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CONTENTS



p. 6



p. 22



p. 38

- 4 **BSI Annual Meetings, 2006.**
- 6 **Taxonomic study of the genus *Tillandsia* L. (Bromeliaceae) in the Sierra de Juárez, Oaxaca, Mexico.**
Carolina Granados Mendoza.
- 12 **Leviathans of the cloud forest: epiphytic bromeliads with woody stems.** Simon Pierce.
- 16 ***Pitcairnea albo-lutea* and *P. oliva-estevae*: two new species from the Andes of Venezuela.**
Jason R. Grant.
- 22 ***Neoregelia* 'Madam President.'**
Derek Butcher.
- 23 ***Vriesea gigantea*.**
Tom Wolfe
- 25 **Sources and strengths of Nitrogen in *Tillandsia* propagation.**
Andrew Flower.
- 34 ***Vriesea platynema*, *Atta* (leaf-cutting ants), and other insects: student experiences in Venezuela.**
Howard Frank.
- 38 **Pineapple Applique.**
- 39 **Nutans Nocturn.** Ken Marks.
- 44 **Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show 2006.**
Carolyn Schoenau.

Covers

Front—*Tillandsia macdougallii* in Oaxaca, Mexico. Photo by Gerado Salazar.

Rear—First Journal photo of *Vriesea friburgensis* var. *friburgensis* from Brazil. Photograph by Vern Sawyer.

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In This Issue

This month sees a break from the discussion of our member survey to summarise the Annual meetings held just prior to the World Conference last year. I have tried to give you a reasonable summary of what was discussed and decided, without including too much detail of who had motions etc. Members are entitled to a full account of the meeting, and if you want them you have only to ask me and I will email or post you a copy of the official minutes.

Scientific

We have another paper based on the Tillandsia symposium at the World Conference last June, this time Carolina Granados gives an overview of tillandsia in Sierra de Juárez, Mexico (p.6) Simon Pierce found some amazing *Werauhia* species growing on huge stems in Panama (p.12) and Jason Grant introduces two new *Pitcairnia* species from the Venezuelan Andes (p.16).

Cultivation

Original articles for the cultivation section have been hard to come by, and this issue the Editor had to make a hurried contribution about his trials feeding nitrogen to tillandsia seedlings. You know how to avoid having future contributions from his desk!

Regular contributor Derek Butcher backgrounds a new *Neoregelia* hybridised by Allan Freeman in Australia, and named 'Madam President' for Madam President. Tom and Carole Wolfe show us the culmination of 20 years growth by their *Vriesea gigantea* var *gigantea* that certainly was a giant.

General Interest

Oscar Ribeiro sent us some photos from Brazil of ants eating his *Alcantarea*, and from this we learned of work being done by Howard Frank and his students on leaf-cutting ants in Venezuela - his report is on page 34. Art is a wonderful way to display bromeliads, particularly to a wider audience. On page 38 we have a picture of a "Pineapple applique" made by Calandra Thurrott and exhibited at the World Conference in San Diego. Ken Marks has been enthralling us with his adventures seeking out Florida's native bromeliads, and he finishes off with a "nutans nocturn" beginning on page 39. I owe Ken an apology for not crediting him with the fine photos he used to illustrate his first 3 papers. This time, he has graced his article with photos from photographer Rick Cruz.

Carolyn Schoenau reports on another affiliate show, this time the Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show held last September. We have the upcoming events on page 46, then on the back cover Harry Luther introduces *Vriesea friburgensis*, with a photo first submitted to the Journal in 1997!

Francisco Oliva-Esteve advises that he has changed his email address since his advert. in our last issue. francisco_oliva32@hotmail.com



Taxonomic study of the genus *Tillandsia* L. (*Bromeliaceae*) in the Sierra de Juárez, Oaxaca, Mexico

Carolina Granados Mendoza¹

Abstract

The species of the genus *Tillandsia* L. represents one of the most important seasonal earnings for the inhabitants of the *Sierra de Juárez*. The goal of the present work is a checklist of the species of this genus in the region. The *Sierra de Juárez* harbour 29 species of *Tillandsia* L. which represents 15% of the total species reported for Mexico. We also registered four taxa with a distribution restricted to the state of Oaxaca, and we found 2 new species.

Key words: *Tillandsia* L., *Sierra de Juárez*, Oaxaca, Mexico.

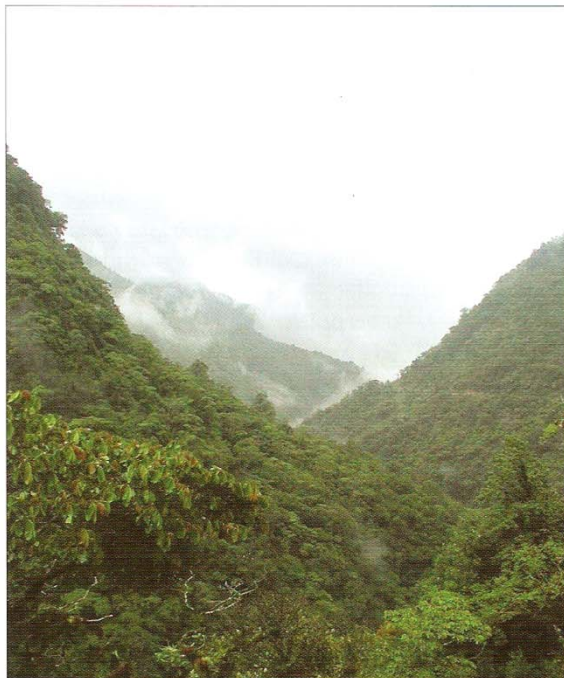


Figure 1. Tropical Rain Forest at Sierra de Juárez, Oaxaca. Photograph by Carolina Granados.

Introduction

The neotropical family *Bromeliaceae* Juss. (Espejo-Serna and López-Ferrari 1998, Barfuss, Samuel et al. 2005) has about 3000 species divided into 56 genera of which *Tillandsia* L. has the majority of species (Luther 2004.)

In Mexico the genus *Tillandsia* L. is represented by nearly 200 species (Espejo-Serna, López-Ferrari et al. 2004), Oaxaca is the state with highest species richness (ca. 90 spp.). This group is distributed in almost all the vegetation types found in the country, existing as a very conspicuous element of the epiphytic flora.

The tillandsias have a variety of uses, which includes food, forage, medicinal, and above all as ornamental (Flores 1998). At Christmas time it is common to find

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