



GRANDE



“When I first decided to collect bromeliads”, remarks Hazel Quilhot, “one thing that stood out was the fact that they grew on trees, and we have two huge live oak trees in our yard.

From our collection of bromeliads and epiphytic plants, we proceeded to select what would survive unusual climate changes. We do have cold below freezing for short periods of time, hot and dry times too, and, of course, the rainy season has to be taken into account.

“Looking over the available supply of bromeliads with ‘showy’ qualities. Because color was a factor we used *Billbergia* Theo L. Meade for the long, hanging inflorescence, *Aechmea fulgens* var. *discolor* for the beautiful cluster of red berries, and *Neo. marmorata* for the mottled foliage, which looks great

when the sun comes through. *Billbergia* Muriel Waterman is a must if you are planting a tree because the color is such a deep purple, and, if you have trouble blooming it, you won’t when it is mounted.

“Lower areas have *Neo. compacta*, orchids, rhipsalis, tillandsias; upper areas have staghorn ferns, anthuriums, and we now have an epiphytic cycad.

