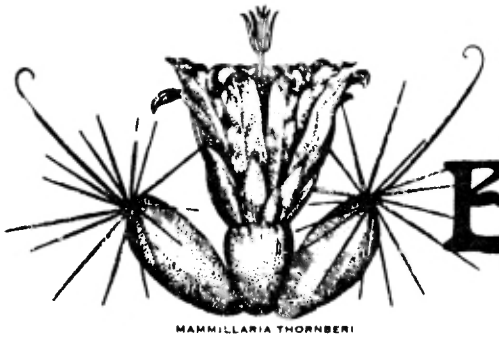


Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

Vol XI, No. 8 August 1976

PROGRAM:

"EASTER WEEK IN BAJA" Each month our program chairman has done an excellent job in acquiring interesting and outstanding programs for our enjoyment. But life is such that a little failure is due everyone. This is Madelyn's month! The program will be the Mooneys' Easter week trek down Baja's Highway #1. It will be a combination travelog, plant study and general observation. Look for another outstanding program in September.

CACTUS OF THE MONTH : Your favorite Cactus

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: : Pachypodium

INDEX Page

MEMBERSHIP: The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti, other succulents and exotic plants.

MEETINGS: Second Saturday of each month, 1:30 p.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, unless otherwise indicated. Board convenes after the general meeting.

NEWS AND VIEWS

NEW EDITOR FOR E-Y-F

Come September, our new editors, Geoff and Audrey Johnson, will be taking over the publication of our paper. This is your newsletter and needs your support. The Johnsons not only want your articles but need them. It is not the Editor's job to write all the articles, it is your job to write them and theirs to publish them.

ANNUAL PICNIC

A beautiful day and a bountiful table were shared by about eighty members as Bob and Suzanne Taylor hosted the annual picnic. Each family received a number which entitled them to a plant of Dr. Corliss' having that same number. Lee Phelps served as auctioneer for the sale of some of Taylors' prize plants. The Society wishes to thank the Taylors for their hospitality.

DR. CORLISS' ESTATE

The Board of Directors has entertained many suggestions for the disposition of Dr. Corliss' plants. Some of these were: Use some of the finer plants for Christmas gifts for members to assure that everyone gets a plant from this collection. Some of the plants to be sold at the plant sales table. Some of the common plants were sold at the August Open House. Fifty of the best plants were given as prizes at the July picnic. If you have any further suggestions please direct them to the president or one of the board members.

At present, the plants have been collected from Dr. Corliss' home and are in the care of Lee Phelps, Warren Buckner, John Pasek, and Martin Mooney. Sad to say, many of the plants are in poor condition. Arrangements have been made with the city to take the larger specimen plants to be used in the new desert garden in Balboa Park.

Dr. Corliss' library consists of 27 books on cacti and succulents. Our librarian, Edith Werner, and the library committee; Lee Phelps and Madelyn Lee will review the books at the August meeting to determine their condition and incorporate them into our library.

A GIFT

At the Del Mar Exposition, Mr. George Evans, one of our members, donated twelve beautiful hanging baskets of Sedum morganianum "donkey tail" to be used in our display. Following the Expo, these were sold and the proceeds donated to our society. It's this kind of thoughtfulness and generosity on the part of special individuals that makes our society a success and a joy to be a part of.

PLANTS NEED A HOME

A former member of our Society, Mrs. A.J. Hodge, due to her advanced age, is unable to care for her plants any longer. She would like to give them to anyone who will give them a good home. You may call her at 444-8027.

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH

Madelyn Lee

PACHYPODIUM

Family: APOCYNACEAE (Dogbone family)

Everyone wants a Pachypodium! It seems to be the plant for succulent collectors this year. People who don't have one are trying to find one and people who have one are looking for more.

The exotic shapes of the different species are probably their greatest appeal. The broad, lumpy silver tan P. brevicaule with its bright green leaves and deep, yellow, leatherlike flowers is totally different from P. geayi with its tall, unbranched, thorny trunk and foot long, red veined slender leaves. P. namaquanum is probably the most wanted and hardest member of the genera to find. It is a tall, unbranched plant with spiral rows of reddish-brown thorns. The curly leaves look furry and are in a tuft at the top of the plant. Each species has a totally different personality and eye appeal.

Of the 26 species and varieties known, twenty are from Madagascar and six from South and Southwest Africa. Some grow to heights of thirty feet and others are fat, broad caudiciform shapes three to six feet high and equally wide.

Why are Pachypodiums so hard to obtain? They are propagated from seed, not cuttings. The plants flower well under cultivation, but the very complicated flower structure makes them almost impossible to hand pollenate. It is not known what does the job in nature but a human with a brush is a poor substitute.

Lee Phelps has had some of his plants set seed outside the greenhouse. I hope he identifies his friendly helper and can export some of them.

Pachypodiums are almost totally grown in a warm greenhouse. Not only are they hard to find, but they are expensive to buy. Once established, the genera is not hard to grow. Most of the species seem to prefer a wide, shallow pot, but the tree-like forms do better in a deeper container. Their best time of growth here in San Diego is from August to January. Some people prefer to "rest" their plants by limiting the water for a few months in June and July. The plant will drop all leaves if you follow this proceedure. If you use an extra gritty , excellent drainage type of potting mix and water when soil is dry one-half inch from the surface all year round, the plant will keep its leaves and still grow well.

If you live in a frost free area you can grow Pachypodiums in the ground. A well drained or sloped area is best. They are magnificent plants when not confined to a pot! Be prepared to lose the plant if we have heavy rains in February and cold (40o-) weather hits after a rain. You can cover the plant and the ground around it with plastic. Be sure to place the plastic on poles so it does not rest on the plant. Most important, remember to remove plastic when the sun comes out. Cooked Pachypodium doesn't taste good.

Lets see how many Pachypodium species we have in San Diego. Bring your plant to the August meeting. -3-

CACTUS-OF-THE-MONTH

Your favorite cactus

George E. Radwin

Well, you caught me with my Plants-of-the-month down. I confess that I didn't schedule one for August. I suppose it was the timing of our open house that confused me. In any case the cactus for August will be your favorite plant of the cactus persuasion.

Rather than shortchange all those people (I forget if it's three or four) who look forward to my monthly vignette, I have compiled a list of Latin and Greek terms which, by themselves or in combination with others, make up the names of many of the best known species of cacti and succulents. Invariably, people approach me (as an obvious apologist for the scientist's practice of spouting jaw-breaking scientific names) and complain that the names are too hard to pronounce, let alone remember. I maintain that after a small amount of familiarization with the meanings of these words and/or roots, most people should not only be able to remember the names but actually to prefer using them to "owl's eyes","golden barrel", "fish hook", etc. etc. If this first inoculation doesn't take, I may be forced to administer a booster.

acantha, -us - prickle, thorn
aculei, -us - sharply pointed
albi-, albus -- white
alti-, -us -- high
ana,-anus -- pertaining to, belonging to
ancistro -- fish hook
anguli, -us -- angle, corner, bend
angusti, -us -- narrow
antha, -os -- flower
areol -- space
arma, armato -- armed, weapon-laden
armilla -- bracelet
arthro -- joint
astro -- star
aurant, auriant -- orange
aurei -- golden
austro -- southern
azureo -- blue
bi -- two
brachy-- short
brevi -- short
brunnei -- brown
bulbosa -- having a swelling, bulb, or tuber
callo, calli, calo -- beautiful
calyc -- cup (as in the cup(calyx) of a flower)
carpo, -us -- fruit
castaneo -- chestnut (as in the brown color of chestnuts)
caule -- stalk, stem
cephalo -- head
ceps, iceps -- head
cereus -- (tall and tapering as in a) candle
chamaeo -- on the ground, creeping, dwarf
chryso -- gold
cilia -- hair
cinerea -- ash-colored, gray
cladus -- branch, stem
clavi, -us -- club
cleisto -- closed (as in flowers that open only narrowly)
coleo -- sheath
column -- pillar
corni, -us -- horn
coryph -- head, top, apex
costata -- ribbed
crassi, -us -- thick, fat, stout
curvi, -us -- bent
densi, -us --thick, close
di -- two
dolicho -- long
duo -- two

echino, -us -- spiny
elegans -- tasteful, fine

ensis -- suffix denoting " from a specific place"
epi -- upon, on
erecti -- upright
erio -- wool
escens -- becoming
falcata -- sickle-shaped, hooked
fascia, fasciata -- band, zone
fera, ifera -- to carry, to bear
fili, -um -- thread
flava, flavida -- yellow
flora -- flower
folia, foliata - leaf,-leaved, leaves
fossulo - groove, furrow
fulvi, -us -- tawny, red-yellow
fusca, -us -- dusky, dark
gibbus -- humped, humpbacked
giga, gigant -- giant
glauca, -us -- blue-green, gray
gracili, -us -- slender, thin
grandi -- large, great
gymno -- naked, nude
hamato, -us -- hooked
helio -- sun
hexa -- six
homalo -- even, level
hylo -- wood, woody
icola -- living in
iformis, iforme -- having the form of
ii -- after, for (in patronyms - named for a person)
ingens -- vast, huge, great
issimus -- very
lana, lanata -- wool, woolly
lati, late -- side, to the side
leuco -- white
longi -- long
lopho -- mane, crest
loxo -- slanting, sloped
luteo -- yellow
macro -- long
magni, -us -- large, great
malaco -- soft
mammilla -- nipple (diminutive)
marginato -- to border, to have a border
maxima -- greatest
med, medio -- middle, moderate
melano, melana -- black (brown)
micra, micro -- small
minima -- least, littlest
minuta -- little, small, tiny
multi -- much, more, most, many
myria, myrio -- numberless, a great many
neo -- new
nidus, nidulo -- nest
nivea, nivosa -- snow, snowy
noto -- southern
nudi, denud -- bare, naked
obesa -- fat
odes -- likeness
oides -- like, resembling
ops -- the appearance of
opsis -- the appearance of
oreo -- mountain
orum -- of, pertaining to
ose -- have the nature or quality of, denoting fullness of this quality
pachy -- thick
parvi, parvulo -- little, few
pauci, -- few, little
pectini -- comb, comblike
pedio -- foot
pelecy -- ax, hatchet
penta -- five
petro -- rock
phil, philo, phila -- love, have a preference or predilection for
phore, phora -- bearer, carrier
phyllo - leaf
pilo, piloso -- hair, hairy
plumosa - soft, feathery, downy
poly -- many
princeps -- princely
pruin -- rime, frost(as in pruinosus, covered with frost)
pseudo -- false
ptero -- wing
pulchella -- beautiful (diminutive)
purpuri -- purple
pygmaeo - dwarf
pyrrho - flame-colored, red, tawny
quadri -- four
rami, ramosa, rama -- branch, branched
rapi - turnip, with a large root
retusa,-- blunted, rounded
rhizo -- root
rhod -- red, rose-colored
roseo, rosei -- rosy, rose red
rufo -- red, red-brown
sanguini - bloody, blood-colored
sclero -- tough, hard
senili -- old
seta, setus, seti -- bristle, hair

sperma --seed
spino, spini --- thorn
splendens -- beautiful, shining, bright
squamulo -- scaly
stellata -- stars, starry
stele -- pillar, column
striata -- line, lined
strobili --pine-conelike, spiralling like the scales of a pine cone
sub -- under
sulco -- furrow, groove
super -- over, above, more than
thelo -- nipple
thrix -- hair
toment -- woolly hairs
tri -- three
tricho, trichia -- hair, hairy
tuberc -- swelling, having a swelling
turbini -- top-shaped, turban-shaped
violaci -- violet, purple
viridi -- green

I hope I've prooved my point. I'm sure that you can see the derivation of the names of many of your species of cacti and succulents in the above list. But just in case there are still a few diehards who think it would be easier to refer to plants in some other way, just remember that Mammillaria fuscohamata is translatable to "the little nipple-cactus with dusky hooks; Pseudopilocereus fulvilanatus would become "the false hairy candle-like cactus with tawny hair; Malacocarpus tetracantha would be"the soft-fruited cactus with four thorns (per areole); Notocactus albispinus might not sound so bad as "the white-spined southern cactus" until one realizes how many species that description would fit; and how about "the small-flowered candle-like cactus with violet flowers for Micranthocereus violaciflorus, and of course the classic "the top-shape-fruited cactus that is similar to the mane-bearing cactus. I rest my case.

THE WORST MAY BE YET TO COME

Whipped by Santa Anna winds, a carelessly abandoned campfire or cigarette spreads to the surrounding timber. Thirteen thousand acres burn. Sparks from a welder's torch ignite nearby brush, many homes are lost in the fire. Operating without a spark arrestor, a motorcycle emits hot carbon particles. Minutes later the nearby mountainside erupts into flames destroying valuable land ant threatening a wild animal preserve!!!!!
All of these fires were unnecessary. All of them could have been prevented. All were the result of human carelessness and error. The 1976 fire season could be the worst since 1924. This situation exists, aminly because of last winter's half-normal rainfall. Because of this, bursh and timber now hold only 60% of their normal water content. Already, the California Division of Forestry (C.D.F.) has battled over 750 wildfires in California since May 15th, three times the usual amount.

(Cont. Page 9)

FLOWER STUDY

ECHINOCEREUS FASCICULATUS
(A "hedgehog cactus")

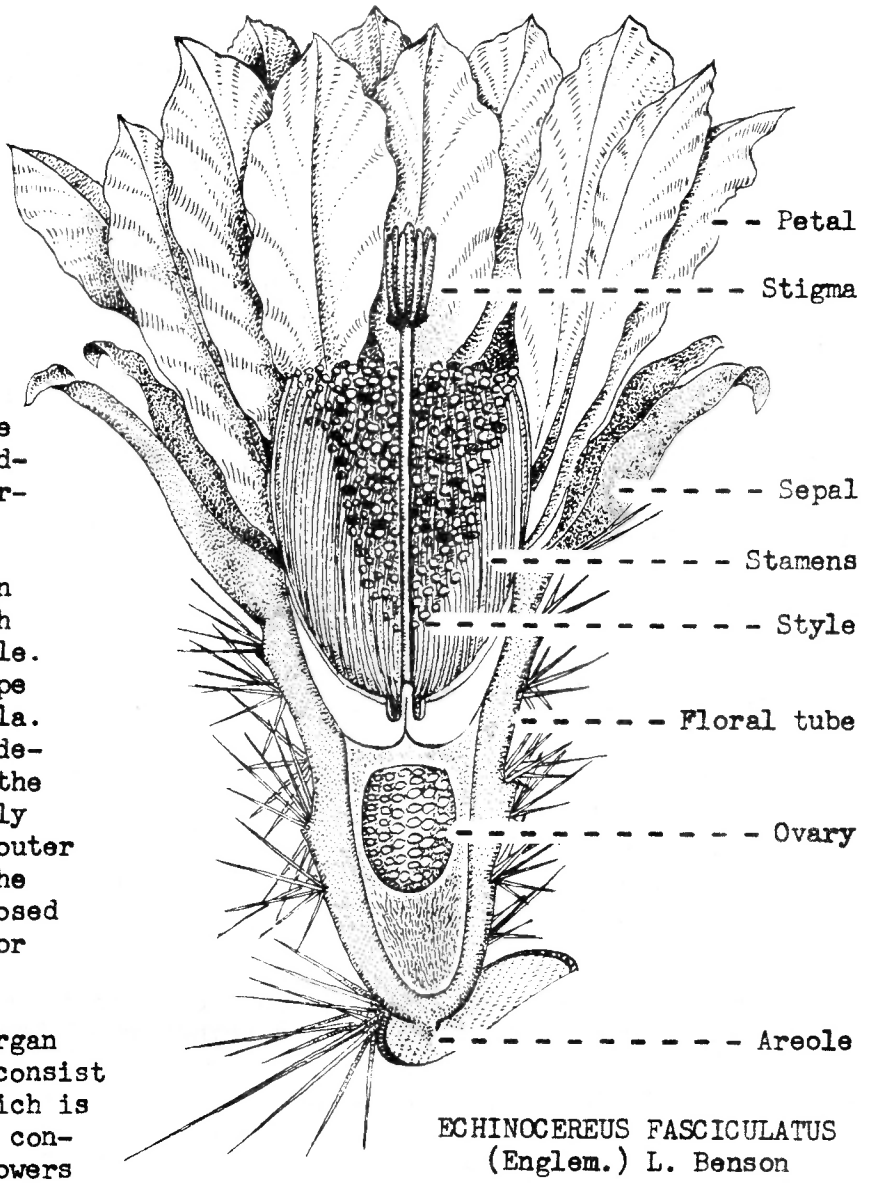
- - Anthony D'Attilio - -

DISTRIBUTION: Sand, gravel, or rocks of hills and washes in the desert from 2,500 to 5,000 feet elevation in Arizona and New Mexico.

E. fasciculatus grows in loose clumps of 5 to 20 green, elongated-cylindrical stems. Areoles are circular, spines are not dense.

Flowers are up to 2½ inches in diameter. Their petaloid perianth parts are magenta to reddish purple. The perianth is the floral envelope consisting of the calyx and corolla. The term is used particularly in describing cactus flowers in which the calyx and corolla cannot be readily distinguished. The calyx is the outer sepals of the floral envelope. The corolla is the inner series, composed of the petals. They may be free or united depending upon species.

Stamens constitute the male organ of a flower. Individual stamens consist of a stalk called the filament which is tipped by an anther or pollen sac containing pollen grains. Cactus flowers bear stamens in abundance.



ECHINOCEREUS FASCICULATUS
(Englem.) L. Benson
(Cross-sectional drawing)

The female organ is the pistil, consisting of stigma, style and ovary. The pistil tip, stigma, receives pollen for fertilization. In a cactus flower it is divided into a number of lobes. Stigmas of some species of Echinocereus are brilliantly colored. The floral tube of E. fasciculatus bears spines. The areole consists of two buds, one bearing a spine structure and the other a flower.

Since their discovery and introduction to the then "civilized world", the area surrounding the Mediterranean, cacti have been assiduously collected and methodically studied, moreso perhaps than any other plant family.

For sheer beauty and splendor, the cactus flower has no peer in Nature. Some are irridescent and some have a metallic sheen. Color variety is extraordinary. Their flowering habits are extremely varied, some species produce flowers during the darkness of night only to close and wilt on the return of day, their growing cycle having been sompleted and their purpose served during that brief time span. Others remain in beautiful flower day and night. Some are ensnared beneath an array of spines which makes it difficult for the flowers to fully open to reveal their beauty to the world. Some species bear very tiny, inconspicuous flowers, others are large and showy. Some are very fragrant.

The 1973 Endangered Species Act

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

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CRUNCHING-OUT THE CACTOPHILE

Mitchell Beauchamp

Hearings by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials during the past few weeks throughout the nation herald the implementation of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 with regard to plants. Additions to the Convention on Trade will soon follow also.

The Service has proposed, among other plant species, 31 native U.S. cacti, 7 Dudleyas, 2 Echeverias, 3 Sedums, 1 Zamia and 3 Agaves. Once the proposed list is approved and published, interstate trade of these Endangered species will be illegal. THAT'S ONE WAY TO LOOK AT IT !

On the other hand, these species will be protected from commercial exploitation. THAT'S THE OTHER WAY TO LOOK AT IT !

Unfortunately at the 22 July hearings in El Segundo, Cactus and Succulent Society of America representatives and cactus growers chose to express their concern that curtailed trade in Endangered cacti and succulents would diminish their business. Their statements unanimously referred to the fact that trade in field collected plants was the problem, not trade or sale of their fine hot house grown plants. Although the hearing was on the proposed regulations and list, most of the growers attacked the 1973 Act, not a consideration of the hearing. None of the growers or CSSA speakers commented as to whether or not the cacti and succulents listed were actually endangered or not.

It is unfortunate that CSSA has not established a firm policy regarding field collecting, both at home and abroad. The days of campers and VW busses loaded to the hilt with booty crossing at San Ysidro, Nogales or El Paso are numbered.

It is time for CSSA to take a firm stand on 1) the collecting of all field plants, 2) the exhibiting of field-collected material, 3) the advertising for sale of field material and 4) international trade of cacti and succulents.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Officers

PRESIDENT	- Martin L. Mooney, 97 K Street, Chula Vista, CA 92011	427-6796
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2ND V.P.	- Reed Pierce, 3525 Wilshire Terrace, San Diego, CA 92104	291-1944
SECRETARY	- Doris F. Rake, 4410 38th Street, San Diego, CA 92116	282-1722
TREASURER	- Russel Evans, 3115 Nile Street, San Diego, CA 92104	284-5859
CORR-SEC.	- Jeanie Merrill, 9306 Mesa Vista, La Mesa, CA 92041	469-6041
PAST PRES.	- Loyal Bibbey, 490 Citrus, Imperial Beach, CA 92032	423-5133

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2-year term: Mary L. Birchell and Perlso Lewis
3-year term: Shirley Berry and Thomas Hamecher

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The Worst is Yet to Come, Cont'd:

Fires raging out of control are a threat not only to natural resources but also to your home and your money as taxpayers.
Almost all fires are caused by people, either through carelessness or deliberate act. The C.D.F. desperately needs your help to stop this staggering increase in fires

PLEASE DON'T BE A FIRE-BUG!!!!

Martin L. Mooney
97 "K" St.
Chula Vista, CA 92011

Address correction requested

FIRST CLASS