



SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 7

JULY, 2009

5

GENERAL MEETING: Sunday, July 12, 1:30 P.M, South Coast Botanical Gardens

PROGRAM: Landscaping with Dry Climate Plants for S. Calif. Gardens—Joe Clements
Landscaping with Succulents—Pedra Furmall

Realizing the need to be water-wise in our gardens, the topic of our annual 'Public Lecture' will focus on water conservation and using cactus and succulents in landscape. Our key speaker, Joe Clements, is the coauthor of "Dry Climate Gardening". He was employed by Huntington Botanical Gardens as Curator of the Desert Gardens for 22 years and has been Director of Rodman Arboretum at Pitzer College during the past nine years. Joe has served on the CSSA Board for more than 35 years, is the Past President of the San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society, and has served as cochairman of SGC&SS Study Group. For long-standing service in the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Joe has received the CSSA Superior Service Award.

The program will also include Pedra Furmall who is an Assistant Arboretum Gardener for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Graduating magnum cum laude in fine arts in New Mexico, Pedra has worked three years with L.A. County Dept. of Parks and Recreation and two years in public display gardens and nurseries. She has been designing display gardens for five years in L.A. County. Her focus is on water-wise gardening and incorporating color, form and composition in the design process. Pedra will also update us regarding the new Desert Garden that she has been working on at South Coast Botanical Garden.

President' Message for July 2009

This month' meeting will be a little different than most because, as we did last July, we are sponsoring a "Public Lecture" focusing on using succulents to landscape. So we will meet in the hall rather than the classroom. However, **please enter through the classroom door** to avoid paying an entry fee unless of course you are a SCBG Foundation member. At the June meeting the members decided to eliminate all normal meeting activities, so there will be **no Mini-show, Brag Table, door prizes or business**. After the public program, everyone will be invited to stroll out to the Desert Garden to see the progress since last year and have an opportunity to ask our speakers questions.

I would like to start the program at 1:30 PM; so please be prompt.

Dale La Forest

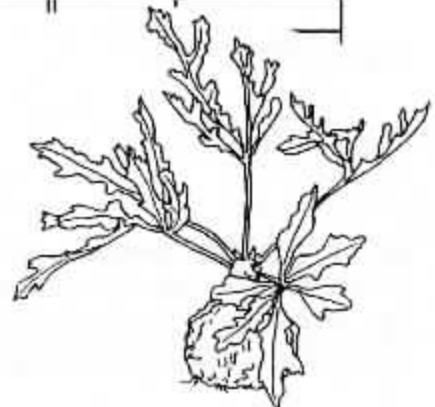
SCC&SS OFFICERS: President: Dale LaForest (310)618-9886, 1st V. Pres.: Hank Warzybok, (562) 429-7110; 2nd v. Pres: Gary Duke, (714)377-0064; Treas.: Marsha Huebner, (310)834-0263; Sec: Phillp Ross, (310)378-5748; Show Chr.: Jim Gardner; Sunshine Chr.: Lupe Hulett, (310)375-3790; Refreshments: Carol Causey (310)675-5843; Newsletter: Vera Thaxton (760)564-3285.

PLANT OF THE MONTH RULES -Revised 3/09

- Up to three plants may be entered in each of the two categories - cactus and succulent.
- Entries may be in either the Novice or Open class.
 - Novice entries must have been held by the owner for at least 6 months. Only plant condition will be judged, not the pot or other enhancements.
 - Open entries must have been held for at least a year. All aspects of the entry will be judged.
 - Members showing in the Open class may not enter plants in the Novice class during the year, but may re-enter the novice class starting in January.
- Judging
 - Entrants will receive 6 points for first place, 4 points for second place, 2 points for third place, and 1 point for showing a plant that is not disqualified.
 - Up to three third places in a category. If plants are not deemed to be of sufficient quality, no place will be awarded.
 - At the discretion of the judge and/or Mini-show Chair a plant may be disqualified or removed due to disease or infestation or because it is not labeled correctly.

**Southcoast Cactus And Succulent Society
Club Mini Show Results
As of 6/23/2009**

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents
Caplan	6	7	Capaldo	30	11
Dunn		6	Duke	25	19
Don La Forest	7		Gardner		24
Lewis	12	4	Hanna		8
Luhnow	2		Koktschreiber		3
Mason		14	D. La Forest	1	7
Ross	8	11	Warzybok	4	8
Snow		8	Woodley	4	18
Tanner J.	6	13			
Tanner K.	2				
Vande Bogart		1			
Miller		6			



CUSSONIA PANICULATA

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

Cactus of the Month July 2009

Eriosyce

REMINDER - MINISHOW CANCELLED THIS MONTH

Description and Habitat

Eriosyce is a genus of cacti native to Chile. There are both globular and columnar types that produce flowers with a spiny and hairy tube. The flowers grow laterally on specially formed areoles.

The following genera have been brought into synonymy with Eriosyce:

Ceratistes Labour. (nom. inval.)

Chilemiopsis Backeb.

Chileocactus Fric (nom. inval.)

Chileorebutia Fric (nom. inval.)

Chilorebutia Fric (orth. var.)

Delaetia Backeb.

Dracocactus Y.Itô (nom. inval.)

Euporteria Kreuz. & Buining

Hildmannia Kreuz. & Buining

Horridocactus Backeb.

Islaya Backeb.

Neochilemia Backeb. ex Dölz

Neoporteria Britton & Rose

Neoporteria Backeb.

Neotanahashia Y.Itô

Nichelia Bullock (nom. inval.)

Pyrrhocactus (A.Berger) A.W.Hill

Rodentiophila F.Ritter ex Backeb.

Thelocephala Y.Itô

Cultivation

Almost all of these plants need a deep pot with very good drainage to accommodate a tap root. It is susceptible to over-watering. Occasionally some are grafted to avoid root rot problems. Keep dry in winter. Best suited for airy exposures. They like full sun; and can tolerate light shade. They like warmth (recommended minimum winter temperature: 40°F). But a plant kept perfectly dry can easily survive at winter night-time temperatures below freezing – especially if warmed to near 60 F the next day.

Pests & diseases: Some if not all are especially prone to rot, therefore, under-pot in a smaller container filled with very porous compost. Mealybugs can also attach themselves to the spines, plant body, and roots.

Species

I have not found a recent list, but any plant that was in the genera listed above can be shown in this genera. I believe the total species will exceed 100. Since not everyone agrees with this reclassification, plants that were obtained with tags using the old taxonomy are acceptable.

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulent of the Month July 2009

Cyphostemma

Based on a Tom Glavich article July 2004

REMINDER - MINISHOW CANCELLED THIS MONTH

Cyphostemma is a member of the *Vitaceae* or grape family. They are caudiciform and used to belong to the genus *Cissus*. The genus name comes from Greek *kyphos*, meaning *hump*, and *stemma*, meaning *garland*. The members of this genus span the range of extremely easy to grow plants to real challenges. Most of the species will grow large, given time, good root room, lots of fertilizer, and water during the growing season.

Most *Cyphostemma* will set fruit. In almost all cases, the fruit is toxic to humans and most pets, although freely eaten by birds. The seeds in the fruit are ripe when the fruit turns color (usually red).

The key to success with these plants is to pay attention to the native habitat. *C. juttae*, common in many collections, comes from South Africa. It takes some frost with no damage, and grows in the ground in Southern California, putting on bulk and character in just a few years.

Cyphostemma seitziana, on the other hand comes from Namibia, and is much less tolerant of unprotected cold and over watering.

Propagation is easy from cuttings and seeds. Seed of all the common and even some of the truly rare species is sometimes available through the CSSA or through some of the better South African and US seed dealers. Germination is erratic (days to

months), and only one seed should be sown per pot. The seedling mix should be sterile and organic, and hold a lot of water. Scarifying the seeds to allow water penetration helps. The seeds should be completely buried to provide uniform moisture. A plastic bag over the mix will help keep everything uniform. The bag should be removed as soon as any sign of green appears, the seedling leaves are large, and will rot if they touch the plastic. Softwood cuttings should be taken when active growth is occurring. Rooting does not require or even seem to benefit from hormones.

Selected Species

C. bainesii (Hook. f.) Desc. Syn. *Cissus bainesii*, *Vitis bainesii*

C. betiforme (Chiov.) K. Vollesen Syn. *Cyphostemma betiformis*, *Cissus betaeformis*

C. currori (Hooker fil.) Descoings Synonym:

C. cramerana, *Cissus currori*

C. elephantopus Descoings

C. juttae (Dinter & Gilg) Descoings.

C. laza Descoings

C. montagnacii Descoings

C. seitziana

References:

Philippe de Vosjoli, Pachycaul and Caudiciform Plants

Gordon Rowley, Caudiciform and Pachycaul Succulents



BARBARA WESSON, letsgetmuddy@att.net, is shown at her S. Tahoe home working with raku in a snowbank. Be sure to visit her website to see her Beautiful creations!

As an avid succulent collector, I found it almost impossible to find suitable pots for my specimen plants. Years ago, I came across a used pottery wheel for sale and realized that I could learn to create my own pots. This led to a career as full-time potter, bringing me full circle back to the plants that I love. Most of my pots are formed on my potter's wheel, but as time goes by I am finding pleasure in hand-building as well. I do everything I can to insure that my planters are packed securely with lots of padding to absorb the bumps and jolts occurring during shipment. I would like to invite you to visit my website letsgetmuddy.net where you will find links to pots that I currently have for sale and don't hesitate to contact me directly if you are interested in a planter of a specific size, shape, or color. I'm Barbara at letsgetmuddy@att.net.

MEMBERSHIP: A hearty WELCOME to our newest members!

Please help them get acquainted and Welcome to our Club!

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24th Intercity
Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale
August 15 -16, 2009 9:00 - 5:00
Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N Baldwin Ave
Arcadia, CA



Information: Tom Glavich 626-798-2430
Jim Hanna 562-920-3046
John Matthews 661-297-5364
Peter Walkowiak 858-382-1797
LA Arboretum 626-821-3222

Cactus and Succulent Calendar of Coming Events For 2009
Tentative Calendar of Upcoming Events for 2009

June 6th -7th San Diego Cactus And Succulent Society -Show And Sale,
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, Ca. Info.-#619-477-4779

June 13th - 14th Los Angeles Cactus And Succulent Society Show And Sale,
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Bl., Encino, Ca., Show Information
Call 818-363-3432

June 26th -28th CSSA Annual Show And Sale -Huntington Botanical Garden
at 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, Ca. 626-405-2160 or 2277
Plant sales start June 26th thru June 28th, The show opens on June 27th thru
June 28th to the public

May all
your weeds
be
wildflowers

SERIOUS GARDENERS

When the term "serious gardeners" was used on an Internet discussion list, Diana Chapman of Telos Rare Bulbs (Arcata, CA) offered these thoughts:
"Serious gardeners? Actually, I find the whole idea of gardening quite hilarious. Just think: full-grown adults spending all their leisure time, energy and resources to grow plants where they don't belong! Plan that without constant and unremitting attention would be dead within a week or two! People lying awake on frosty nights worrying about their botanical babies, until they finally jump out of bed at 2 a.m. to run around throwing blankies over their precious ones. People turning to lumps of jelly over a teeny, tiny little flower that others can barely see (but it's rare!) People refusing to take a vacation and leave their darling in the hands of a heartless mercenary. People abandoning careers and risking divorce to spend more time gardening ... the absurdity of it all makes it even more wonderful."

Fresno newsletter
2001