

Espinas y Flores

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

Volume XXI, Number 3

March 8, 1986

MARCH MEETING

Saturday, March 8, 1986

Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

1:30 p.m.

SUCCULENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

by

Dr. Daryl Koutnik

Huntington Botanical Gardens

Southern Africa has the most diverse kinds of succulent plants in the world and is especially rich in members of the lily, ice plant, milkweed, euphorbia and crassula families. The different habitats in which these succulents can be found are also diverse and range from mountain tops, beaches, grasslands and chaparral. There exists, however, a marked distinction between those plants growing in summer rainfall areas and those in winter rainfall regions. A sampling of the different species found in southern Africa will be presented. Dr. Koutnik has just recently returned to the U.S. after a three-year stay in South Africa. He is presently employed as the Desert Garden Botanist at Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA.

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Deadline for the April Issue - March 29 - Thanks Mary

ANZA-BORREGO INHOLDINGS

At the Board of Directors' meeting in February, the Board unanimously approved a \$275.00 contribution to the Anza-Borrego Foundation to purchase approximately 5 acres of private inholdings within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. There are some 50,000 acres within the State Park boundaries that remain in private ownership. These inholdings create management and planning problems for the Park and jeopardize the Park's unequalled beauty, scientific values, recreational and educational opportunities. Public access routes to some of the most scenic areas of the Park are in private ownership. We will be accepting donations from the membership at our March meeting in an attempt to increase this donation. Your donations are tax-deductible and checks should be made payable to: Anza-Borrego Foundation. The SDC&SS Board of Directors further resolved to attempt to match this contribution on an annual basis, funds permitting.

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REMINDER

For those of us who arrive late to the meetings, or must leave early, please remember to enter and exit via the door in the kitchen. It is very disruptive to those of us trying to hear the programs, and disrespectful to the speakers when the door is opening and closing all the time. Thank you for your courtesy.
from Cathy Frost

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Bragging Plant Winners for February - -

- 1st Place Rowena Thompson for her Euphorbia columnaris (Graft buried!)
- 2nd Place Dorothy Dunn for her Mammillaria schwarzii
- 3rd Place Rudy Lime for his Euphorbia millii var. roseana
- tie Joe Clements for his Echinocereus viridiflorus var. davisii

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Those who have volunteered to bring refreshments for March are:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Evelyn Chatham | Nellie Kennett | Rose Robilotta |
| Sean Minoque | Lois Zarawka | Robyn Natwick |
| Susan Clements | Charles & Joanne Clark | Kathie Van Arum |
| Mark Detterman | Bruni Schaffler | Dana Adams |

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Succulent of the Month

THE GENUS DUDLEYA

Dorothy Dunn

The genus Dudleya was erected by Britton and Rose in 1903 and commemorates the name of William Russell Dudley, who was Professor of Systematic Botany at Stanford University from the date of its founding until 1910.

Dudleyas belong to the very large Crassulaceae family, and are native to the far western part of the United States and Mexico. Many species which we now recognize as Dudleyas were at one time included in Echeveria. There are now about 40 recognized species in the genus (Jacobsen lists 43), plus numerous varieties, subspecies, and hybrids. The earliest known species of what is now Dudleya was described by the botanist Adrian Haworth in 1803 as a Cotyledon. The second species was described in 1811, and the third and fourth simultaneously in 1840. These are now two of our most familiar San Diego County Dudleyas, D. pulverulenta and D. lanceolata, although they were both originally described as Echeverias. Britton and Rose selected D. lanceolata as the type species of the genus, considering it to be the most representative at that time.

The genus consists of three sub-genera: Dudleya, Stylophyllum, and Hasseanthus. While Dudleyas have broad leaves and wide-open flowers, Stylophyllums (the name means "pencil-leaved") are characterized by narrower, often cylindrical leaves which are - theoretically - edible, with an acrid but delicate flavor, and their flowers are five-pointed stars, much like Sedum flowers. Stylophyllums are closely related to the Germanias and Sedums. They are native only to the coast region of California and the adjacent islands. San Pedro is approximately their northernmost boundary, while they extend south into the northern half of Baja California. Both Dudleyas and Stylophyllums possess a thick, woody, almost caudex-like stem, and their dry, dead leaves are persistent. Hasseanthus can be recognized by its bulb-like underground corm, resembling Gladiolus, and the fact that the plant generally dries up and is leafless during the summer and fall.

While the range of Dudleyas is fairly comprehensive, extending down the Pacific Coast from Oregon to the tip of Baja California, including all the adjacent islands, and inland into Nevada, Utah, and Arizona, the individual species generally have a very limited distribution. They may be found clinging to sheer, vertical cliffs with their roots in crevices, or growing under the protection of coastal scrub. Particularly striking in habitat are D. pulverulenta, which presents an almost incongruous contrast against the hot, dry, barren hillsides where it is usually found in Southern California, and D. brittonii, whose spectacular habitat is virtually restricted to the purplish cliffs of La Mision about halfway between Tijuana and Ensenada, where it literally cascades down the sheer rock walls. In Baja, it is not unusual to find three or four species growing quite close together in one locale, and some interesting hybrids have occasionally resulted from this proximity.

Recent outstanding additions to the genus include two Baja California species, D. pachyphytum and D. campanulata. D. pachyphytum is a very distinctive plant, native only to Cedros Island, where it grows in association with another spectacular Cedros Island endemic, Ferocactus chrysacanthus. It was first discovered in 1971, and described by Reid Moran in 1980. Other Cedros Island Dudleyas include D. acuminata and D. albiflora. D. campanulata is endemic to Punta Banda, where it has been found only on the south coast, mainly on west-facing seacliffs. Although it was just published in 1978 by Reid Moran, he believes it actually dates back to 1934 when Don Skinner presented him with a Dudleya of unknown origin. Four other Dudleyas grow on Punta Banda: D. attenuata ssp. orcuttii, a branching form of D. brittonii, D. anomala, and D. lanceolata.

In cultivation, most Dudleyas are not difficult to grow. They do quite well in either pot or open-ground situations, preferring a little shade and a well-drained soil. Although they are winter growers, they probably should be kept a little on the dry side most of the year. Most species go somewhat - to very! - dormant in the summer after their spring blooming period, and at this time some species (notably D. pulverulenta) appear almost dead, with many dry but tenacious lower leaves. When watering, try to avoid splashing the leaves, as this tends to wash away the beautiful chalky "bloom" which is so typical of many Dudleyas.

There is one serious pest which afflicts plants growing in the wild, and this is a stem-borer which can eventually kill the plant if not checked. Collected plants should be thoroughly cleaned and examined to make sure they are free of all traces of this pest. Aphids are a slightly lesser evil; they usually arrive as soon as the buds appear on the flower stalks, but are fairly effectively removed with an insecticidal soap solution or even a strong spray of water.

Propagation is by seed, division of clumps, or stem-cuttings. The latter method can be somewhat difficult as many species continue to grow and split dichotomously from a single woody (and tough) stem. While this means of propagation sometimes results in a rather drastic mutilation of the plant, most Dudleyas are quite hardy and manage to survive the operation.

Literature consulted:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Brown, J.R. | <u>Succulents for the Amateur</u> , pp. 89-90 |
| Johansen, D.A. | <u>Contributions Toward a Monograph of the Genus Dudleya</u> (Cactus and Succulent Journal, Vol. IV, nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 - 1932) |
| Moran, Reid: | <u>Dudleya campanulata, a New Species from Baja California</u> , Cactus and Succulent Journal, Jan.-Feb., 1978 |
| Moran, Reid and Benedict, Michael: | <u>Dudleya pachyphytum of Isla Cedros, Mexico</u> Cactus and Succulent Journal, May-June, 1981 |
| Skinner, Don B. | <u>Stylophyllums</u> (Desert Plant Life, June 1935) |
| Skinner, Don B. | <u>Stylophyllums with Flattened Leaves</u> (Desert Plant Life, August, 1935) |

CACTUS OF THE MONTH
SULCOREBUTIA AND WEINGARTIA

by Phyllis Flechsig

Sulcorebutia and Weingartia are two related genera from the east slopes of the Andes; Sulcorebutias all occur in Bolivia, while Weingartia grows in Bolivia and in northern Argentina. Both groups have been subject to much controversy that appears to have no end. For instance, Fred Brandt placed all the Sulcorebutias in Weingartia; Paul Hutchison placed all the Weingartias in Gymnocalycium; and the late Martin Cardenas, a Bolivian botanist, became quite annoyed at having botanists from other countries reclassify Bolivian plants, and refused to the end ever to accept the existence of Sulcorebutias at all. To him, they were all Rebutias. These are minority opinions, however, and the general consensus today has it that Sulcorebutia is a distinct genus, not closely related to Rebutia despite a superficial resemblance to it.

Sulcorebutias are all small, generally clustering plants with funnel-shaped flowers in yellow, orange, red, or purple; the flowers arise near the base of the plants. Flower tubes are covered with scales. The chief distinguishing characteristic of Sulcorebutia is the long groove-like areole that wraps around the tip of a tubercle; the plants' ribs are always broken up into more or less spiralling tubercles. Spines may be comb-like and appressed to the plant, or longer and straight, but they are never very long in comparison with those on other kinds of cacti.

Weingartias, on the other hand, are more or less globular, sometimes single, sometimes offsetting; they have short, straight spines, and their flowers, almost always orange to yellow, appear near the top shoulder or the plant. These flowers are shorter and broader than those of Sulcorebutia, but are also covered with scales on the flower tube. Areoles are round and often very woolly. A few years ago there was much excitement when a purple-flowered Weingartia--W. torotorensis--was described, as only yellow-flowered ones had been known up until then; it was described by Cardenas, who, of course, could not allow that any plant was a Sulcorebutia. By now, of course, the "purple Weingartia" has been moved to Sulcorebutia, where it probably belongs.

Sulcorebutias are very desirable, attractive plants for a collection; the yellow-flowered species are said to bloom more fully than the purple ones, but the plants are good-looking even without flowers. Popular species are S. rauschii, both the purple-bodied and the green-bodied forms, with purple flowers; there is also a form with gold spines. Also there are S. menesesii, with long, thin, flexible tan spines that curve about the plant, and yellow flowers; S. arenacea, nearly spineless, with handsome tan heads and dark

yellow to orange flowers; and S. flavissima, with the nice combination of bright yellow spines and purple flowers.

Weingartias are much less well known in collections; the best known is W. neocumingii, which exists in several forms, from very spiny to nearly spineless. W. lanata has very prominently woolly areoles.

When growing these plants, it pays to remember that they come from high altitudes where they are quite cold and dry in winter; they can be kept dry during our colder months, and will bloom better for a winter's rest. They are not generally plants for the outdoor landscape, but should be kept in small pots with very good drainage material added. Pests can be a problem: watch for spider mites and mealybugs, and stop them before they get a foothold. Propagation of Weingartias is generally from seed; they are reasonably easy to start that way. Sulcorebutias can be grown from seed, but it must be very fresh, and even then, germination can be poor. Most make offsets that are easily detached at the narrowest point, dried a while, then rooted.

LITERATURE CONSULTED:

Pilbeam, John. Sulcorebutia and Weingartia: A Collector's Guide. Batsford, 1985.
 Donald, J.D. "Purple flowered Weingartias." Ashingtonia, v. 1, no. 1, p. 4-5 (July, 1973).
 Donald, J.D. "Weingartia Supplement." Ashingtonia, v. 3 (1978).

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Jewell De Young - San Diego | Rachel Dee - San Diego |
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| Suzanne & Blaine Rhobatham | Debbie Sharkey - San Diego |
| Carol Wujcik - Sountain Valley | Byron Tracy - San Diego |
| Donald & Carolyn Schulman - Encinitas | Doug Frieson - Los Altos |

Please excuse any errors or omissions - Mary

HORTICULTURAL EVENTS TO LIST AS SPACE PERMITS:

- MAR 1 & 2 SAN DIEGO AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY'S 5TH ANNUAL SHOW "VIOLET HOEDOWN, Casa del Prado Room 101, Balboa Park. Sat 1-5; Sun 10-4. FREE.
- MAR 1 & 2 LA JOLLA CHAPTER OF THE OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA'S SHOW 11 - 5; La Jolla Village Square Shopping Center, Community Room (near Bullocks Wilshire). Theme: HINA MATSURI - Girl's Day Festival. Ample free parking.
- MAR 5 CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN FLOWER ARRANGING CLASS WITH MARTHA ROSENBERG. Room 101 or 102, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. 9:30 - 2 p.m.. Call 298-5182 for reservations.
- MAR 6 THURSDAY WORKSHOP WITH COLLEEN WINCHELL every Thursday. Free floral crafts instruction - Open to the public. Room 105, San Diego Floral Association Library, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Thurs: 10-3. Information: 479-6433.
- MAR 8 33RD ANNUAL MEETING OF CALIFORNIA MACADAMIA SOCIETY at the Grand Tradition in Fallbrook. 8:30 a.m. Luncheon \$12.50. Reservations no later than 1 Mar. Information Secretary, P.O. Box 1290, Fallbrook CA 92028.
- MAR 8 & 9 SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW & SALE, Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd., Torrance CA Sat 1 - 8; Sun 9-6. Admission \$1.50 adults; \$1.00 6 to 17 years old; Free under 6 years. Over 65, \$1.25.
- MAR 12, 19, 26 CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES WITH ADRIENNE GREEN. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Wed: 9:30 - 2. Information 298-5182.
- MAR 15 & 16 18TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF IKEBANA AND JAPANESE ART by San Diego Chapter 119, Ikebana International. "SPRING FLOWERS - HARU NO HANA" will be portrayed by the ten schools of Japanese flower arranging within the group. Tea ceremony and flower arranging demonstrations both days and exhibits in related arts. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. 11-4:30.
- MAR 22 & 23 EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY'S 8TH ANNUAL SHOW, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat & Sun 10-4. Free.
- MAR 22 & 23 LA JOLLA VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW "IMPRESSIONS OF SPRINGTIME" (Poetic Interludes). Open to Public. Recreation Center, 615 Prospect Street, La Jolla. Sat 1-5; Sun 12-4.
- MAR 25 WALKING TOUR OF MAIN LIBRARY IN SAN DIEGO. Meet at 10 a.m. at main entrance on "E" Street between 8th and 9th. Guided tour of rare books and horticultural sections. Call Bobbie Bootman for reservations 222-2806. Free.
- APR 6 CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB'S 36th ANNUAL ROSE SHOW Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. 1-4:30 FREE

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Donated by Frank & Marianne Thrombley:

George Ashley, The Punctured Thumb (2 copies)
J. Borg, Cacti
Ladislav Cutak, Cactus Guide
E. Yale Dawson, Cacti of California
Scott E. Haselton, Epiphyllum Handbook
Vera Higgins, Succulents in Cultivation (Cacti Included)
Edgar and Brian Lamb, Popular Exotic Cacti in Color
Gilbert Leighton-Boyce and James Iliff, Tephrocactus
Tony Mace, Notocactus
Margaret J. Martin, P. R. Chapman, & H. A. Auger, Cacti and their Cultivation
Richard J. Shaw, Wildflowers of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks
E. Wilson and T. Johnson, Growing Cacti & Succulents

Donated by Peg Floret

Cactus and Succulent Society of America's Journal (various volumes)

Recent acquisitions:

Ronald L. Evans, Handbook of Cultivated Sedums
Michael J. Kimberley, ed., Excelsa # 6
Michael J. Kimberley, ed., Excelsa # 11
L. C. Leach, Excelsa Taxonomic Series # 3 (Stapelia)
G. W. Reynolds, The Aloes of Tropical Africa and Madagascar
Herbert Parkes Riley & Shyamal K. Majumdar, The Aloineae, A Biosystematic Survey
Charles L. Scott, The Genus Haworthia, A Taxonomic Revision

Recently Bound Volumes:

A. S. P. S. (V. IV, #'s 1-6, 1969)
Cactus and Succulent Society of America's Journal (57 = 1985)
Cactus and Succulent Journal of Great Britain (30-32, 1968-70)
Espinas y Flores, (1-10 = 1966-75)
and
Cactus y Suculentos (1-2 = 1965-66) [Espinas y Flores' predecessor]
National Cactus and Succulent Journal (21-25, 27-28, 31-32 = 66-70, 72-73, & 76-77)

Rebound Volumes:

National Cactus and Succulent Journal (16-22 = 61-67 [1966 was inadvertently left out of first binding])
Dr. G. Schwantes, Flowering Stones and Mid-Day Flowers (old binding fell apart from popular use).

MAGAZINES/NEWSLETTERS THAT ARE NEEDED IN THE LIBRARY
(So volumes may be completed and bound):

Cactus and Succulent Journal of Great Britain:

V. 33 #4 (1971), V. 34 #'s 1-4 (all 1972), V. 37 #'s 1-4 (all 1975),
V. 44 #'s 3 & 4 (1982) [also need but doubt we can obtain: 1:1-4,
2:2-4, 3:1-2 & 4, 4:4, 5:4, 6:1-4, 7:1-4, 8:1-2, 13:2, 14:1, 16:1,
and 17:3-4]

National Cactus and Succulent Journal:

V. 29 # 2-3 (1974), V. 30 # 3 (1975), V. 33 # 4 (1978), V. 34-37
(need all issues 1979-82) [also need but doubt we can obtain: 1:2-4,
2:1-4, 3:1-3, 5:2, 8:1, 9:3-4, 11:2, 12:4]

Espinas y Flores

Vs. 11 & 12 complete, preferably with no holes

---Rick Latimer, Librarian



Agave Americana

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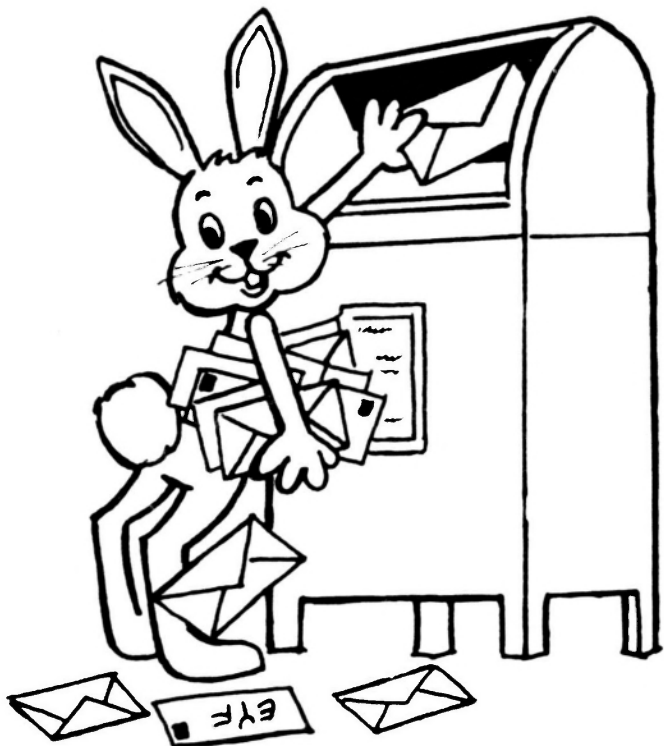
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The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti, other succulents and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 pm in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held after the general meetings. Annual dues are \$8.00 per single member per year, \$2.00 for each additional member of a household within a family. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are 60 cents.

Editor

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