



BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF GREATER CHICAGO

# THE BSGC NEWS

July, 2012

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WEB SITE

<http://bromeliad-chicago.org>

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Lori Weigerding

At the June meeting, Steve and I enjoyed sharing our pictures of our visit to the La Ballona Valley Society Show, Rainforest Flora Nursery and the visit to the South Bay Associates meeting in California.

We will be visiting Pesche's Garden on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Their address is 170 South River Road, Des Plaines 60016. Their phone number is (847) 299-1300. If you need a ride please get in touch with someone. While there, we will have a short meeting to discuss the upcoming show which is July 20<sup>th</sup> (Set-Up) through July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## *President's Column*

*Well it certainly is hot out there! I really think that you could cook an egg out there, bacon too! Hope you all are being able to keep cool! I know there's a lot of people without electricity. We do have the final setup for the show, we will be selling in the same place as before and displaying our plants along the back windows. Bill (Ted's) will be setup across the doorway from us and the rest of the Cactus Club is in the area across from us where the Schmidt's used to be. We will certainly have an exciting time with this mixed venue. At least Ardie and Jack won't have to bring so many plants up this year! Please let us know if you'll be putting any plants/displays out for the show, so we'll know how much space will be used.*

*The plants are due to arrive at my house the Thursday before. I'll have the tracking number so I can keep track of it and know when it'll be here. We're having approximately \$500 worth of plants coming and there should not be any dead ones hopefully. This time if there's a problem with any of them, I'll be sure to let them know right away.*

*We're going to Pesche's on Sunday, July 8th!! We'll be meeting there at 2 PM, so have your walking shoes on and hopefully the temperature won't be so high! We also need to put together a list of who's going to be working at the show, so we're covered. If you aren't coming to Pesche's on Sunday, please email Martha at [stevegoode1@ameritech.net](mailto:stevegoode1@ameritech.net) to let her know what time you're available.*

*Looking forward to seeing you all there! This will be a great couple of weekends! Remember the show is 7/21-22/2012, be there or be square!*

*Lori Weigerding*

## Flower Color of some Tillandsias

There are many different flower colors in the tillandsia genus. Some of the tillandsia have more than one color form. Below is a short list of some of the genus and their flower colors. The ones pictured are from the [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org) website.

### PURPLE

Til. Caput-medusae  
chiapensis  
duratii  
ehlersiani  
harrisii  
magnusiana  
pruinosa  
streptophylla  
velutina





## WHITE

Til. acosta-solisii  
didisticha  
limbata  
lorentziana  
straminea  
tenuifolia  
xiphioides

## RED

Til. albertiana  
funkiana  
geminiflora



## PINK

Til. argentina  
sucrei

ORANGE-YELLOW

Til. crocata  
humilis



GREEN

Til. atroviridipetala

BLUE

Til. neglecta



This is the time of year to fertilize your bromeliads. Many growers say not to fertilize Neoregelias and Bilbergias. In the May, Tampa Bay Florida Newsletter, Barbara Easton who won head table in multiple categories discovered a product that she thinks really helped her plants. Spray-N-Grow is a micronutrient complex. It is available at [www.spray-n-grow.com](http://www.spray-n-grow.com) Or by calling 1-800-323-2363. Their address is 227 Highway 35 Bypass, Rockport, TX 78382.

This article is from the December, 2011 newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of New South Wales

**TILLANDSIAS-Some of the DIFFERENT SHAPES**  
by Bob Hudson

Caulscent:           Having an evident leafy stem above the ground.  
Rosette:             Shaped like a rose, circular.  
Tubular:             A cylindrical shape  
Bulbous:             Bulb-like, with the structure of a bulb.  
Grasslike:           Looking like grass, thin long leaves.

<b>Caulscent</b>	<b>Rosette</b>	<b>Tubular</b>	<b>Bulbous</b>
albida	brachycaulos	balbisiana	bulbosa
araujei	chiapensis	dyeriana	caput-medusae
edithea	harrisii	flexuosa	ehlersiana
funckiana	hondurensis	intermedia	pruniosa
neglecta	houston	limbata	seleriana
palacea	ionantha	xsmalliana	'Showtime'
tectorum	meridionalis	'Curly Slim'	'Ty'
tenuifolia	rothii	'Eric Knobloch'	
	stricta		
	tectorum		

<b>Grasslike</b>	<b>Miniature</b>	<b>Odd Bods</b>
capiliaris types	azioidea	duratii
dodsonii	bartramii	kalembacheri
festucoides	bryoides	straminea
juncea	crocata	streptocarpa
juncifolia	retorta	
remota		
setacea		

This article is from the Feb.,2012, East London Bromeliad Society Newsletter.

### Some Interesting Tillandsias - Presented by Dudley Reynolds

Not many *Tillandsias* are in bloom at the moment as we near the end of a very hot and humid summer. So I am going to discuss a few examples of different forms of *Tillandsias*. I hope this talk and the plants I have on display rekindle an interest in this fantastic group of plants as we often get carried away with all the other beautiful bromeliads.

The first group I discussed were the tiny **moss-like type of *Tillandsias***.

- *Tillandsia bryoides* - very slow growing and it likes a shady area.
- *Tillandsia tricholepis* - the trichomes are visible and the plant can tolerate full sun. The name means: with hairy scales.
- *Tillandsia usneoides* - the name means 'like Lichen'. There are various forms. I passed around an example which has a little green flower with a musky smell.



Til. *Bryoides*



Til. *tricholepis*



Til. *usneoides*

The second group are some examples of xeric *Tillandsias*. This group will grow in very dry conditions and full sun.

- *Tillandsia tectorum* - the trichomes give the plant a fuzzy appearance. Trichomes act as insulation from the heat by reflecting sunlight and thereby keeping the leaf surface cooler.
- *Tillandsia crocata* is another 'fuzzy' plant with small yellow scented flowers.
- *Tillandsia latifolia* - their natural habitat is the Peruvian coast line. There are various forms.
- *Tillandsia xerographica* - A slow grower most commonly found in the desert.



*Til. tectorum*



*Til. crocata*



*Til. latifolia*



**Night blooming *Tillandsia*:**

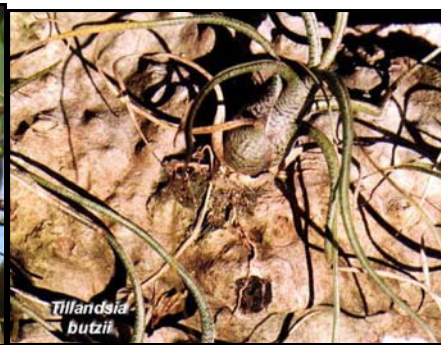
*Tillandsia narthecioides*, scented flowers which open at night and are pollinated by moths.



Some examples of **Bulbous Forms of Tillandsias**: *These mermecophytes grow in harmony with ants which occupy the pseudo bulbs. Ageotropic tillandsias grow in all directions.*



*Til. bulbosa*



*Til. butzii*



*Til. seleriana*



*Til. ehlersiana*



Some examples of grass-like *Tillandsias*:



*Til. juncea*



*Til. remota*



*Til. linearis*



*Til. fillifolia*

Examples of softer-leaved shady growing *Tillandsias*:



*Til. leiboldiana*



*Til. cyanea*



*Til. x floridana*

## **The Bromeliad Show**

**Set Up- FRIDAY, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 6:30 pm**

**Show Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30-4:30 pm**

**Show Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:30- 4:30 pm**

If you are available to work any of these times on these days, please call or email Martha at [stevegoode1@ameritech.net](mailto:stevegoode1@ameritech.net) Or (815) 459-1623.

Meeting the public can be fun. Here are some hints.

Open by focusing on the plants. You can ask...

Are you enjoying the show?

Have you seen bromeliads before?

Do you have any?

Which ones do you like?

Avoid saying, “May I help you?” This gives the potential customer the chance to say no. There will be people just looking and those who came in to get out of the heat. They still deserve your attention. You can still educate them about bromeliads. Don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t know but we can ask another member.”

