

# The BromeliAdvisory

November 2004

Volume 47, Number 11

This Month's Event -

## Spectacular Pyrotechnics

will not be present

## Pachyderms of tremendous proportions

will also not be present

## The Leader of the Free World will be Elected by the People of the United States of America

but not at the BSSF monthly meeting

Instead Ronald Dave Cave , Assistant Professor of Entomology with the University of Florida, will be talking about the work the state is doing on *Metamasius callizona* (Mexican weevil or Evil Weevil) which is supported by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

### Member Plant Sales Are On

See You

Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 pm

## Yesterdays News :

Hey! We had our auction in October – Cool.

And a new member join at the auction

Lissa Boucard

9700 SW 115 Ave

Miami, FL 33176

305-275-8183

– Even Cooler.

Welcome Ms Boucard and remember  
Bromeliads are a Family.

Connie Johnson was going to do a bromeliad workshop for our November meeting but unfortunately she's not up to it.

Connie we hope you feel better and remember – The grace of age is that we learn to accept.

As a heads-up, December means Holiday Party and the BSSF has the best bacchanalia in town. Please contact Clara Kouchalakos and see how you all can contribute to this years festivities.

## COLD SENSITIVE BROMELIADS

This list of cold-sensitive plants, and the temperatures at which damage occurs was compiled by bromeliad expert Nat DeLeon and others.

Probably the most cold-sensitive broms grown in our area (So. Florida) are *Navia igneosicola* and *Tillandsia dyeriana*. They should be protected when temperatures drop below about 50 degrees F.

At about 40 degrees F:

Most Cryptanthus

*Aechmea fulgens* and its forms

*Aechmea mexicana*

High to mid-thirties:

*Aechmea brevicollis*

Some hybrids of *Aec. fulgens*

*Aec. magdalenae* var. *quadricolor*

*Aec. germinyana*

*Aec. mertensii*

*Neoregelia eleutheropetala*

*Neo. mooreana* (or *Neo. peruviana*)

Most of the Amazon neos

Mid-thirties:

*Aechmea chantinii* and its various forms

*Aec. corymbosa*

*Aec. melinonii*

*Aec. moorei*

*Aec. nallyi*

*Aec. politii*

*Aec. servitensis* var. *exigua*

*Aec. tessmanii*

*Ananas* - all species

*Bromelia humilis*

*Guzmania bracteosa*

*Guz. donnell-smithii*

*Vriesea splendens* - its varieties and some hybrids

Two plants that I've found to be prone to cold damage are *Aechmea* 'Orange Sherbet' (*Aec. chantinii* x *Aec. brevicollis*) and *Ananas parguazensis*. Both sustained damage at about 40 deg.

-PR

This list of freeze survivors was provided by Tom Wolfe in the February 1990 issue of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter (after the freeze of 1989). It was reprinted in *The BromeliAdvisory*, December 1994.

# SURVIVAL BROMELIADS

The following is a list of bromeliad plants that were exposed to approximately six hours of 18 degree weather two nights in succession, with temperatures not exceeding 30 degrees for at least 48 hours.

## No Damage Observed

Aechmea 'Burgundy'  
Aec. comata  
Aec. recurvata  
Aec. recurvata var. variegata  
Aec. blumenavii  
Aec. triangularis  
X Neophytum 'Ralph Davis'  
Neoregelia chlorosticta  
Neo. 'Vulkan' F2

## Very Little Damage

Aechmea distichantha (all varieties)  
Dyckia (all)  
Hechtia stenopetala  
Canistrum triangulare  
Quesnelia humilis  
Nidularium fulgens

# COLD WEATHER PROTECTION

Here are some suggestions taken from an article written by the late Dr. Nelson Redfern, a member of our society and the Bromeliad Society of Broward County. The article originally appeared in The Commentary in November 1984.

1. KEEP PLANTS WARM. This can be achieved by bringing plants indoors or by providing heat where they grow.
2. PROVIDE COVER TO PLANTS. This prevents heat loss by convection air currents and prevents evaporative heat loss. If plants are on or in the ground, it also prevents ground heat loss and creates a warm pocket.
3. KEEP PLANTS OUT OF THE WIND WHEN POSSIBLE. Convection air currents will lower surface and core temperatures of plants. Keeping plants close to the ground will help as well as moving plants next to buildings or other larger plants that will shield the wind.
4. PLACE PLANTS IN AREAS WHERE WARMTH IS LIKELY TO BE PRESERVED. Close placement to the ground or on the ground where where conduction from the warm ground will help. Close placement to bodies of water, large trees, or buildings will also help.
5. COVER OPEN SHADE STRUCTURES. This allows for the retention of warm air by entrapment. This also allows the warm air to be stratified (warm air has a tendency to rise).
6. SPRINKLE PLANTS WITH CAUTION. This is especially effective if frost is imminent and duration of cold is brief. It is less effective if there is prolonged frost or there are cold, dry winds.

# Vocabulary Builders

What is an Ontology? An ontology is a classification methodology for formalizing a subject's knowledge in a structured way (typically for consumption by an electronic database). A database schema is an example of an ontology. In the world of structured information, ontologies, comprising structured controlled vocabularies, play a very important role in facilitating information retrieval. Furthermore, the definitions that accompany the controlled vocabulary terms are very important in that they facilitate the consistent use of the controlled vocabulary terms in database curation.

**Biology-based Ontologies:** In biology-based ontologies the controlled vocabulary terms are arranged in such a way that their placement reflects the known or putative biological associations between the objects represented by the controlled vocabulary terms. Considerable effort must be invested into the compilation of the controlled vocabulary terms and the definitions of these terms.

And now the 64,000,000 Lira question: Is the bromeliad binomial a functional ontology useable by creatures like computers or are its mysteries intelligible only to man and angels.

(2)

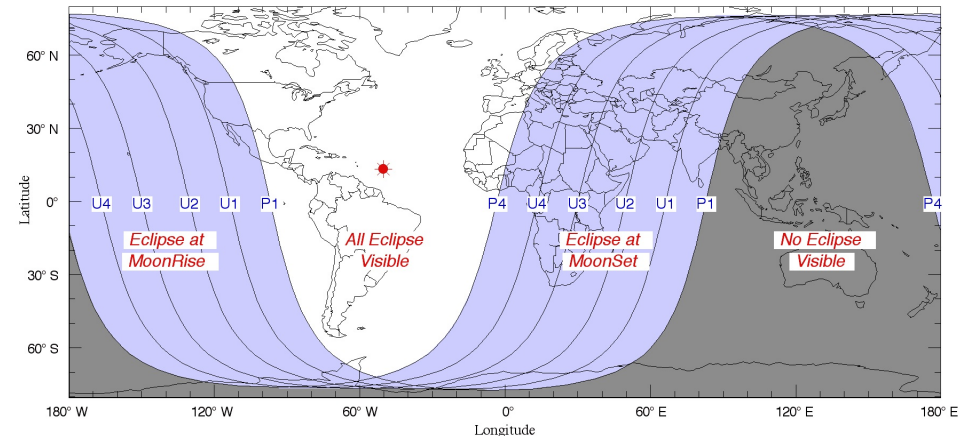
# Total Lunar Eclipse

According to folklore, October's full moon is called the "Hunter's Moon" or sometimes the "Blood Moon." It gets its name from hunters who tracked and killed their prey by autumn moonlight, stockpiling food for the winter ahead. You can picture them: silent figures padding through the forest, the moon overhead, pale as a corpse, its cold light betraying the creatures of the wood.

The Blood Moon rises this year on Wednesday, Oct. 27th. At first it will seem pale and cold, as usual. And then ... blood red.

It's a lunar eclipse. Beginning at 9:14 p.m. EDT (6:14 p.m. PDT), the moon will glide through Earth's shadow for more than three hours. Observers on every continent except Australia can see the event: The pale-white moon will turn pumpkin orange as it plunges into shadow, becoming eerie red during totality.

Total Lunar Eclipse of Oct. 27-28, 2004



<http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/eclipse/eclipse.html>

Courtesy of Fred Espenak, NASA's GSFC

What makes the eclipsed moon turn red? The answer lies inside Earth's shadow.

Our planet casts a long shadow. It starts on the ground--Step outside at night. You're in Earth's shadow. Think about it!--and it stretches almost a million miles into space, far enough to reach the moon.

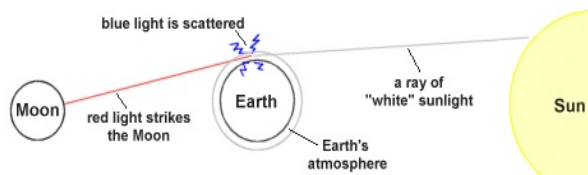
Suppose you had a personal spaceship. Here's your mission: Tonight, at midnight, blast off and fly down the middle of Earth's shadow. Keep going until you're about 200,000 miles above Earth, almost to the moon. Now turn around and look down. The view from your cockpit window is Earth's nightside, the dark half of our planet opposite the sun. But it's not completely dark! All around Earth's limb, the atmosphere glows red.

What you're seeing is every sunrise and sunset on Earth--all at once. This ring of light shines into Earth's shadow, breaking the utter darkness you might expect to find there. Turn off the cockpit lights. There's a lovely red glow.

That same red light plays across the moon when it's inside Earth's shadow. The exact color depends on what's floating around in Earth's atmosphere. Following a volcanic eruption, for instance, dust and ash can turn global sunsets vivid red. The moon would glow vivid red, too. Lots of clouds, on the other hand, extinguish sunsets, leading to darker, dimmer eclipses.

How will the moon look on Oct 27th? Corpse white. Pumpkin orange. Blood red. Maybe all three. Step outside and see for yourself.

Warning: While you're staring at the sky, you might hear footsteps among the trees, the twang of a bow, a desperate scurry to shelter. That's just your imagination. (3)



## Name Tags for New Members:

are available from Connie Johnson. Call her at 305-275-8595 to order yours. They are free the first time; there's a nominal charge for replacements. Folks, please wear your name tags! It simplifies things for everyone.

## Sales Tables:

Member sales are on. Please coordinate with Antonio

## Show and Tell:

To be seen

## Raffle Table:

To be seen

## Door Prize:

Lavinia Acton

## Library:

Lynne Fieber will have the library open from 7:00pm to 7:30 pm. Please return any books and publications you've checked out.

## Refreshments:

Sandy Roth and help.

## Cool Websites of the Moment

Our Own Bromeliad Society of South Florida Website:

Celebrating our 1200<sup>TH</sup> hit, the website features a record of our speakers and events, galleries of our plants and our activities and information about bromeliads.

Most of our publication are available at the website.

Our periodic contest "Name That Plant" is featured.

A BSSF Home and Garden section shows us what some of our member homes are like and how they use bromeliads in them.

A message board is available that permits the posting of questions, responses and comments. I encourage everyone to use it.

And finally explore the links. There are bromeliad societies and bromeliad websites from all around the world.

Surf and Discover

## Notes from the Editor:

I just came back from an adventure in Germany and Croatia. And I would like to report that there is great interest in "American" plants. Every German apartment has a collection of cacti and aloes. Croatia's urban areas are landscaped with agave and other dry environment new world succulents. There are some bromeliads. "Home Depot" style cheap and unspectacular. The Germans have a passion for gardening and love quality. With confidence I can say that their market can be penetrated by quality bromeliad sales. It will require marketing and education – Opportunities disappear.

You may reach me at [Bromeliad@timewolf.net](mailto:Bromeliad@timewolf.net) via Email or at 10011 S.W. 133<sup>rd</sup> Street Miami FL 33176 via Snail Mail.

---

### Sources:

① This was once published on the old Website and by Moyna Prince in an old issue of the Bromeliadvisory.

② The Maize Mapping Project

③ NASA Science Newsletter

[http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2004/13oct\\_lunar\\_eclipse.htm?list35220](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2004/13oct_lunar_eclipse.htm?list35220)