

The Potting Shed Observer



Issue 1. June 2012
ISSN 2253-5187

Photos

Cover picture is of a plant grown from seed supplied by the Bromeliad Society International seedbank in 1995 labelled "*Tillandsia streptocarpa* large." Not an easy species to identify, this one flowered in January 2012. Plant 40cm tall.

All photos are by the Editor unless advised otherwise.

Wellington Tillandsia Study Group Meeting, May 2012

Held on May 27, 2012, at Andy Falshaw's home in Eastbourne. The following plants were discussed:

Phyl Purdie:

Tillandsia setiformis (imported from BirdRock Tropicals, CA) had a rather dried-up inflorescence. It seems to do this down here, with the bracts starting to brown off before the flowers are produced. Others in flower *T. simulata* (originally grown from seed ex Florida), a large-leaf form of *T. incarnata* and the small Guatemalan form of *T. concolor*.



Tillandsia setiformis

Andy Falshaw:

Samples of *Tillandsia edithiae* and *T. incarnata* post-flowering, question where to cut off the old flower spikes. General answer is to cut them off as far down the stem (peduncle, rachis) as you can get without damaging the rest of the plant. If you are not wanting to wait and see if the tillandsia is going to set seed, then the sooner you cut off the inflorescence the sooner the plant can divert more resources into producing offsets.



Tillandsia concolor Guatemala

Contents

1 Wellington Tillandsia Study Group Meeting May 2012

8 The Potting shed.

Publication details

Editor and publisher: Andrew Flower MA(Hons)
P.O. Box 57021, Mana
Porirua 5247, New Zealand.

email: editor@anwyl.com

phone: (04) 2399-659

Copyright © 2012, *all rights reserved.*

Please request permission from the Editor before reproducing or distributing any portion of this document.



This little clump of *Tillandsia velutina* was flowering a bit later than the usual February-March down here. It is named for the velvety nature of its leaves, and is native to Guatemala and Mexico around their common border.



From a batch of seed sent by the Bromeliad Society of Australia in November 1996, labelled "*Tillandsia flavobracteata*." This was the only seedling that survived. 45 cm. tall.

It looks like photos taken by Renate Ehlers of *T. flavobracteata* and matches quite closely the original description (Matuda 1975, *Cact. Suc. Mex.* 20(4): 9799, figs 49-50).

However, the taxonomic status of this taxon is controversial and it may well be considered a variety of *T. fasciculata*.



Tillandsia AB862175



Tillandsia AB871943

A couple of my hybrids were discussed, with members preferring the lighter orange colour of the one on the left above.

AB862175 is *Tillandsia capitata* (Guatemala, ex BirdRock Tropicals BT029) x *T. scaposa* - note the interesting leaf arrangement shown in the photo.

AB871943 is *Tillandsia circinnatoides* x *T. ionantha*. A bit scruffy.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The Potting Shed Observer is published bimonthly, and subscriptions are for 6 issues starting from the latest issue unless you request an earlier issue to start from. Single issues can also be ordered.

New Zealand* \$ 12 for 6 issues, \$3 single issue.
Australia A\$10 for 6 issues, \$2.50 single issue.
Elsewhere US\$ 10 for 6 issues, \$2.50 single issue.

*price includes GST

Payment can be made by cheque, cash, PayPal or Credit card via the shopping cart on www.anwyl.com.

Internet banking payment can be made to our bank accounts in New Zealand, Australia and USA by local residents in those countries.