectations of what a bromeliad should look or act like.” For instance, some Pitcairnias are deciduous, as in the case of *P. heterophylla* whose inflorescence emerges first, the leaves following after the start of the rainy season. Compare the inflorescence of *P. xanthocalyx* with that of *P. tabuliformis*, and you cannot help but wonder what they are doing in the same genus.

Pitcairnias thrive in the ground, especially in shady or semi-shady conditions and around moisture. Plant them around a fountain or a birdbath, and they will produce vigorous, healthy growth. They need room for their roots, so plant them in the ground with plenty of space or plant in a large, deep pot.

Pitcairnias make interesting foundation plants. The flowers range from red to orange to blue and, although they are short-lived, the inflorescences often last for several months. Next

time you are pondering what to do in a particularly shady area of your yard, consider a Pitcairnia.

To see pictures of this interesting genus, go to the Florida Council website at fcbs.org. Select Photo Index, on the left of the home page, then Pitcairnia. The Pitcairnias referenced in this article and below will give you a good representation of this genus.

P. chiriquensis comes from Chiriqui, Panama, where it lives by waterfalls. This bromeliad loves moisture. Its leaves are long and grassy; red flowers grow on its long inflorescence.

P. domingensis is saxicolous and epiphytic; it is found on the coastal rocks and woods, from sea level to higher altitudes in the Dominican Republic.

P. flammaea grows in wet conditions in the woods and on rocks in southern Brazil. Its leaves are spineless and grow 2 to 3 feet long. This bromeliad grows well in shade.

P. heterophylla is found from southern Mexico and the West Indies to Venezuela and Ecuador, generally growing in wet and shady locations. Its flowers appear first in the spring, the foliage follows. While it makes a nice clump, beware of the nasty spines at the base of the plant. This Pitcairnia can adapt from full shade to full sun.

P. tabuliformis is an atypical member of this genus from Chiapas, Mexico. Its numerous leaves form a rosette that flattens at blooming. The flowers rise from the center of the bromeliad and are a brilliant orange-red color. This Pitcairnia does not like wet leaves; provide moisture from below, as well as watering the soil only. Do not plant this species in the ground. It is a smaller member of this genus and does best in a pot.

P. xanthocalyx clumps readily, loves moisture and makes good ground cover. The leaves of this bromeliad are green on top, silver on the bottom.



Calendar of Events

August 17th - 18th

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford (on 17-92, one block south of Lake Mary Blvd)

9:00 - 4:00

Huge selection of bromeliads in many genera, orchids, aroids, ginger, other tropical plants, gift baskets, hand crafted slat baskets in several sizes. Members will be available to answer your questions. Free admission and free parking. Shop in air-conditioned comfort.

September 21

Bromeliad Extravaganza

Hosted by Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

Holiday Inn Harborside, 401 2nd Street, Indian Rocks Beach 33785, 727-595-9484

Info contacts: Susan Sousa susansousa1@yahoo.com and Judy Lund glund@tampabay.rr.com

September 27-29

Sarasota Bromeliad Show and Sale

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

December 6-8

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show and Sale

Terrie Park

3451 Marion Street, Fort Myers

Speakers List



Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Peter Kouchalakos - "Some thoughts on preparing your bromeliads for the Show"

Tom Wolfe - "Growing Neoregelias," with emphasis on classic hybridizers.

Dr. Bruce Zaret - "Taxonomic Approach to Streptocalyx and related Aechmeas"

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Marty Folk – "Bromeliads in the Landscape"

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Tom Wolfe and Dave Johnston – "How to Get Plants Ready for Show"

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Terrie Bert – "Bromeliads O-P"

Marty Folk – "Landscaping with Bromeliads," using pictures of members' gardens.

Lisa Robinette – "Preparing for the Show"

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Lenny Goldstein – Slideshow of previous year's show

Terrie Bert – "Bromeliads O-P"

Lynne Fieber – "What Judges Look For"

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

Jay Thurrott – "Why Plants Don't Make It to the Head Table"

Craig Correl – Pinecrest Gardens

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

David Benzing – “Bromeliad Patterns and Principles of Darwinian Evolution”

Terrie Bert – “Bromeliads O-P”

Alton Lee – “Nidulariums, an Underappreciated Genus “

Gainesville Bromeliad Society

Kenneth Stokes – “What’s in a Name”

Jose Donayre – “Growing and Displaying Billbergias”

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

Terrie Bert – “Bromeliads O-P”

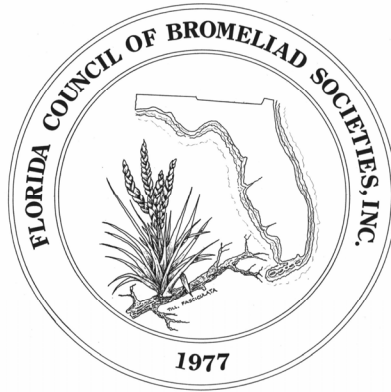
Ray Lemieux – “Growing Bromeliads from Seed”



FCBS Meetings in 2013

July 13
Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

October 12
Bromeliad Society of Broward County



This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Contact the editor for permission to reprint articles from this publication. Send all requests to karen@fcbs.org. Copyright 2013.

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(continued from inside front cover)

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