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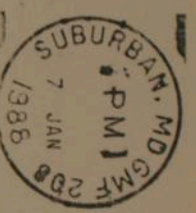
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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

LYMAN B. SMITH  
3941 WASHINGTON ST.  
KENSINGTON, MD 20895  
20895



Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Attkin  
176 Mill Plain Road  
Branford, Ct.  
06405

*duplicate  
data (sm)*

Postmarked 7 Jan. 1988

Dear Tommy and Virginia Aitken (176 Mill Plain Rd., Branford, Ct. 06405)

GREETINGS of the SEASON

and BEST WISHES for the NEW YEAR (1988)

at Smithsonian)

Merry Christmas by telepathy was how I wished you this time. Unfortunately a broken hip has upset all my plans. However, Steve (son & also botanist) has handled all my business while I was away and now has me at his house for supper frequently so I can enjoy his whole family including year a and half Michael who keeps everything in an uproar. Ana Merino, my nurse, comes every day to treat my lower leg. She is from Salvador and is teaching me conversational Spanish - reading is no problem.

My work was stopped by the accident but my partners are completing two papers and sending them in for publication. There are several more manuscripts already waiting over a year for publication.

My sons, Stephen and Christopher, have been in Amazonian Peru on a Smithsonian project collecting specimens of trees. The area is a park where all life is protected. Another scientist shoots gas up through the trees and collects the insects from each tree on ground cloths. The problem isto see if there is any species correlation between insect and tree.

Ann Smith is writing a college textbook on human anatomy and physiology. Grandson, Peter Schuyler, is assistant wrestling coach at the Naval Academy in Annapolis and several family members are into computers in a way beyond my understanding to detail.

The rest of my sixteen grandchildren I must leave until another time.

I much enjoyed your letter. It is good to see another botanist developing and if Bruce (our son) was in Medellin he must have seen a real rainforest rich in ferns. When I collected all plants around Rio a third of my numbers were ferns. Also if Bruce knows Dave Sellinger he has the best of teachers.

Lyman Smith



Thomas H. Hitchcock

Reprinted from PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, Vol. 68,  
No. 5, April, 1933.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE GRAY HERBARIUM  
OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

No. CII.

1. Studies in the *Bromeliaceae*.—IV. By LYMAN B. SMITH. . . . . 145
2. The *Bromeliaceae* of Trinidad and Tobago. By W. E. BROAD-  
WAY and L. B. SMITH. . . . . 152

Postmarked 7 Jan. 1988

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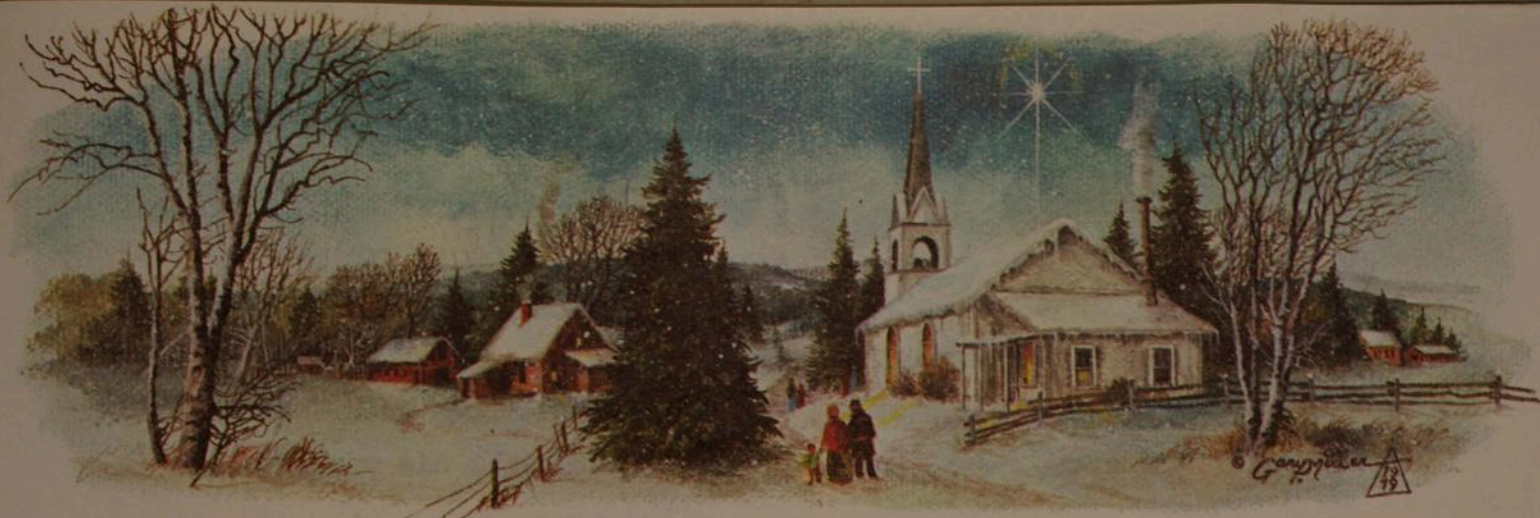
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Lyman Smith

My eldest son, Bruce Jardine Aitken - a geologist in Corning Glass research laboratory Painted Post, N.Y. T.H.G. Aitken

Bruce - Lyman Smith was in Bromeliad authority - Wash. In my Christmas letter to him, I mentioned your interest in ferns. Lyman is retired but still working. After monograph he worked the grasses of Brazil + then the world Begonias + then the world



1986 Christmas letter

1986

Wishing you all the joys of the Season with a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year

This year Christmas is a happy one for me just to be alive and functioning even if slowly. Last January Emmet Judziewicz saved my life by rushing me to the hospital with a severe leg burn and infection. I was in the hospital until February and then in a nursing home until mid August. The nursing home was a very pleasant place and the staff were extremely friendly. While I was there, Tatiana Sendulsky from São Paulo, Brazil, came to the house as friends and blind dates have been doing for years, and stayed until early November.

Since I came home it has been a struggle to get organized, but I have had much help. Ann Smith, Bunkie's (Chris) wife, came from Kansas and took over completely the first week. I found my car in need of repair and I can no longer drive. My son, Steve, took care of my business while I was away and he and his wife, Carol Chelemer, are a great help to me now materially and to my morale. One of their great attractions is Michael Kenneth Smith born this last June. I may be prejudiced but after 4 children and now 16 grandchildren I find him an unusually cheerful baby.

My research is slowly resuming. After coming home I managed to work 5 or 6 hours once a week for several weeks and now 3 times, maybe more later, but I fear never back to 7.

My publication went on during my absence with the printing of *Begoniaceae*. Part I. Illustrated Key to some 1400 species of *Begonia* worldwide. I made the key and Dieter Wasshausen dug up nearly 90 per cent of the type photos here and abroad. Part II. Annotated Species List by Jack Golding and Carrie E. Karegeannes which cross references all names good or bad.

OVER

For me life in general is a struggle for time. Thanks to treating my leg, it takes from seven up to after 9 to finish breakfast. My day nurse, a young woman from San Salvador named Anna Merino does the final treatment of my leg, and then we do grocery and other shopping and she takes me down and leaves me at the Museum where I work and come home with Steve on his way.

Lyman  
Lyman Smith

3941 Washington St.  
Kensington, Maryland, 20895

1985 Christmas letter

December 2, 1985

Dear Tom and Virginia

Again I am concocting a general report rather than keep writing personal letters until June. All in all it has been a good year and if I no longer travel outside the Washington area Steve and his family are nearby and taxi me to work and back and Steve is in our Botany Department and shares my office. Parts of my family stop here from time to time. Connie and Mike (Philip) Schuyler and 3 of their 4 children were here for Thanksgiving. At the Herbarium the World comes to me and the staff are kind and I have the same wonderful secretary that I have had for over 20 years and the artist I brought and who is now on the staff and world famous for her work.

I am continuing the custom that Ruth and I had of housing long-term students and visitors. Last month Suresh, a Hindu fellowship student, left me. In the past year he has been good company and a liberal education for me who knew India from reading Kipling.

Except for Donna Hoffman who is having a tough time in Florida, my children are in good shape. David on his little (for Wyoming) ranch recently ran a Boston marathon and in his fifties made as good time as he had in college. He still takes his school class out on a picnic each year and it is not considered complete until they have caught a rattlesnake.

Connie Schuyler is a professor of nurse education in Wagner College and Hospitals on Staten Island, New York. Much of her teaching is philosophical, emphasizing the dedication of nursing and the fact that nurses by their constant watch save many lives in emergencies before a doctor can arrive. Appropriately enough shortly after birth Connie's own life was saved by an alert nurse.

Bunkie (Christopher) is a professor of ecology in Kansas State University. After years of helping him through school Ann is now a professor in her own right teaching vertebrate anatomy. That reminds of a university ceremony where at the end of the honors students' wives were awarded PHT's (putting hubby through).

Steve returned recently from his second collecting trip in the Amazonian rainforest of southeastern Peru. In the biological reservation there the entomologists shoot a gas up into the tall trees not injuring the birds but bringing down thousands of insects onto ground cloths below. Each tree is marked and Steve's job is collect flowers or fruit from each by an ingenious rope-saw and identify the tree to see if there is any correlation between insect and tree species.

Of my 15 grandchildren one is in grade school, 3 in high school, 4 in college, 5 through school or college and working and 2 in graduate school. To mention a few, David's Nancy and Bunkie's Andrea are now finishing college after spending their junior year in colleges in southern France. In keeping with family interest in athletics Nancy played tennis and is now captain of her college team and Andrea ran a marathon in France, and Peter Schuyler is now a wrestling coach after winning the eastern amateur championship in his weight. Connie's Cindy has a very rewarding job involving computers. David's Ralph is in graduate school teaching math and studying computers and piano. Bunkie's Heather is in graduate school in Wales and writes me a card on an average of twice a week. Then I am constantly writing letters to many friends abroad and it all keeps life from being lonely.

With best wishes for Christmas, New Years and the Season,

Lyman Smith

*Lyman*

Lyman + Ruth Smith

Christmas letter 1977

As we get older the days seem to grow shorter so that we both have less time to do all the things we want. For this reason we are writing a joint letter to all our friends in hopes that you will hear from us before the fourth of July.

This has been a busy and interesting year for us. Lyman has had the second volume of his Monograph of the Bromeliaceae published and his third and last volume is almost ready for the publisher. He is now working on the grasses of Brazil and a key to all the species of Begonia as well as keeping the new data on bromeliads up to date. He is still Botanist Emeritus at the Smithsonian and goes there every day using his same office. He has two predoctoral students, John and Kathy Utley - John working on bromeliads and Kathy on begonia.

We have had several botanists visiting in our home and doing research at the Smithsonian Herbarium. Werner Rauh, a professor at Heidelberg, and his wife Hilde visited us for a week in July. They are old friends who were good to us in Heidelberg and who have visited here before. They were on their way to California and to collect bromeliads in Mexico and Central America. In September Garey Vitale, a Yale medical student who is interested in disease carried by bromeliad-breeding insects, visited for several days. Alicia Lourteig from the Paris Herbarium stayed with us for three and one half weeks in October. Her many botanist friends in this area entertained her often at dinner parties.

We took a trip to Florida for two weeks in February and visited Althea van Hying in Winter Park, going from there every day to see our dear friends Mulford and Racine Foster. Mulford has been ill for several years and we were anxious to see him. From the Orlando area we drove to the Tampa area and visited Ruth's cousin Ann Clark and her interesting family in Riverview. While there, we saw our grandson, Steve Schuyler who is at the University of Tampa. One afternoon, we went over to Clearwater to visit Dr. and Mrs. Yocum. He was head of the Botany Department at George Washington University when Lyman taught there. We came home by way of Tallahassee and visited our foster daughter, Donna, and her attractive daughters, Heidi and Stephanie.

On the way down to Florida we spent a night at the home of Jack, Rosie and Kathy Downs. We visited them again in October so that Lyman and Jack could discuss the illustrations which Jack is preparing for the third volume of the Bromeliad Monograph.

In June we flew to Kansas and spent a week in Manhattan where Bunkie and his wife, Ann, are both teaching at Kansas State University. We enjoyed being with them and their children, Heather, Andrea and Jamie. We saw the eighty-seven and a half acres which they had bought in the country but stayed at their comfortable home in Manhattan.

We drove together to our summer home in Rockport, Mass. in late June and late August and Ruth flew up for two weeks at the end of July. We saw Lyman's mother, who will be ninety nine in December, at her home in Winchester several times and enjoyed being near his sisters and their families at Rockport. We also saw Ruth's aunt and uncle. Numerous friends and relatives were at the cottage when we were there and when we were back here. Connie and Mike and some of their children were there with us sometimes and twice were there without us with their family and friends. Dave's son Ralph visited a couple days on his way back from Europe where he spent July playing French Horn in an Interstate High School Band. He flew back to Wyoming the same day that Ruth flew home. Steve Smith, who had arrived the day before with Carol, Becky and Jody, drove them to the airport. In August Heidi, Stephanie and Connie's Cathy spent a week with us. They are near in age and had fun together. Donna's girls flew home to Tallahassee. On our way home we spent a night at Connie's in N. J. We saw Cindy, a junior at Princeton, who had spent August in Europe and Peter, who had spent the summer at various wrestling camps. He is the 129 lb. High School wrestling champion of New Jersey and is a senior in Bound Brook High School.

We saw only Ralph from David's and Mary's children this year but had enjoyed them in 1976 when they all came east for David's Harvard 25th reunion.

Ruth continues with her volunteer work -- reading to a blind man, working at the Thrift Shop, cooking a supper for the workers at the bloodmobile etc., her clubs, going to concerts at the Kennedy Center, driving friends who can't drive to doctors or shopping, making oatmeal bread to give friends and for us. Last January she helped Lyman proof read every word and numeral in the second volume of the bromeliad monograph. She still has Naomi who has helped one or two days a week for thirty years and makes life easier.

Both of us steal time to read for pleasure and Lyman enjoys cross words on the bus. We send our best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a Happy 1978 to all of you.

Dogs: W.G.D. ✓ WLD  
RES ✓ RES

September 28, 1977

Dear Tommy, -  
many thanks for the Phytologias with  
my bromel papers. I still have a call for them  
because people prefer the original to a reprint and  
quite a few are exhausted.

Dr. Gary Vitale, M.D.

Pruth and I are very happy with  
Gary's latest visit and are grateful to you for having  
directed him here. He has a very friendly and  
refreshing personality and it has been most  
interesting hearing about his field work.

He has the record of finding the  
first flaw in the second volume (Tillandsioideae) of my  
monograph that came out last week. It really seemed to  
embarrass him but I have had to take correction so  
often that I am quite hardened to it. He is very observant  
which could be a big help in medicine.

I am much flattered that you find my  
introduction of sufficient interest to xerox. I always  
thought that nobody but the author and the editor ever  
read such passages.

I still have a yen to travel and am  
laying plans to go to the Botanical Congress in Brasilia  
next January. This time I shall go as a grass  
specialist that being my first love before I started in  
bromeliads. Also it is the best way to get financial  
support because of the economic importance of grasses and  
now that I am retired funds are not so easy to find.

Sincerely,

Lyman Smith  
USNM.



National Museum of Natural History · Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560 · TEL. 202-

October 5, 1977

Prof. T. H. G. Aitken  
Dept. of Epidemiology and Public Health  
60 College Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Dear Tommy:

Under separate cover I am sending you some liquid specimens that Gary Vitale forgot when he left. I do not have his address and hope it will not be too much bother for you to let him know so that he can pick them up.

As he left he asked me about citing your 1964 collections and there was not time to check then. I did not cite any in my first volume but in the second I have your Tillandsia utriculata from Montserrat and I believe a number of others.

Sincerely,

Lyman B. Smith  
Botanist Emeritus  
Department of Botany

Recd 10-11-77

File Copy

Yale University New Haven, Connecticut 06510

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
YALE ARBOVIRUS RESEARCH UNIT

*Department of Epidemiology  
and Public Health*

*60 College Street*

21 May, 1976

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
National Museum of National History  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

I meant to write you earlier to thank you for taking such good care of Gary Vitale. It was very kind and considerate to take him in as a house guest. He came back very enthusiastic about his forthcoming trip to Panama. He was successful in xeroxing your Bromels of Panama here and he very kindly made me a copy. I'm sorry I didn't have it with me last February.

Well, the young man left today (Thursday) for Miami and is off to Panama next Monday.

All the best,

Sincerely yours,

THGA:cb

Thomas H. G. Aitken, Ph.D.



National Museum of Natural History · Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560 • TEL. 202-

April 6, 1976

Rec. 8 April '76  
copy sent to Galindo

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Department of Epidemiology and  
Public Health  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Dear Tommy:

It is good to hear from you and I will be glad to see your student, Gary Vitale, and give him what help I can. I am still working seven days a week trying to finish several projects, but principally my bromel monograph. Thus Gary could see me on the week end if it is more convenient for him. Tell him to write to me and tell me exactly when he would like to come.

Volume one of 3 of my monograph came out in October 1974. It is *Flora Neotropica*, Monograph No. 14, Pitcairnioideae, Bromeliaceae. Hafner Press, 243 P Brown Street, Riverside, New Jersey 08075. \$39.95. You can see I have not had many gift copies and they went mostly to Latin American friends who do not have much money for books.

Of course I get large range extensions on epiphytic bromels quite often, but I suspect that what you saw at Fortuna was probably *Vriesea sanguinolenta*, which is close to *V. amazonica* and well known in Panama.

Thanks for the note on Paul Manglesdorf. It sure sounds tough, but at our age the knocks come often.

Sincerely,

Lyman

Lyman B. Smith  
Botanist Emeritus  
Department of Botany

File Copy

Yale University New Haven, Connecticut 06510

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Department of Epidemiology  
and Public Health  
60 College Street

2 April, 1976

Dr. Lyman Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

I am writing to acquaint you with a first year Yale medical student, Gary Vitale, who may be going to Panama this summer (June-August) to work with Gorgas Laboratory people on a botanical-entomological project. This study calls for the search for the immature stages of Culicoides (biting midges or sandflies) in bromeliads and identifying insect and plant, if possible.

Gary did his undergraduate work at Harvard, taking a number of courses in botany (see attached sheet), so has a fair botanical knowledge. It occurred to me that it would be helpful to him if he could talk with you. You could put him on to the literature, give him some collecting tips, etc., perhaps arrange for pressed plants to be sent to the Smithsonian for you to check if you so wished. He would be working in the Bayano River valley, east of Panama (107 miles).

I am not sure what your schedule is nowadays. Do you still come in to the Smithsonian? The early part of the week is preferable for Gary as later he has lab courses. He could go down to Washington on a Sunday and visit with you Monday morning and return to New Haven that afternoon. If such a plan appeals to you, perhaps you could choose a convenient date.

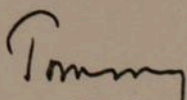
I have told Gary about the need to seek identifiable plants (with inflorescences) and to preserve some flowers in alcohol, as well as to treat plants with formaldehyde (possibly) to prevent rotting in the field.

Incidentally, I checked in the Kline Biology Library for your bromel monograph but could not find it. What is the title? Maybe I'll have to go to the botany department.

I forgot to tell you in my letter  
the other day I saw several plants of  
Urusea amazonica at Fortuna (high in trees,  
but dead in Kororena a plant habitat typical). Didn't  
THGA:cb know it was in Panama.

Encl:1  
cc: Dr. W.G. Downs  
Mr. Gary Vitale

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas H. G. Aitken, Ph.D.

P.S. Recent word from Dick Schultes - now Paul C. Manglesdorf, Professor of Natural Science. Just spent 1 1/2 months in hospital with bilateral inguinal hernia which had infection complications.

File Copy

Yale University *New Haven, Connecticut 06510*

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

*Department of Epidemiology  
and Public Health*

*60 College Street*

18 March, 1976

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

I have recently returned from a month (February) in Panama where I was participating in a survey of medically important arthropods at the proposed Fortuna dam site in Chiriqui province. I thought you might be interested in my bromelaid experiences. The area is east of the Chiriqui volcano, on the Chiriqui river where it flows east-west parallel with the cordillera ridge before it turns abruptly south to break out of the mountains. The elevation is roughly 1,000 mts.

We flew in from David by cargo helicopter to the engineers' camp where we stayed for a little over two weeks. It rained most of the time, was very windy and cold. They say the annual rainfall may be anywhere from 4-6,000 mm. Where forest was intact, the vegetation was very lush and beautiful. Orchids abounded as did bromels. Hillsides were steep and what with the rain, walking was difficult.

Perhaps the most notable thing about the bromeliads was the virtual absence of spiny-leaved species. Toward the end of my stay I finally found some *Aechmeas*, 12 plants altogether, growing on a felled tree; none were in flower nor were there any old inflorescences. Tank-species, in general, were uncommon. One other large bromel, of which I saw 3 specimens, had large, strap-like leaves. We brought the plants back to camp to check for mosquito larvae and 35mm photographs were taken by a friend; I will send them to you later when he has them developed. Unfortunately there were no inflorescences. I measured the basal width of some of the basal leaves, 15 cm. Leaves are smooth-margined. I took it to be a *Glomeropitcairnia*, but am not sure they occur in Panama. Perhaps it was a *Vriesea*.

I wanted to identify things on the basis of my Trinidadian experience, but I realize species may be similar but different. I saw what I thought was *Vriesea splendens* var. *longibracteata* (old inflorescence, and plain green leaves). Something like *T. spiculosa* (*micrantha*) with yellow petals, also *T. anceps* and *T. bulbosa*? There were plants of *Guzmania lingulata* (flowering), *G. monostachia* (old) and *Catopsis sessiliflora* (old). But there were lots of other things that aroused a frustrated curiosity which could not be appeased. There was a lovely *Vriesea*-like species, perhaps 12-14 inches high with beautiful broad, bluntly-pointed leaves marbled maroon and green, the former being most conspicuous on the under sides and towards the leaf base, the green predominating dorsally and apically. It would make a fine plant to introduce to the horticultural world; perhaps it has.

cont.../.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith

18 March, 1976

I was sorry that I was not in a position to collect plants, my time being almost completely occupied with mosquitoes, blackflies, etc. I don't know how well Panamanian bromels are known, but if there is a spare botanist around I'm sure he could pick up a lot of interesting things at Fortuna. The Gorgas lab is coordinating a general study of the area over the next several (?9) months. There was a botanist (Prof. Enrique Mayo) from the University of Panama there for one week during my stay. He is interested in forest ecology and was doing a tree survey. He and his assistants took a lot of pressed plant specimens back to Panama. If my memory serves me right, they found a flowering Pitcairnia (flowers much larger than the Trinidadian species). I should add that February was not a good month for bromeliad flowers at Fortuna; later in the year would be better.

One of my associates at Fortuna was a herpetologist from the American Museum, Chuck Myers. He has worked a lot in the interior of Panama. He gave me a copy of his paper, "The ecological geography of cloud forest in Panama" (Am. Mus. Nov., No. 2396, 5 Dec. 1969, p. 1-52). Do you know it? He makes a point of bromels being a characteristic of such habitats. I pointed out that they were for the most part probably very special bromels--endemics. He didn't know the species, but mentioned that some U.S. botanists did make a trip to the top of one of the mountains and collected a lot of plant material but didn't know if bromels were included.

I'm inclosing a short paper on Chilean bromels which I found in an old journal-"Tillandsias de la Cuesta de las Cardas" by Theo Drathen, Rev. Chil. Hist. Nat., 42: 28-29, 1938. You may like to add it to your files.

In your Christmas note you mentioned publication of the first (?) volume of your bromel monograph. I had forgotten that it would be coming out in book form. If I were still living in the tropics I would have to add it to my personal library, but now that I'm back in the cold northland I don't have contact with the family anymore. I'll have to go over to the Yale biology library and see if they have a copy for me to look over.

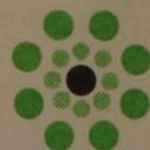
All the best,

Sincerely yours,

Tommy

Thomas H. G. Aitken, Ph.D.

THGA:cb  
Encl:



# XXVI CONGRESSO NACIONAL DE BOTÂNICA

## II SIMPÓSIO BRASILEIRO DE BROMELIACEAS

PROMOVIDOS PELA SOCIEDADE BOTÂNICA DO BRASIL - S.B.B.  
SOB O PATROCÍNIO DO INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DE DESENVOLVIMENTO FLORESTAL - I.B.D.F.

RIO DE JANEIRO

26.1.75 a 1.2.75

Rio de Janeiro, September 20, 1974

Dear Friends:

The Botanical Society of Brazil will hold, in Rio de Janeiro, from January 26 to February 1, 1975, the XXVI NATIONAL BOTANY CONGRESS together with the II BRAZILIAN SYMPOSIUM OF BROMELIACEAE.

In view of the great interest which Botanical matters have been assuming in all parts of the world, because of their close relationship with problems of Ecology, the Organizing Committee of the Congress has decided to allow the entry of themes and of Congress members from abroad, whether they are organizations or individuals.

There will therefore be twofold interest for all those that attend the Congress, since apart from the discussion of up to date topics regarding Botany in general, the II BRAZILIAN SYMPOSIUM OF BROMELIACEAE will take place, which will also broach aspects of this family of great interest to foreign participants, since it is in Brazil that approximately 50% of all existing species in the world are found, which are much appreciated for their unusual beauty.

We therefore expect that the participation of foreign persons and organizations in these events will provide all of us that study Botany with the acquisition of new experiences of a technical-scientific nature and of deep and longlasting friendship.

We will be in touch with you in due course with more complete information regarding the List of Topics to be discussed, the Entry Fee and list of hotels.

Until then, write to us (Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro - Rua Jardim Botânico nº 1008 - 20.000 - Rio de Janeiro - Brazil) notifying us of your interest in being with us in Rio, during the Congress.

Best Regards from

Father Raulino Reitz  
Chairman

20 January, 1975

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

In view of the possibility that the St. Lucian Pitcairnia might be new, I enclose a page from my diary the day I made the collection. The information might prove useful to some future collector. Incidentally, the Rockefeller Foundation has a schistosomiasis project going on the island and some member of the staff might be prevailed upon to make further collections. The collection locality is very close to the Villa Hotel where I stayed, a short walk out to the south shore of the harbor entrance. A Mr. Gladwin O. Unrau, sanitary engineer with the project might put you on to somebody for help. His address is: Research and Control Department, P.O.Box 93, Castries, St. Lucia, W.I.

Sincerely yours,

THGA:cb  
Encl:1

Thomas H.G.Aitken, Ph.D.



National Museum of Natural History • Smithsonian Institution

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560 • TEL. 202-

January 8, 1975

*Rec. 10/5/75*

Dr. T. H. G. Aitken  
School of Medicine  
Yale Arbovirus Research Unit  
60 College Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Dear Tommy:

Excuse my cutting corners on the enclosed  
locality data but I am up to my neck and then  
some. Thank you for the pollen slides. They  
will come in handy one of these days as everybody  
comes here for bromels.

Sincerely,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Botanist Emeritus  
Department of Botany

Enclosure

Jan

12 January 1970

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

I meant to acknowledge your letter of 26 November before now, but press of Christmas and other activities has precluded my doing so.

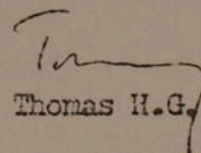
Thank you for the bromel identifications. I wonder if I could ask a favor of you. Perhaps your secretary could provide me with a list of the locality data for the various identified sheets as I did not have time to copy these down when I packed the material in Trinidad. If she typed a list in duplicate, I could send a copy to my friends in Trinidad.

locality data  
to be into the  
numbers on  
the list.

I note that the aberrant florescence of the specimen of Vriesea splendens longibracteata from Mt. Chaguaramal, Trinidad, is not included in your list of specimens. Remember I gave you a kodachrome taken of the specimen? Don't tell me I left the specimen in Trinidad after all!

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,

  
Thomas H.G. Aitken

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560

November 26, 1969

Rec.  
H. Dec 69

AIR MAIL

Dr. T. H. G. Aitken  
Belém Virus Laboratory  
Caixa Postal 636  
Belém, Pará, BRASIL

John

Dear Tommy:

I have just finished filing the treasure trove of bromels that you gave me and have made a list of the changes and additions which I enclose.

We had nothing from Nevis and other smaller islands and the Guzmania dussii and probable new Pitcairnia are most interesting. Bob Read has a paper in press on the Antillean Pitcairnia and now it is already out of date and incomplete.

That is nothing, however. Dardano Lima has just been here and left me 4 new species that are too late for my monograph and that will probably be published as a supplement antedating what they supplement.

Sincerely,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Senior Botanist  
Department of Botany

Enclosure

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory

Plants of the West Indies and South America

Determined by L. B. Smith

- 416 *Cladium restioides* (Sw.) Benth. Morne Quagua, Grenada. 23 Oct. 1963.  
 442 *Heliconia caribaea* Lam. ? Grande Anse Estate, St. Lucia. 10/VIII/64.  
 492 *Sesuvium portulacastrum* L. not found  
 491 *Heliotropium curassavicum* L. North Frigate Bay, St. Kitts. 19/VIII/66.  
 470 *Bromelia pinguin* L. Bethesda, Antigua. 29-IX-65.  
 488 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez St. Lucia?  
 434 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez Morne Anglaise, Dominica. 25-VI-65.  
 420 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez Petit Bonhomme Mt., St. Vincent.  
 429 *Aechmea tillandsioides* (Mart.) Baker var. *kienboerstii* (E. Morr. ex  
 Prio Catacumbos, Zulia, Venezuela nov. 63. Mez) L. B. Smith  
 437 *Glomeropitcairnia penduliflora* (Griseb.) Mez Freshwater Lake, Dominica 8-VI-65,  
 479 *Catopsis floribunda* L. B. Smith not found  
 424 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez Mt. Soufriere (summit), St. Vincent 9-XI-63,  
 435 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez Freshwater Lake, Dominica, 8-VI-65,  
 473 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez Chance's Mt., Montserrat. 5-X-66.  
 474 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez " " " "  
 475 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez " " " "  
 485 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez Nevis Peak, Nevis. 24-VIII-66.  
 428 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez Freshwater Lake, Dominica 28-VII-65.  
 436 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez Freshwater Lake, Dominica 8-VI-65,  
 417 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez Morne Quagua, Grenada. 23-X-63,  
 423 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez Mt. Soufriere, St. Vincent. 9-XI-63.  
 450 *Vriesea ringens* Harms Barre de l'Isle, St. Lucia 14-VII-64.  
 481 *Vriesea ringens* Harms Chance's Mt., Montserrat. 5-10-66.  
 412 *Vriesea ringens* Harms Grand Etang, Grenada. 17-X-63.  
 438 *Vriesea guadelupensis* (Baker) Mez South Chiltren Estate, Dominica. 6-VI-65.  
 462 *Vriesea jonghii* (Libon ex K. Koch) E. Morr. Mena Rd., near Widows Mt., Tobago 1-XII-65.  
 446 *Vriesea jonghii* (Libon ex K. Koch) E. Morr. Blanchisseuse Rd. 10 1/4 mil. Trin.  
 — 493 *Guzmania dussii* Mez Nevis Peak, Nevis. 8-IX-66. 17-IV-64  
 418 *Tillandsia polystachia* (L.) L. Botali, Dominica 14-VII-65.  
 451 *Tillandsia fendleri* Griseb. (*T. deppeana* var. *latifolia*) Blanchisseuse, Trin.  
 426 *Tillandsia utriculata* L. Morne Fortune, St. Lucia.  
 425 *Tillandsia utriculata* L. Youngs Island, St. Vincent 13-XII-63.  
 472 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Haze's Upper Soufriere, Montserrat 6-X-66.  
 476 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Halway's, Soufriere, Montserrat. 12-X-66.  
 477 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. " " " "  
 431 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Pont Casse, Dominica. 22-VI-65.  
 432 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Laudat, Dominica. 29-VI-65.  
 433 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Layou, Dominica. 24 June 1965.  
 490 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Kingston Rock, Mt. Misery, St. Kitts 17-VIII-66.  
 421 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Layou, St. Vincent. 4-XII-63.  
 439 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. Soufriere Sulphur Spring, St. Lucia. 20-VII-64  
 441 *Pitcairnia angustifolia* Ait. St. Lucia. 6-VIII-64. R. martinez  
 422 *Pitcairnia sulphurea* Andr. ? Layou, St. Vincent. 4-XII-63  
 494 *Pitcairnia bifrons* (Lindl.) R. W. Read ined. Summit of Nevis Peak - 24-VIII-66  
 — 405 *Pitcairnia* n. sp. ? between *P. spicata* and *P. sulphurea* " Harbour  
 Entrance, Castries, St. Lucia, 12-VII-64

January 3, 1975

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

I realize you are now retired, but perhaps you retain a desk at the museum and come in to town occasionally.

Recently I came across 3 bromeliad pollen slides which I had made in Trinidad. They concern Aechmea aripensis, A.d. dichlamydea (Tobago) and Vriesea procera. Perhaps they may be of interest, so I send them along to you. The mounting medium was polyvinyl alcohol and ethylene glycol.

I also inclose a letter of mine (12 Jan 70) about which I never received an answer. I don't know if this information is readily available or not.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken, Ph.D.

THGA:cm

Jan

12 January 1970

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Lyman,

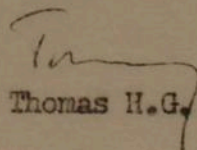
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I note that the aberrant florescence of the specimen of Vriesea splendens longibracteata from Mt. Chaguaramal, Trinidad, is not included in your list of specimens. Remember I gave you a kodachrome taken of the specimen? Don't tell me I left the specimen in Trinidad after all!

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,

  
Thomas H.G. Aitken

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560

Rec.  
4 Dec 69

November 26, 1969

AIR MAIL

Dr. T. H. G. Aitken  
Belém Virus Laboratory  
Caixa Postal 636  
Belém, Pará, BRASIL

*John*

Dear Tommy:

I have just finished filing the treasure trove of bromels that you gave me and have made a list of the changes and additions which I enclose.

We had nothing from Nevis and other smaller islands and the Guzmania dussii and probable new Pitcairnia are most interesting. Bob Read has a paper in press on the Antillean Pitcairnia and now it is already out of date and incomplete.

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Sincerely,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Senior Botanist  
Department of Botany

Enclosure

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory

Plants of the West Indies and South America

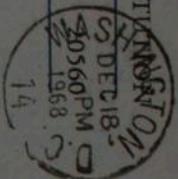
Determined by L. B. Smith

- 
- 416 *Cladium restioides* (Sw.) Benth.  
442 *Heliconia caribaea* Lam. ?  
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488 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez  
434 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez  
420 *Aechmea smithiorum* Mez  
429 *Aechmea tillandsioides* (Mart.) Baker var. <sup>3</sup>*kienboerstorffii* (E. Morr. ex Mez) L. B. Smith  
437 *Glomeropitcairnia penduliflora* (Griseb.) Mez  
479 *Catopsis floribunda* L. B. Smith  
424 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez  
435 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez  
473 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez  
474 *Guzmania megastachya* (Baker) Mez  
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428 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez  
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423 *Guzmania plumieri* (Griseb.) Mez  
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418 *Tillandsia polystachia* (L.) L.  
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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.S.A.



Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Instituto Evandro Chagas  
Avenida Almirante Barroso 492  
Belem, Para, BRASIL

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION



SECOND FOLD

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Instituto Evandro Chagas  
Avenida Almirante Barroso 492  
Belem, Para, BRASIL

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

WASHINGTON, D.C., 20560, U. S. A.

December 18, 1968

AIR LETTER

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Instituto Evandro Chagas  
Avenida Almirante Barroso 492  
Belém, Pará, BRASIL

Dear Tommy:

It is good to hear from you though I do wish I had known you were in Belém when Eddy McWilliams and I stopped there last February. By now you may have seen his account of our trip in the latest Bromeliad Bulletin.

By great good luck I have one copy of the Trinidad & Tobago Bromels left which I am mailing you as soon as the Christmas rush is over. I cannot think of anyone who deserves it more. Also I am sending "Notes on Bromeliaceae" 24 to 27 at the same time. I have published and already run out of a small issue of 28 but it has nothing that would interest you I believe.

I do not know where Bill Hathaway got the impression that I was retired. However, I do have a straight research position now as senior scientist. Can you give me his address?

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Sincerely,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Senior Botanist  
Department of Botany

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institute  
U.S. National Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20560  
E.U.A.

December 5th, 1968

Dear Lyman,

I have been meaning to write for some time, but always seem to find too much to occupy myself with. We have been in Belém for a little over a year and a half now. Our house has little or no garden space, just a large concrete courtyard which gets very hot so I have no place to keep epiphytes unfortunately.

I see in a recent issue of the Bromeliad Bulletin that the Trinidad bromel paper by you and Colin has finally appeared in print. Would it be possible to obtain a copy? Also do you still have copies of your "Notes on Bromeliaceae" 24 to 27?

Best wishes for a happy Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

P.S. Bill Hathaway was here recently and, I believe he said you were now retired, but still came in to work at the herbarium.

THGA/am

Dr. Lyman B. Smith  
Department of Botany  
Smithsonian Institute  
U.S. National Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20560  
E.U.A.

December 5th, 1968

Dear Lyman,

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Thomas H. G. Aitken

P.S. Bill Hathaway was here recently and, I believe he said you were now retired, but still came in to work at the herbarium.

THGA/am

Trinidad and Tobago Bromeliads

1. Pitcairnia
  - \*1. integrifolia Ker-Gawl. (Trinidad), Locally common
2. Glomeropitcairnia
  - \*2. erectiflora Mez (Trinidad), Locally common
3. Tillandsia
  - \*3. anceps Lodd. (Trinidad), Locally common
  - \*4. bulbosa Hook. (Trinidad & Tobago), Common
  5. canescens Sw. (Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*
  - \*6. complanata Benth. (Trinidad) Rare
  - \*7. depeana Steud. var. Fendleri (Griseb.) (Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*8. elongata H.B.K. var. subimbricata (Baker)(Trinidad) Common
  - \*9. fasciculata Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common
  - \*10. flexuosa Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common
  - \*11. Gardneri Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*12. juncea (R. & P.)(Trinidad) Locally common
  - \*13. micrantha Baker (Trinidad) Locally common
  - \*14. monadelpha (Morr.)(Trinidad) Uncommon
  15. Morreniana Regel (Trinidad, introduced) Rare
  16. pulchella Hook. (Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*
  - \*17. stricta Soland. (Trinidad) Uncommon
  18. subulifera Mez (Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*
  19. triticea Burch (Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*
  - \*20. usneoides L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common
  - \*21. utriculata L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common
4. Vriesia
  - \*22. amazonica (Baker)(Trinidad) Locally common
  - \*23. Broadwayi L.B. Smith (Trinidad) and Tobago Locally common
  - \*24. capituligera (Griseb.)(Trinidad) Uncommon
  25. chrysostachys Morr. (Trinidad) Rare
  - \*26. didistichoides (Mez)(Trinidad) Locally common
  - \*27. glutinosa Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*28. Johnstonei Mez (Trinidad) Locally common
  - \*29. Jonghii (Libon ex C. Koch)(Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*30. macrostachya (Bello)(Trinidad) Uncommon
  31. paniculata (L.)(Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*
  - \*32. platynema Gaudich. (Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*33. procera (Mart.)(Trinidad) Common
  - \*34. rubra (R. & P.)(Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \*35. simplex (Vell.)(Trinidad) Rare

4. Vriesia  
\* 36. splendens (Brong.) var. longibracteata (Baker)(Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common.  
\* 37. Splitgerberi (Mez) (Trinidad) Rare
5. Guzmania  
\* 38. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Common  
\* 39. megastachya (Baker) (Trinidad ? & Tobago) Locally common  
\* 40. monostachia (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common  
\* 41. sanguinea Andre (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common
6. Catopsis  
\* 42. Berberoniana (Schult. f)(Trinidad) Uncommon  
\* 43. floribunda (Brong.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common  
44. nutans (Sw.)(Trinidad) Rare *not in Trinidad*  
\* 45. sessiliflora (R. & P.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon
7. Bromelia  
\* 46. chrysantha Jacq. (Monos & Gaspar Grande Islands) Uncommon?  
\* 47. humilis Jacq. (Chacachacare Island) Locally common  
\* 48. karatas L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common
8. Araeococcus  
\* 49. micranthus Brong. (Trinidad & Tobago) Rare
9. Hohenbergia  
\* 50. stellata Schult f. (Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon
10. Gravisia  
\* 51. aquilega (Salisb.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Common  
\* 52. aripensis N.E. Brown (Trinidad) Uncommon *now in Aechmea*
11. Aechmea  
\* 53. bromeliaefolia (Rudge)(Trinidad) Uncommon  
\* 54. dichlamydea (Baker)(Tobago) Common  
\* 55. dichlamydea (Baker) var. trinitensis L.B. Smith (Trinidad) Locally common  
56. fulgens Brong. (Trinidad introduced) Rare  
\* 57. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon  
58. magdaleneae (Andre)(Trinidad, I.C.T.A., introduced) Rare  
\* 59. Mertensii (Meyer)(Trinidad)Uncommon  
\* 60. nudicaulis (L.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Common  
\* 61. portecoides Britton (Trinidad)Locally common
12. Ananas  
62. comosus (L.)(Trinidad & Tobago, introduced)
13. Billbergia  
\* 63. pyramidalis (Sims)(Trinidad introduced)Uncommon  
64. rosea Beer. (Trinidad introduced) Rare

Note: Asterisk (\*) signifies species has been collected by the Trin. Regional Virus Lab.

8th September, 1966.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Department of Botany,  
Smithsonian Institute,  
U. S. National Museum,  
Washington D.C., 20560,  
U. S. A.

Dear Lyman,

I see from the latest Bromeliad Society Bulletin that you have another contribution to "Notes on Bromeliaceae". If you have a spare copy of No. 23, I would appreciate receiving one. I shall have to write Moldenke for Nos. 1, 2 and 5. You have very kindly supplied me with the others.

I am sorry to see your Peruvian bromel flora paper is out of print. I expect to be transferred to Belem next July, and, who knows, I may be tramping around in the Upper Amazon one of these days.

I was in St. Kitts recently. We are doing a mosquito survey there as well as on Nevis and Anguilla. The only bromels we saw were atop Mt. Misery. I have brought back a Pitcairnia for you from the crater lip. Some I'm growing and others are in press, also flowers in alcohol. It is a small, saxicolous species. We saw two (possibly three) other species of bromels at the top but couldn't figure them out as there were no inflorescences to be seen; I feel Vriesea, Guzmania and possibly Glomeropitcairnia might be involved. I didn't bring any of these back to grow as I won't be here long enough. It was very cloudy that day on the mountain top so that we could not wander around very much and we couldn't go into the crater. The extraordinary thing about the forest was the absence of bromels until we reached about 2,000 feet. Even here they were scarce. At the rim, they were more abundant but nothing like what one sees here. On another day, we found Tillandsia recurvata on the old walls of Brimstone Hill fortress. This species does not come further south. I have an idea we saw it in Antigua last year. Strangely enough I saw no T. utriculata in the southern coastal areas (I didn't get to the north coast) - although the species is known for nearby islands. My boys were also to be working in Nevis and Anguilla and they write they have gotten some things from Nevis, at least.

Next month we shall be in Montserrat and will continue our searches on its mountain tops.

In July we were in Barbados. Aechmea lingulata was found and probably also Bromelia karatas but no material was brought back for me to confirm.

Over....

I shall have a lot of material to ship you after Montserrat. I have a nice Vriesea simplex flowering for me finally after many years.

I don't believe I told you that last April when Wil Downs was here we climbed Mt. Chaguaramal and finally located Aechmea downsiana. Plants are growing in my garden as well as that of Mrs. Black (a bromel convert). One of my plants has sent up a nice off-shoot -- so I think we're on the way.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:sf

12th February 1966.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Senior Scientist,  
Dept. of Botany,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington D.C. 20560,  
U.S.A.

Dear Lyman,

I was glad to hear from you and will be pleased to see Mr. Hobbs when he visits Trinidad.

You don't say when Hobbs will be coming this way. I shall be in Caracas attending some meetings from 22-25 March and our annual Flower Show is the 26th & 27th. I'm trying to stimulate some flowering using the apple treatment but don't know whether I'll have time to exhibit anything because of the Caracas trip. Anyway, we'll see how things develop.

Last November we did a mosquito survey in Tobago and I was able to add two new bromels to the island list, Vriesea procera and V Jonghii. A plant of the latter is being pressed for you. I'll get a little note out for the Bulletin one of these days.

My time has been taken up with an ailing wife lately - abdominal disorders which ended up in gall bladder surgery. She is coming along very nicely and should be home again in a few days.

I envy you your trip to Costa Rica as I imagine you will have a chance to work along the Pan American Highway and get up to the volcanoes. I was malariologist for the U.S. Engineers on Pan Am. Highway for 6 months in 1943, stationed in San Jose. I have always wanted to go back to those parts and look at the countryside with new eyes.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Thomas H.G.Aitken.

THGA:pl

P.S. If you are seeing Hobbs, tell him that I'll be tied up with Carnival 19-22 February.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560

U. S. A.



*Not for S.S.*

Mr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, TRINIDAD



SECOND FOLD

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

WASHINGTON, D.C., 20560, U. S. A.

February 7, 1966

AIR LETTER

Mr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

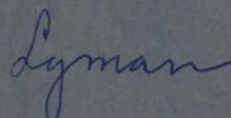
Dear Tommy:

On my strong recommendation my friend, Bill (Morris Henry) Hobbs, is going to drop in on you to get a line on Trinidad bromels. Besides being a bromel fan, he is a terrific artist - you may remember some of his covers on the Bromeliad Society Bulletin - and more likely to be interested in your plans than anyone that I know. Ordinarily sad experience has made me a little gun shy about recommending people to each other but if you two do not hit it off I shall lose all faith in my judgment of human nature.

At the end of this month I am off to Costa Rica to teach a bit about bromels at the Organization of Tropical Studies. The prospect looks very interesting.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Lyman B. Smith  
Senior Scientist  
Department of Botany

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

March 18, 1965

Mr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
University of the West Indies  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, W.I.

Dear Tommy:

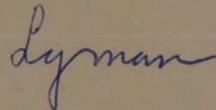
It is good to hear from you and learn that you are still looking for bromeliads at every opportunity. I just returned from Brazil last week, hence the delay in answering.

The Aechmea in your photos must be Ae. tillandsioides var. kienastii. The variety is not worth much, just indicating a digitate inflorescence rather than a pinnate one.

The specimen from French Guiana is Streptocalyx longifolius. You had no petals so it is not surprising you could not use my key. Someday I hope to detour this obstruction. The type came from French Guiana, but yours is the first I have seen from there since.

Under separate cover I am sending you numbers 7, 19, 20, 21, and 22 of my "Notes on Bromeliaceae." If necessary I can have 1, 2, and 5 copied for you, but I doubt if they have anything not covered in later more inclusive works. That reminds me, I should have proof of the Trinidad bromels one of these days.

Sincerely,



Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

THGA	
AHJ	<i>RDW</i>
LS	<i>e</i>
RNPS	<i>SR</i>
ET	
CBW	<i>CPW</i>
	<i>py</i>

16th February 1965.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear Lyman,

Inclosed are some photos of an interesting bromel (*Aechmea* sp?) received in late '63 through a friend from Venezuela. The locality is the Rio Catatumbo (drains into S.W. shore of Lake Maracaibo), Zulia state.

The plant flowered for me last year and is doing so again (Jan-Feb.). The earlier flower was the one photographed and may not have as many spikes as the present one which has six. I hope to press this one for you. Here are a few hurried notes: spikes approximately 7 cm. long and have a barred orange-yellow appearance, although the youngest (terminal) buds are greenish. The primary bracts are approx. 5.5cm. The rachis is brick red, grey pollinose in bands. Primary bracts bright red. Floral bracts brick red. Sepals yellow orange. Petals pale yellow (open during the day), and stamens not exerted beyond petals. I hope this will give you a lead as to what it is.

The other specimen (being sent separately) is one I picked up in French Guiana recently, near the old airfield of Galion, approximately 24 km. south of Cayenne (in forest). The plant is epiphytic, with very long, narrow spiny leaves. There may be several plants growing out of a more or less common center. The inflorescence is sessile (in the sense that the rachis is very short) and looks something like a pineapple except that the individual spikes are discrete with proper branches. The inflorescence was not in flower at the time of collection, but had a rather attractive green and pink hue; since drying, it is turning blue. Could this be a Greigia?

I could get nowhere with these in your Brazilian bromels. Guess I'm just plain hopeless when it comes to recognizing things away from my baileywick.

Am afraid I didn't see too much in the way of bromels on my recent trip to Surinam (2 days) and French Guiana (10 days) as I had to attend to business (mosquitoes) most of the time. Epiphytes seemed generally uncommon in most of the areas visited. Here is a list: Surinam - Gravisia aquilega, Vriesea procera, Tillandsia flexuosa, Till. fasciculata? (high up in trees of Paramaribo, plants look smaller? different from Trinidad), Aechmea Mertensii (in flower at Tygerkreek on north coast west of Paramaribo); all others seen in Paramaribo. French Guiana: Aechmia Mertensii (Cayenne, Galion, Stoupan), Vriesea splendens (?) (in cultivation in hotel garden at Cayenne, no inflorescence), Vriesea amazonica? (Stoupan on Mahury River, only plants, no inflorescence), Tillandsia bulbosa (Stoupan), Areococcus micrantha (Galion, just finished flowering), Aechmea sp. (the one above being sent you from Galion); both the last two had ant colonies in their roots.

This is  
Streptocalyx  
longifolius (Rudge)  
originally  
described for French Guiana

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken.

P.S. My last "Notes on Bromeliaceae" is No. 18; are there additions since then? Moldenke was never able to provide Nos. 1, 2, 5 & 7. Perhaps I could get these photocopied sometime.

THGA:pl

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

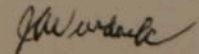
23 Feb. 1965

T. H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Dear Mr. Aitken,

Your letter of Feb. 16 and the separate box with a French Guiana bromeliad inflorescence arrived here today. Dr. Smith is still in Brazil, although nearly finished with his fieldwork. He is expected back in Washington in March or April. Your letter, photographs, and specimens will be placed in his mail pending his arrival here.

Sincerely yours,



J. J. Wurdack  
Associate Curator  
Dept. of Botany

16-18 May '64

Monos Island, Trinidad -  
Observations by R. Manuel -

- 1) Gravisia squilga (flower)
- 2) Till. flexuosa (no flower)
- 3) Bromelia chrysantha (flower)
- 4) " karatas (not-flower)

Again on 1 August 1964 (Monos)

R. Manuel found

Tillandsia flexuosa (flowering)

Pitcairnia<sup>203</sup> integrifolia (flowering)

4. Vriesia  
\* 36. splendens (Brong.) var. longibracteata (Baker)(Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common. ✓  
37. Splitgerberi (Mez) (Trinidad) Rare ✓
5. Guzmania  
\* 38. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓  
\* 39. megastachya (Baker) (~~Trinidad~~ & Tobago) Locally common ✓  
\* 40. monostachia (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common ✓  
\* 41. sanguinea Andre (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common ✓
6. Catopsis  
\* 42. Berteroniana (Schult. f)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓  
\* 43. floribunda (Brong.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common ✓  
44. nutans (Sw.)(Trinidad) Rare ✓  
\* 45. sessiliflora (R. & P.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon ✓
7. Bromelia  
\* 46. chrysantha Jacq. (Monos & Gaspar Grande Islands) Uncommon? ✓  
\* 47. humilis Jacq. (Chacachacare <sup>Patos</sup> Island) Locally common ✓  
\* 48. karatas L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common ✓
8. Araeococcus  
49. micranthus Brong. (Trinidad & Tobago) Rare ✓
9. Hohenbergia  
\* 50. stellata Schult f. (Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon ✓
10. Gravisia Patos, Chacachacare, Monos, Gaspar Grande  
\* 51. aquilega (Salisb.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓  
\* 52. aripensis N.E. Brown (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
11. Aechmea  
\* 53. bromeliaefolia (Rudge)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓  
\* 54. dichlamydea (Baker)(Tobago) Common ✓  
\* 55. dichlamydea (Baker) var. trinitensis L.B. Smith (Trinidad) Locally common ✓  
56. fulgens Brong. (Trinidad introduced) Rare ✓  
\* 57. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon ✓  
58. magdalenae (Andre)(Trinidad, I.C.T.A., introduced) Rare ✓  
\* 59. Mertensii (Meyer)(Trinidad)Uncommon ✓  
\* 60. mudicaulis (L.)(Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓  
\* 61. porteoides Britton (Trinidad)Locally common ✓
12. Ananas  
62. comosus (L.)(Trinidad & Tobago, introduced) ✓
13. Billbergia  
\* 63. pyramidalis (Sims)(Trinidad introduced)Uncommon ✓  
64. rosea Beer (Trinidad introduced) Rare ✓

Note: Asterisk (\*) signifies species has been collected by the Trin. Regional Virus Lab.

Trinidad and Tobago Bromeliads

1. Pitcairnia
  - \*1. integrifolia Ker-Gawl. (Trinidad), Locally common ✓
2. Glomeropitcairnia
  - \*2. erectiflora Mez (Trinidad), Locally common ✓
3. Tillandsia
  - \*3. anceps Lodd. (Trinidad), Locally common ✓
  - \*4. bulbosa Hook. (Trinidad & Tobago), Common ✓
  5. canescens Sw. (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  6. complanata Benth. (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  - \*7. depressa Steud. var. latifolia (Griseb.) Fendleri (Griseb.) (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  - \*8. elongata H.B.K. var. subimbricata (Baker)(Trinidad) Common ✓
  - \*9. fasciculata Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓
  - \*10. flexuosa Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓  
Patos
  - \*11. Gardneri Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  - \*12. junceae (R. & P.)(Trinidad) Locally common ✓
  - \*13. micrantha Baker (Trinidad) Locally common ✓
  - \*14. monadelpha (Morr.)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  15. Morreniana Regel (Trinidad, introduced) Rare = cyanea Linden ex K. Koch ✓
  16. pulchella Hook. (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  - \*17. stricta Soland. (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  18. subulifera Mez (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  19. triticea Burch (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  - \*20. usneoides (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common ✓
  - \*21. utriculata L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common ✓
4. Vriesia
  - \*22. amazonica (Baker)(Trinidad) Locally common ✓
  - \*23. Broadwari L.B. Smith (Trinidad) and Tobago Locally common ✓
  - \*24. capituligera (Griseb.)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  25. chrysostachys Morr. (Trinidad) Rare ✓
  - \*26. didistichoides (Mez)(Trinidad) Locally common ✓
  - \*27. glutinosa Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  - \*28. Johnstonei (Mez) (Trinidad) Locally common ✓
  - \*29. Jonghii (Libon ex C. Koch)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  - \*30. macrostachya (Bello)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  31. paniculata (L.)(Trinidad) Rare = ringens (Griseb.) ✓
  - \*32. platynema Gaudich. (Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  - \*33. procera (Mart.)(Trinidad) Common ✓
  - \*34. rubra (R. & P.)(Trinidad) Uncommon ✓
  35. simplex (Vell.)(Trinidad) Rare

January 8, 1964.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U. S. A.

Dear Lyman,

Since my Christmas card describing recent bromel finds in Tobago, I have seen Purselove who tells me that publication is going ahead on the Flora, so hasten to send you my material.

The attached list indicates the specimens being sent. The Tillandsia flexuosa is the only bromel I saw on Little Tobago island, but it is possible that Pitcairnia may be present on some of the rocky cliffs that were inaccessible to me.

The most important item is the Vriesea splitgerberi, which I believe constitutes a new record for Tobago. Incidentally I have additional plants growing in my garden.

I mentioned previously that I also saw last August 8th. what I took to be Vriesea jonghii (or possibly platynema). It was high in a tree (unobtainable) on the Main Ridge in the same area where I collected the Catopsis sessiliflora (see attached list). I believe you once told me Colin Pittendrigh also found jonghii in Tobago, but you never gave me the collection details. The same day on the Main Ridge, I also saw amongst other things Areococcus micranthus, thus substantiating my previous observation, as well as Guzmania sanguinea and Vriesea broadwayi.

In Trinidad proper I can add a few additional locality records:

1. Areococcus micranthus from the Paria Bay Trace near Brasso Seco, 3 June 1963 (R. Martinez, coll.) - growing nicely in my garden and will be flowering before long.
2. Tillandsia monadelpha (same data as above; the plant has the typical lax leaves of this species as contrasted with the stiffer leaves of anceps; and also there is a typical old inflorescence which some day soon I will remove and press).
3. Vriesea splendens var. longi bracteata, Trinity Hills of South Trinidad, 3 March 1963 (THGA coll., two plants growing in my garden).

I finally achieved flowering of Bromelia chrysantha in my garden last June. The plant had been collected on Gasparee Island a few years ago. A photo is inclosed.

I have several bromels in the plant press from Grenada and St. Vincent which will be sent along at a later date. Also am trying to grow some. The Pitcairnia in SV must be different from ours as the inflorescence is much more robust. I don't know many species up the islands. Did you tell me where I might possibly get your North American bromels? Missouri herbarium?

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

c.c. Prof. J.W. Purseglove,  
U.W.I., St. Augustine

THGA:gc

BROMELIADS SENT TO DR. LYMAN B. SMITH, U.S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

- TRVL Herb. #363 (plant and inflorescence) Catopsis sessiliflora, Main Ridge, Bloody Bay Trace, 9 mile post Roxborough, Tobago, W.I. Altitude 900 ft. Epiphytic. THGA. coll. 7 August 1963
- 366 (plant and inflorescence) Vriesia broadwayi, Main Ridge Forest Reserve, 3/4 mile post, Roxborough, Tobago, W.I., 9/VIII/63 Alt. 1100 feet. Epiphytic. THGA coll.
- 360B (inflorescence) Tillandsia flexuosa, Little Tobago Island, Tobago, W.I. 3/VIII/63 Epiphytic THGA coll.
- 360A (plant) Tillandsia flexuosa, Little Tobago Island, Tobago, W.I. 3/VIII/63 Epiphytic THGA coll.
- 362A (inflorescence) Vriesia splitgerberi (Mez), Main Ridge Forest Reserve, 3/4 mile post, Roxborough, Tobago, W.I. Alt. 1100 ft. Epiphytic THGA coll. 9 August 1963
- 362B (leaves) Vriesia splitgerberi (Mez), Main Ridge Forest Reserve, 3/4 mile post, Roxborough, Tobago, W.I. Alt. 1100 ft. Epiphytic THGA coll. 9 August 1963

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
January 8, 1964

:gc

January 20, 1964.

Stechert-Hafner,  
31, East 10th. Street,  
New York 3,  
New York,  
U. S. A.

Dear Sirs,

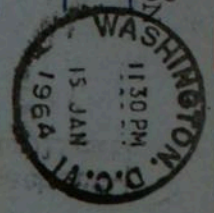
I would like to order a copy of Dr. Lyman Smith's paper on North American Bromeliaceae which appeared in the North American Flora, Vol. 19, Pt. 2, 1938. Please let me know total costs including shipping surface mail and I shall forward you my check.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:gc

Lyman B. Smith  
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
U. S. A.



TO: UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES,

Dr. Thomas H.G. Attken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P.O. Box 164  
Port-Of-Spain, TRINIDAD.

**AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION**

SECOND FOLD

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., U. S. A.

January 15, 1964

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory, (University of the West Indies)  
P.O. Box 164  
Port-Of-Spain, Trinidad

Dear Tommy:

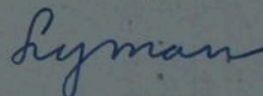
Many thanks for your letter of January 8 and the bromels from Tobago and Little Tobago. I will write Purseglove that your determinations are verified. It is indeed good news that he is going ahead on the Flora, for I was afraid that he no longer had time for it.

Thanks also for the photo of Bromelia chrysantha. It must be quite handsome in bloom.

I have a key to West Indian Pitcairnia in my "Notes on Bromeliaceae - XVIII" in "Phytologia" vol. 8, no. 5. You might try it for your St. Vincent plant.

My North American bromels were published in the North American Flora, vol. 19, pt. 2, 1938. It is now sold by Stechert-Hafner, 31 East 10th Street, New York 3, N. Y. I have no duplicate copies.

Sincerely,



Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

Curator of grasses,  
Smithsonian Institution  
Dr. Jason R. Swallen

# University of the West Indies

TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY

FEDERATION PARK

MAIL: P. O. BOX 164,  
PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD.  
TELEPHONE: POS 24261, 24262  
CABLE: ROCKFOUND, PORT-OF-SPAIN

January 29, 1963.

Dr. Harold N. Moldenke,  
15, Glenbrook Avenue,  
Yonkers 5,  
New York,  
U. S. A.

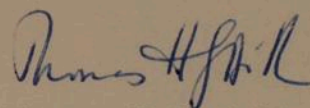
Dear Doctor Moldenke,

In order to complete my set of Lyman Smith  
"Notes on Bromeliaceae", I would like to order the  
following copies of Phytologia:

"Notes"	Phytologia Vol. & No.	
I	4	4
II	4	5
V	5	5
VII	5	8

Please let me know total cost, including  
postage.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H.G. Aitken

Sorry -- none of these available here  
any more! Maybe Dr. Smith might have  
some copies himself. His address is U. S.  
National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D. C., USA

HNM

THGA:gc

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 11, 1963.

Dr. Thomas H.G. Aitken  
University of the West Indies  
P.O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

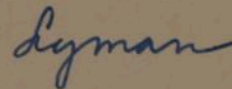
Dear Tommy:

Some time ago I sent you the Bromel papers that you requested, but the bottle of flowers of a Panama Vriesea you sent has been staring at me from my desk top for longer than I like to think on. The trouble is that I can still only guess at the species without more complete material, but that guess would be around V. gladioliflora.

Do you have any information about the publication of the Bromeliad part of the "Flora of Trinidad and Tobago"? I hate to keep pestering Professor Purseglove because I know he is up to his ears in work at the new University, but I very much wish to know the score.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,



Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

January 29, 1963.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U. S. A.

Dear Lyman,

Thank you for the additional "Notes on Bromeliaceae"  
which have arrived. I shall write Dr. Moldenke for the missing  
numbers.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:gc

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 14, 1963

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P.O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain)  
British West Indies

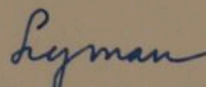
Dear Tommy:

Under separate cover I am sending you all I can find of the "Notes on Bromeliaceae" that you still lack, namely, III, IV, VI, VIII and XVI. Dr. Moldenke can probably supply you with most of the others which are as follows:

<u>Notes</u>	<u>Phytologia vol. and no.</u>	<u>cost</u>
I	4 - 4	\$ 1.00
II	4 - 5	.75
<u>V</u>	5 - 5	.75
VII	5 - 8	1.00

I am sorry I have run out of some numbers, but it is impossible to figure the demand for such papers.

Sincerely,



Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

January 29, 1963.

Dr. Harold N. Moldenke,  
15, Glenbrook Avenue,  
Yonkers 5,  
New York,  
U. S. A.

Dear Doctor Moldenke,

In order to complete my set of Lyman Smith  
"Notes on Bromeliaceae", I would like to order the  
following copies of Phytologia:

"Notes"	Phytologia Vol. & No.	
I	4	4
II	4	5
V	5	5
VII	5	8

Please let me know total cost, including  
postage.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:gc

January 10, 1963.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear Lyman,

Thank you for "Notes on Bromeliaceae, XVII and XVIII". On checking my files I see I now have Notes 9 - 15 and 17 - 18. Are you in a position to fill any of the lacunae?

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

:gc

November 26, 1962.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U. S. A.

Dear Lyman,

I note in the Sept. - Oct. issue of the Bromeliad Society Bulletin that you have more papers in print - 17 and 18th Notes on Bromeliaceae, I believe.

If you have copies of these to spare as well as any others since I saw you in July 1961, I would appreciate receiving same.

I note you have transferred Tillandsia pulchella to T. tenuifolia and you have described Mulford's gravisia.

Nat de Leon sent a Mr. Kytan my way recently and I helped him to get a good supply of Guzmania sanguinea back to Florida to grow.

Under separate cover I am sending you two flowers of a Vriesea? once given to me by Sandy Fairchild in Panama several years ago. It blooms every year but I haven't bothered to save the flowers before. The plant sends up a simple spathe similar to that of Vriesea splendens var longibracteata. The spathe is entirely green and rather uninteresting; petals are cream-colored and flower bases slimy. Perhaps you can identify the plant. The spathe is about 14 inches long and the leaves about 8 - 10 inches.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

:gc

Contributions from the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University, New Series.  
No. XXXVII. Flora of the islands of Margarita and Coche, Venezuela.  
by John Robert Johnston. Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 34(7):163-312,  
pl. 23-30, June 1909.

Page 194: Bromeliaceae

1. Aechmea Fendleri Andre

South Hill, El Valle, alt. 335 m. (Johnston no. 335); also on the mountain ridge from San Juan Mt. to Juan Griego trail, alt. 500-700 m. (Johnston no. 209, July 2. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226; between Petaquirá and Colonia Tovar, Fendler, no. 2454, according to Mez.

2. Ananas sativus (Lindl.) Schult.f.

Cultivated at El Valle, Tacarigua. Distribution general in the West Indies and South America.

3. Bromelia pinguin L.

El Valle, Miller & Johnston, no. 247, July 26, and Johnston, no. 211, July 6. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226. Distribution general from Cuba to Guiana and Colombia.

Page 195:

4. Chevalieria sp.

Juan Griego, Ernst.

5. Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora Mez

San Juan Mt., alt. 750 m., Johnston, no. 303. Endemic.

6. Gravisia aquilega (Salisb.) Mez

South Hill, El Valle, alt. 335 m., Johnston, no. 302, July 10. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226; Angostura, Fendler, no. 2455. Distribution Tobago, Trinidad, and South America.

7. Guzmania lingulata (L) Med

Juan Griego trail, alt. 400-500 m., Johnston, no. 301, July 2. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226. Tropical America.

8. Guzmania tricolor R. & P.

South Hill, El Valle, alt. 300 m., Johnston, no. 295, Aug. 31, Distribution general from the West Indies to Venezuela and Peru.

9. Thecophyllum Johnstonei Mez

San Juan Mt., alt. 500 m., Johnston, no. 304, July 6. Endemic.

p. 195 cont.

10. Tillandsia Lescaillei Wright

San Juan Mt., alt. 600 m., Johnston, no. 313, July 19. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226, Cuba.

11. Tillandsia recurvata L.

Santa Ana, Ernst.; El Valle, Johnston, no. 219, July 8. Venezuela: Cumana, HBK, . Distribution general in tropical America.

12. Tillandsia utriculata

San Juan Mt., alt. 500 m., Johnston, no. 296, July 27. Venezuela: San Julian, Robinson & Lyon, July 1900. The spike is much more crowded than in the typical form. Distribution general in the West Indies and Venezuela.

13. Vriesia longibracteata Mez

Juan Griego trail, alt. 450-550 m. , Johnston, no. 300, July 2. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226; between Petaquirá and the sea, Fendler, no. 2449,

14. Vriesia scalaris Morr.

San Juan Mt., Johnston, no. 294, July 16. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226. Brazil.

15. Whittmackia lingulata (L.) Mez

South Hill, alt. 300 m., Johnston, no. 294, July 18. Venezuela: Ernst, Sobre la flora y fauna, p. 226. West Indies.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

May 15, 1961

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, Port of Spain  
British West Indies

Dear Tommy:

Thank you for the fine photographs of the bromeliad. I quite agree with you that it is Vriesea procera with a simple inflorescence. I certainly hope you do make it down here from the University of Maryland, and then I can show you some of our very variable material of this species. Please phone me so I can be sure to see you, as I may be away for a week in July.

I have had no word from the Bromeliads of Trinidad and Tobago, but Purseglove is due here in June and I may find out something from him.

Sincerely yours,

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

11 May 1961

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

A while back we turned up an odd looking Vriesea which quite has me stumped. It looks like simplex except that the inflorescence is erect. The other possibility is a very simple Vriesea procera.

The inflorescence and a couple of leaves have been preserved as an herbarium specimen. <sup>#345</sup> The plant itself is in my garden and one of these days I hope to flower it again. I inclose six photos (the insect larva is incidental).

Herewith a few facts concerning this Vriesea. Locality: Blue Basin, a few miles west of Port of Spain in the Diego Martin Valley. Epiphytic. Leaf approximately 21 cm. long; 2½ cm. wide above the sheath. Inflorescence about 59 cm. long. Basal scape bracts barely exceeding internodes, the more apical ones subequal. Floral bract 32 mm. Sepals subequal to floral bract. Dead flowers about 44 mm.

Thank you for the Phytologia papers. They were all new to me.

I shall be taking the Medical Acarology course at University of Maryland from 26 June to 4 August. Perhaps some weekend I can get down to see you.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:mr

8 May 1961

← British ornithologist  
Dr. David Snow,  
St. Patrick Estate,  
Arima Valley,  
Arima.

Dear David,

Herewith some data on hummingbirds feeding at bromels:

1. June 1958, Port of Spain. Saucerottia tobaci to Billbergia pyramidalis and Aechmea dichlamydea (THGA).
2. 7 October 1958, Vega de Oropouche - Phaethornis longuemareus to Vriesea procera (THGA).
3. 4 Nov. 1958, Vega de Oropouche - D. Snow saw Saucerottia tobaci go to Aechmea nudicaulis.
4. 23 March 1959, Blanchiseusse Road - D. Snow saw Glaucis hirsuta go to Gravisia aquilega.
5. 25 April 1961, 10 Stephens Road, Maraval - Saucerottia tobaci to Aechmea lingulata, Aechmea dichlamydea trinitatis and Aechmea d. dichlamydea. (THGA) →
6. 5 May 1961. Bois Neuf, Nariva Swamp - Amazilia chionopectus to Gravisia aquilega and Hohenbergia stellata (THGA + UGD)

I may have others stacked away and will keep you posted on any more which come to hand.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Atken

THGA:mr

Col. Meinertz -

Hagen was in  
today with an old  
in presence of  
Urisea splendens  
var. longibracteata

to be identified. He  
spent 2 1/2 hours but  
right counting  
5,460 seeds <sup>over</sup>

Aitken  
28 III/61  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory

later:

Col. Meinertzhagen  
was an ornithologist at  
the British Museum of Nat.  
History - who was visiting  
Trinidad + staying at  
Spring Hill Estate, Arima  
Valley.

THG:th 20 Feb 1989.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

February 10, 1961

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain)  
British West Indies

Dear Tommy:

Dr. Tamayo of the Caracas outfit collected flowering material of Ananas erectifolius at Aguasay in Monagas, Venezuela, so you are quite correct about "Caragua." I am glad to have further evidence.

I am sending you some papers, mostly Phytologia. Please return any duplicates as I am in very short supply on the Phytologia.

Sincerely,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
 UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 2, 1961

WGD	WGD
TMGA	M
LS	e
EST	EST

CBW  
 AJ  
 RNPS

CBW  
 MW  
 S

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
 Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
 P. O. Box 164  
 Trinidad, Port of Spain  
 British West Indies

Dear Tommy:

Thank you for the photos of Vriesea simplex and congratulations on turning up this rare Trinidad species.

I do not blame you for disagreeing with me on the Jamaican Tillandsia fasciculata matter because as long as I look at Jamaican material only, T. compressa appears very distinct. It is when I look elsewhere that I have misgivings. Mez, you know, treats it both as a species and a variety of T. fasciculata, but that seems a little irregular.

I am interested to hear of your trip to the Maturin area and not too surprised at your finding Aechmea fendleri (Ae. portecoides is a synonym). Incidentally, it is also known from Isla Margarita, Venezuela. Also in Venezuela - see Johnston

Best regards,

Lyman

Lyman B. Smith  
 Curator  
 Division of Phanerogams

February 4, 1961.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerogams,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman:

Since writing you the other day I have had a chance to go back through the old Bromeliad Bulletins and found Racine Foster's article on "Benevolent Bromeliads" 2(4):46 1952.

It would appear that the bromel I described to you under the name of "Curagua" as a fiber producing plant for making rope and twine is Ananas erectifolius or Curaua as Racine writes it. I'm sorry I couldn't get material, but nothing was in flower. Also the Mediterranean Fruit Fly has recently been picked up in Venezuela and the Trinidad authorities are rather sticky about imports. Judging from your Bromels of Brazil, this would appear to be a new distribution record if the above identification is correct.

I note you continue to publish in ~~Phytopathologia~~ and elsewhere. Would much appreciate reprints as they come along. Had nice visit with Walter and Barbara Hodges the other evening. They are spending two weeks collecting in Dominica.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken.

THGA:ac

WGD		<i>WGD</i>
THGA		
LS		<i>LS</i>
AHJ		<i>AHJ</i>
CSW		<i>CSW</i>
EST		<i>EST</i>

26 January 1961

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator of Phanerograms,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

We have just acquired our first Vriesea simplex - a lovely specimen, just past flowering, I believe.

It comes from Paria, on the northern slope of the Northern Range, about midway across the island, taken 22 Jan. '61 by Mr. Crichlow. The floral bracts are a lovely pale reddish-yellow basally which merges into yellow and green apically.

I thought you might like to know the thing still exists here. Will press the inflorescence, but hope to try and grow the plant. I have Vriesea rubra and Aechmea dichlamydea (Tobago), T. juncea (Jamaica), T. "fasciculata" (Jamaica - don't agree with you on this) coming into flower.

Had interesting 10 days in Maturin area of Venezuela. Til. elongata which is restricted to a narrow band along west coast of Trinidad is about the only bromel in Maturin town - also quite common in surrounding countryside. Some Gravisia aquilega and Aechmea nudicaulis, but not common. Up in the mountains at Caripe (3000 ft.) usneoides festoons the trees - also little bit seen along the Orinoco. Some parts of the llanos completely devoid of bromels - although a small tree is present for them to grow on. Discovered in one savannah village a terrestrial bromel, spiky, (but not spiny) leaves (1.5 - 2 ft. long) called "Curagua" which is harvested for its fibers to make hammocks and ropes. Didn't see any inflorescences, but said to resemble that of pineapple. Do you know this? Til. fasciculata and T. juncea flowering in the mountains. Near Caripe at about 2,000 ft?, I saw Aechmea porteoides (fendleri?) and was surprised as I thought it was Trinidad endemic. Plants up about 60 feet or so, but certainly looked like ours. Could I confuse it with something else?

Best regards,



Thomas H. G. Aitken

Incl. 3 photos of Vriesea simplex

LYMAN B. SMITH  
3941 WASHINGTON STREET  
KENNINGTON, MARYLAND

WGD		WGD
THGA		
LS	15	16
EAB		25

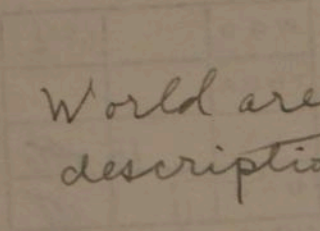
January 15 1966  
OBW  
AS  
RWH

Dear Tommy, -  
I thank you for your  
Christmas card note. I am  
sorry to hear you are having  
such a thin time with bromels.  
Maybe things will look up  
when that section of the Trinidad  
Flora appears.

I have ~~no~~ no definite news  
but it had to wait until the orchids  
were done and I have just seen  
Schultes' work on the Trinidad  
orchids advertised for sale.

I have just finished a  
synopsis of American Velloziaceae,  
a curious family like lilies or  
candelabras, maybe you have seen  
some. They are chiefly in central  
Brazil but extend into British Guiana,  
Venezuela, Colombia, and even Panama.

Now I am putting together  
a stream-lined account of the Bromels  
of the Guayana Highland or Lost



World area. It has keys but no  
descriptions or illustrations.

Best regards,  
Lyman.

SMT THSONIAN INSTTU TON  
WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
JUN 17 1959  
D.C.



**AIR LETTER**

**VIA AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION**

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad  
Port of Spain, British West Indies

MESSAGE MUST APPEAR ON INNER SIDE ONLY  
NO TAPE OR STICKER MAY BE ATTACHED  
IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER  
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

FIRST FOLD

SECOND FOLD

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

W C		W.S.
L D		
E A D		

June 15, 1959

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, Port of Spain, B. W. I.

Dear Tommy:

Your notes did involve a lot more work on the Trinidad Bromel manuscript, but made it just that much better, so there are no regrets on my part. I had to re-write the citations anyway because they were not in the correct form, so I just combined the two operations. In a few days the revised ms. should be on its way back to Simmonds.

Thanks for the Aechmea bromeliifolia note.

The latest Bromeliad Society Bulletin just came with your article in it, so it is too late to include Colin's Vriesia jonghii. However, it is still a good article and I am glad to see it on record.

Sincerely yours,

Lyman.

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

10 June, 1959

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Curator, Division of Phanerogams,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

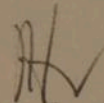
I'm terribly sorry if I have caused a great deal of extra work, but I hope it is for the best.

I sent a copy of your letter over to Simmonds and he tells me he has already returned the ms to you.

I have recently had Aechmea bromeliaefolia in flower and can add the following. Scape bracts are a beautiful pink but at anthesis only. By the end of the last flowers, they have turned a sort of "papery brown" (like a dried specimen). I couldn't detect anything resembling a primary bract.

I'm sorry I didn't know about Colin's Vriesea Jonghii Tobago record when I sent in my ms to Overton. I'm afraid it's too late to include now.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H. G. Aitken

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.

U. S. A.

Dr. Thomas H. G. Atken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, Port of Spain, B. W. I.



AIR LETTER • AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SECOND FOLD

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM  
Washington 25, D. C., U. S. A.

Dear Angus,

May 27, 1959

The enclosed copy of  
a letter from Lyman Smith really  
concerns you people. Possibly you  
can insert these notes I mean.  
What do you think? I'll write home  
that I've called your attention to his letter

WGD	WGD
THG	
LG	
EAB	Ed

Sincerely  
LBS

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, Port of Spain, B. W. I.

Dear Tommy:

Thank you for all your notes. I am overwhelmed, because I thought I had done a much better job of recording your information. However, that is not the question. The problem is, what is the best way of adding these notes?

Should I recall the manuscript or should I annotate your notes for insertion by Angus Simmonds or Professor Purseglove? Probably I should ask the manuscript back so I can take full responsibility. In any event, I would be glad to learn your ideas on the matter.

Regarding abbreviations in the manuscript, I can only say that I used them because that was the style of the Flora to date. If the editors favor complete words, I would much prefer to have it that way.

The same applies also to your suggestion of a summarizing list, except that the information is already included in another form. Would not that be a good feature in your illustrated paper?

Cordially yours,

Lyman

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

3 June, 1959

Mr. Angus Simmonds,  
Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture,  
St. Augustine.

Dear Angus,

The inclosed copy of a letter from Lyman Smith really concerns you people. Possibly you can insert these notes of mine. What do you think? I'll write Lyman that I've called your attention to his letter.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:mr  
Incl.

WGD		WGD
TR		
L		
SA		ES

19 May, 1959

Drs. Lyman B. Smith &  
Colin S. Pittendrigh,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman and Colin,

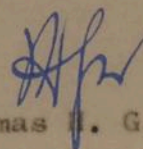
I have just spent most of Whitsuntide weekend reading the Trinidad bromel ms which Angus Simmonds brought in for us to look over. You are to be congratulated on an excellent piece of work.

I have reviewed the ms mainly from the standpoint of distribution and growing conditions, but have included a few notes on flower structure and color. Concerning distribution, I have noted all of our herbarium specimen records. Some of these specimens you haven't seen, so you may not want to accept them, however they are included for your evaluation. Also, in some instances I have included sight records, which, if acceptable, extend considerably the known island range of certain species.

I wonder if it would be possible to incorporate a list summarizing the species, their frequency of occurrence, as well as whether native, introduced and endemic. Perhaps this doesn't fit in with the format of the "Flora", but it would be a useful summary. I'm inclosing my own (old) list for your consideration of this point.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



Thomas H. G. Aitken

Incl. list of comments  
c.c. Botany Dept., I.C.T.A.

List of comments concerning ms "Bromeliace, Flora of Trinidad"

Page 2:

Is anything to be gained by abbreviations? There seems to be plenty of space and the complete word is much easier understood - particularly in working keys.

Page 5:

Pitcairnia: Aren't leaves of Trinidad species serrate only on sheath? (See also generic key) - page 2)

Page 7

Pitcairnia integrifolia

Under General Distribution: After Platanal Valleys insert Cumaca Rd. 6½ mile post (Aitken obs.)

Distr:

Aitken 71, Tembladora;  
Aitken 287, 288, 289, Chacachacare;  
Aitken and Downs, 65, 98 (Downs photo 60, 61) Sans Souci;  
Aitken obs., Gaspar Grande

Page 8:

Glomeropitcairnia: Mostly epiphytic, occasionally terrestrial.

Distr: Aitken and Downs 300. Summit of Chaguaramal;  
Downs (photo 18-21), El Tucuche.

Page 14:

Till. deppeana var. latifolia

Downs 18, Cumaca; Downs (photo 5, 30), Morne Bleu.

Page 15:

Til. elongata var. subimbricata

Distribution

Downs 26, Pt. Fortin;  
Aitken 96, Tabaquite;  
Aitken 284, Cunupia;  
Aitken and Downs, obs., Las Cuevas Bay (note: plant in my garden getting ready to flower); Downs (photo 2, Caroni).  
Also common in Tucker Valley, U.S. Naval Station, Aitken obs.

Descr: Inflorescence spikes yellowish becoming pale orange distally.

Page 16:

Til. complanata

Distribution:

Rewrite as : Aitken and Downs 262, Slopes of Aripo.  
In addition; Aitken, obs., St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley  
(Note: This plant brought home to grow, but died.

Page 17:

Til. gardneri

Distribution: Aitken 94, Downs (photo 58, 59) St. Andrew's Golf Course, Maraval; Aitken 237, Spring Hill Estate, Arima Valley.

Page 17 (continued)

Also observed commonly by Aitken at St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley and Macqueripe Bay.

Page 18:

Til. stricta

Object to description of distribution, as I not infrequently see this species in eastern Trinidad in Sangre Grande region and around Biche. Most of our records are from wet areas of east and south Trinidad.

Distr: Downs 49 (photo 43, 44) Cunaripo; Downs and Aitken 186, Moruga Bouffe; Aitken and Downs, 240, Vega de Oropouche.

Page 20:

Til. monadelpha

Distribution: Aitken 50, (Downs (Photo 45, 46), Downs 20, Aitken and Downs 70, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite; Downs 21, Cat's Hill Reserve.

Page 21:

Til. anceps

Distribution. Downs 34, 55, Maracas Falls ; Downs 56, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite; Aitken 73, Arima Valley; Aitken and Downs 251, 252, Rio Claro - Guayaguayare Rd., 6 mile post.

Page 22:

Til. usneoides

Distribution: Trinidad: I have collected this species in the following Northern Range localities, but have not made herb. specimens: Morne Coco Rd., Maraval Valley; Santa Cruz Valley; and Caura Valley. Also seen near Fifth Company Village, Moruga Road (4 mile post) Tobago: Aitken 83, 84, Mason Hall.

Page 23 & 24

Til. spiculosa - Petals white.

Distribution: Aitken and Downs 41, 42, Downs (photo 37,38), El Tucuche; Aitken and Downs 59, Cerro del Aripo; Aitken and Downs 260, Slopes of Aripo; Aitken and Downs 294, Summit of Chaguaramal.

Page 25:

Til. utriculata

Distribution: Downs (photo 4), Caroni; Aitken observed one plant of what was undoubtedly this species (no inflorescence to confirm) on both Chacachacare and Patos islands.

Page 27:

Til. flexuosa

Trinidad: Downs 33, Princes Town; Aitken & Downs 64, Toco; Aitken 158, 159, Chacachacare; Downs (photo I), Maraval.

# 1

Page 27:

Tobago: Aitken 81, Mason Hall; Aitken 86, Charlotteville;  
Aitken 226, Barbados Bay, Broadway s.n., Patos should be  
placed under Venezuela, also add Aitken 267-270, Patos.

Page 28:

Til. juncea

Distribution: Aitken and Downs 47, 154, Downs (Photo 35, 42),  
Ortino, Maracas Valley; Aitken 231, Santa Cruz Valley.  
(Also observed growing in Royal Botanic Gardens, Port of  
Spain. Aitken, J. Trin. Field Nat. Soc. 1957, p. 29).

Page 29:

Til. fasciculata

Line 12: Floral bracts have a salmon pink flush at anthesis,  
after which they turn yellow to green.

Distribution: Trinidad: Aitken 30, Tabaquite; Aitken 285,  
Vega de Oropouche; Downs (photo 3), Arima Valley.

Page 31:

Til. bulbosa

Distribution: Trinidad: Downs 24, (photo 29, 32) St. Patrick  
Estate, Arima Valley; Downs 31, Princes Town; Aitken 224,  
Petit Valley, Diego Martin; Aitken 261, Sangre Grande.

Tobago: Aitken 82, Mason Hall.

Page 36:

Vriesea glutinosa

Habitat: Frequently saxicolous below water falls where  
bathed in spray, but on Chaguaramal it is growing away from  
water both on limestone rocks and epiphytically on trees.  
An uncommon species with spotty distribution in the Northern  
Range.

Distribution: Aitken and Downs 43 (Photo 24-26), El Tucuche;  
Aitken and Downs 303, Slopes of Chaguaramal.

Descr: Inflorescence, incl. scape, bright reddish orange.

Page 37-38

Vriesea splendens

Distribution: Downs 17, (Photo 14) Cumaca; Downs 23,  
Martinez 113, Melajo Forest; Aitken & Downs 301, Chaguaramal.

Descr: 4th line from bottom: "typically bright red but  
occasionally yellow". Descr. of typical splendens leaves  
as being "funnelform" does not apply to Trinidad specimens.

Page 40:

Vriesea rubra

Descr: Inflorescence, incl. apical portion of scape, bright  
reddish orange.

Distribution: Aitken 99-101, 280, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite.

Page 41:

Vriesea didistichoides

Distr: Aitken & Downs 40, Downs (photo 33, 34) El Tucuche;  
Aitken & Downs 53, 54, Downs (photo 48, 50), Morne Bleu).

Page 42:

Vriesea procera

line 11 - Inflorescence occasionally maroon-colored.

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 168, Mafeking Road, Mayaro;  
Aitken 255, Vega de Oropouche; Downs (photo 15), Biche.

Page 45:

Vriesea platynema

Distribution: Aitken 36, Downs (photo 47), Charuma Forest,  
Tabaquite; Aitken & Downs 164, 165, Cumaca.

Change distribution to read "Epiphytic in Central and Northern  
Range".

Page 46:

Vriesea Jonghii

Distribution: Aitken 35 (U.S. Nat. Herb. photo 4406), 279,  
St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley.

Page 47:

Vriesea Broadwayi

Distribution: Trinidad: Aitken & Downs 44, 152, Downs  
(Photo 36, 39, 40), El Tucuche.

Tobago: Aitken 248, Main Ridge, Roxborough.

Page 48:

Vriesea amazonica

Distribution: Downs 22, Cat's Hill Reserve; Aitken 108,  
Charuma Forest, Tabaquite; Aitken & Downs, 283, Mandillon Rd.,  
Sangre Grande.

Suggested distribution descr. or. "Widespread in eastern Trinidad  
from Sangre Grande south".

Page 49-50:

Vriesea splitgerberi:

Suggested distribution in descr. " Epiphytic principally in  
wetter forests of northeastern Trinidad."

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 37, Heights of Platanal;  
Martinez 114, 222, Spring Bank Estate, Heights of Guanapo;  
Aitken & Downs 233, Cumaca; Aitken & Downs 263, Heights of  
Aripo; Aitken & Downs 304, Chaguaramal.

Note: I have also collected this species in southeastern  
Trinidad (Rio Claro - Guyaguyare Rd., Mora Forest); brought  
plant back to grow and watch flowering; unfortunately herb.  
specimen never made.

Descr: Mucilaginous material in flower fascicles.

Page 52:

Vriesea capituligera

Distribution: Downs 39, (photo 22, 23) Aripo Caves;  
Aitken & Downs 60, Downs (photo 56, 57), Cerro del Aripo;  
Aitken & Downs 302, Summit of Chaguaramal.

Page 53:

Vriesea Johnstonei

Distribution: Aitken and Downs 45, 46, Downs (photo 27, 41),  
El Tucuche; Aitken and Downs 297, 298, Summit of Chaguaramal.

Page 54:

Vriesea ringens

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 271, Slopes of Aripo, Aripo Valley.

Page 56:

Guz. megastachya

I would be inclined to put a question mark after "obs.", as  
I didn't have a plant in my hands. However, the inflorescences  
looked like those in Nat. Mus. (barring, of course, similarity  
of V. Splitgerberi).

Descr.: Coma uniformly russet.

Page 58:

Guz. monostachia

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 76, 77, Downs (photo 62),  
Sans Souci; Aitken 189, Guaico.  
Tobago: Aitken 80, Mason Hall. (Note: Courland River is at  
Mason Hall).

Page 60:

Guz. lingulata

Descr. Flowers with mucilaginous material.

Distribution: Trinidad: Aitken & Downs 234, Downs (photo 10),  
Cumaca. Tobago: Aitken 256, Main Ridge *with Roxborough*

Page 61:

Guzmania sanguinea

Distribution: Trinidad - Aitken 38, Downs (photo 17), Morne Bleu.  
(Note: Quite common around Cumaca).

Tobago: Aitken 257, Main Ridge *north of Roxborough*.

Page 64:

Cat. Berteroniana

Descr.: Petals barely exerted and barely open.

Distribution: Northeastern Trinidad. Aitken 72, 111, 112,  
Melajo Forest; Guerra 117, Melajo Forest; Downs 136, 176,  
Melajo Forest; Aitken & Downs 184, Aripo Savannah.

Note: I have only seen this plant in northeastern Trinidad.

Page 65:

Catopsis sessiflora

Distribution: Trinidad: Downs 32, Princes Town; Downs 48,  
Cunaripo; Aitken & Downs 157, Vega de Oropouche Jctn.;  
Aitken & Downs 238, Cumaca; Downs (photo 12, 28) Simla,  
Arima Valley.

Tobago: Aitken, Main Ridge North of Roxborough.

Note: My field notes indicate 2 plants collected at 3 mile post Parlatuvier Trace, but apparently I failed to make herb. specs. Recorded in my "Bromels of Tobago". How about records in Broadway & Smith. "Indefinite, Eggers 5709, Broadway 4013, 4354, 4444, 4831 (Meg!)" ; none of these are in ICTA herbarium.

Page 66:

Catopsis floribunda

Distribution: Trinidad: Downs, 27, 28, Cumaca; Aitken 29, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite; Aitken 57, Sangre Grande; Aitken & Downs 185, Moruga Bouffe; Aitken & Downs 239, Cumaca; Aitken 258, Spring Hill Estate, Arima Valley; Downs (photo 13), Arima Valley.

Tobago - Aitken 218, 228, 230, Main Ridge north of Roxborough.

Page 68:

Araecoccus micranthus

Distribution: Aitken obs., Main Ridge, north of Roxborough.

Page 70:

Bil. rosea

I have yet to see this species in Trinidad. If still here, I think it must be very rare.

Page 71:

Bil. pyramidalis

This species has not gone wild, but may be found in a number of gardens around Port of Spain and St. Augustine.

Page 74:

Hohenbergia stollata

Descr. line 18, floral bracts "pink to purple".

Distribution: Trinidad: Downs 19, Aitken 51, 103, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite.

Note: I have also seen this species on Valencia Old Road, Sangre Grande; Rio Claro; Moruga Bouffe; Lagon Bouffe, Guyaguayare.

Page 77:

Gravisia aquilega

Habitus: Epiphytic and terrestrial (on Patos and Chacachacare it is only terrestrial, also commonly so in Trinidad & Tobago)

Distribution: Trinidad: Aitken 63, Brasso; Aitken 106, Petit Valley, Diego Martin; Aitken obs. Chacachacare, Monos, Gaspar Grande; Downs (photo 11), Caroni.

Tobago: Aitken 245, Barbados Day, Mt. St. George; Aitken obs. Ft. George Hill, Scarborough; Aitken obs. Windward Rd., Aitken obs., Bacolet (terrestrial).

Note: Williams' Patos record should be pushed down to Venezuela; also add Aitken 276, 277, Patos.

Page 80:

Aechmea aripensis

Descr. Sepals red, brown-laminate, connate basally.

Petals deep blue apically.

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 61, 62, Downs (photo 51-54), Cerro del Aripo; Aitken & Downs 305, Summit of Chaguaramal.

Page 82:

Aechmea Mertensii

Descr. Petals yellow, turning red on fading. Lower primary bracts pendant.

Distribution: Aitken obs. Vega de Oropouche; Oropouche Cave; Rio Claro; Downs (photo 9), St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley.

Page 84:

Aechmea Fendleri

Descr. Inflorescence, including scape, bright pink.

Distribution: Aitken obs., Cumaca, Oropouche Cave; Downs (photo 7), Cumaca.

Page 86-87

Aechmea lingulata

Petals white.

Distribution: Trinidad. Aitken & Downs 242, 243, 250, Guaico; Downs (photo 8), Arima Valley.

Tobago: Aitken 85, Mason Hall.

Page 88, 89, 90

Aechmea dichlamydea

Am not satisfied that the two varieties have been adequately described from color standpoint (see my letter to LBS dated 7 March 1959). At anthesis trinitensis is one of the most beautiful bromeliads with bright Delft blue spikes mottled with purple, which continue to remain so, typical dychlamydea of Tobago has much paler spikes only partially mottled with green and magenta and which fades to greenish white after flowering. Fruits of both are deep blue.

var. dichlamydea

Distribution: Aitken 87-89, 254, Speyside; Guerra 109, Anse Fourmi; Also Aitken obs., Charlotteville to King's Bay, Mason Hall, Main Ridge north of Roxborough.

General: Epiphytic and terrestrial, the most abundant and conspicuous bromeliad in eastern and central Tobago.

var. trinitensis

Distribution: Aitken and Downs, 66, 74, 75, 253, Downs (photo 63, 64, 65), Sans Souci.

Page 91

Aechmea nudicaulis

Descr: Primary bracts omitted (bright red). Primary bracts erect.

Distribution: Downs 25, St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley; Aitken & Downs 52, Morne Bleu; Downs (photo 6), Arima Valley.

Tobago: Aitken 93, Concordia Estate, Mason Hall. Also Aitken obs., Charlotteville.

General distribution: I would say infrequent in Tobago.

Habitus - stoloniferous-plants climb up a tree.

Page 92:

Aechmea bromeliifolia

Description: Primary bracts?

Habitus - Definitely terrestrial as well as epiphytic. Most of my material has come from ground.

Distribution: Aitken & Downs 58, 175; Aitken 107, Melajo Forest. Apparently largely restricted to northeastern Trinidad.

Note: Certain specimen sheets cited by authors have ambiguous localities. After checking these in ICTA collection, following is suggested: Freeman, Herb. Trin. 10506, Mora Forest (Melajo Forest); Herb. Trin. 698, Finlay, Herb. Trin. 2002, Cabacera de Aripo (Aripo Valley); Alexander, Herb. Trin. 5723, Carapichaima; Freeman, Herb. Trin. 10505, Balandra. (Note: The ms locality of "Aripo" for spec. 698 & 2002 is misleading as suggests top of Mt. Aripo and this is not the case; it is a lowland species; also Balandra more appropriate than St. Andrew which is county name.

Page 93:

Aechmea magdalenae

I have seen only the clump growing at Imperial College. Inflorescence bright orange, showy.

Page 97:

Bromelia karatas

Distribution: Trinidad - Aitken 102, Petit Valley, Diego Martin; Aitken obs., Lopinot Valley, Churchill Roosevelt Highway., Long Stretch, Scotland Bay, Arima Valley, Tabaquite, etc.

Tobago - Aitken 78, 79, Mason Hall; Aitken 235, Barbados Bay, Mt. St. George.

Page 98:

Bromelia humilis

Distribution: Trinidad: Aitken obs., Chacachacare (plants growing in my garden).

Venezuela: Aitken 272, Patos.

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
May 20, 1959  
THGA:mr

John - H. A. Th

Note: numbers refer to TRVL Herb. spec. number

Trinidad and Tobago Bromeliads

Chocachocare & Gaspar Grande island

1. Pitcairnia
  - \*1. integrifolia Ker-Gawl. (Trinidad), Locally common 65, 71, 98, 287, 288, 289,
2. Glomeropitcairnia
  - \*2. erectiflora Mez (Trinidad), Locally common 300,
3. Tillandsia
  - \*3. anceps Lodd. (Trinidad), Locally common 34, 55, 56, 73, 251, 252,
  - \*4. bulbosa Hook. (Trinidad & Tobago), Common 24, 31, 82, 224, 261,
  5. canescens Sw. (Trinidad) Rare
  - \*6. complanata Benth. (Trinidad) <sup>Uncommon</sup> Rare 262, (Part. locally common but high trees where difficult to identify)
  - \*7. deppeana Steud. var. latifolia (Griseb.) (Trinidad) Uncommon 18
  - \*8. elongata H.B.K. var. subimbricata (Baker) (Trinidad) Common 96, 284,
  - \*9. fasciculata Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 30, 285, 290, 291,
  - \*10. flexuosa Sw. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 33, 64, 81, 86, 158, 159, 226, 267, 268, <sup>Chocachocare</sup> 269, 270,
  - \*11. Gardneri Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon 94, 287,
  - \*12. juncea (R. & P.) (Trinidad) <sup>Uncommon</sup> Locally common 47, 154, 231,
  - \*13. micrantha Baker (Trinidad) Locally common 41, 42, 59, 260, 294, <sup>spinulosa Griseb.</sup>
  - \*14. monadelpha (Morr.) (Trinidad) Uncommon 20, 21, 50, 70,
  - 15. Morreniana Regel (Trinidad, introduced) Rare
  - not here -> 16. pulchella Hook. (Trinidad) Rare
  - \*17. stricta Soland. (Trinidad) Uncommon 49, 186, 240,
  18. subulifera Mez (Trinidad) Rare
  - ~~19. triticea Burch (Trinidad) Rare~~
  - \*20. usneoides L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common 83, 84,
  - \*21. utriculata L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 26, 191, <sup>Chocachocare?</sup>
  4. Vriesea
    - \*22. amazonica (Baker) (Trinidad) Locally common 22, 108, 283,
    - \*23. Broadwayi L.B. Smith (Trinidad and Tobago) Locally common 44, 152, 248, Endemic
    - \*24. capituligera (Griseb.) (Trinidad) Uncommon 39, 60, 293, 302,
    25. chrysostachys Morr. (Trinidad) Rare
    - \*26. didistichoides (Mez) (Trinidad) Locally common 40, 53, 54,
    - \*27. glutinosa Lindley (Trinidad) Uncommon 43, 303, Endemic
    - \*28. Johnstonei Mez (Trinidad) Locally common 45, 46, 297, 298, 299,
    - also Tobago -> \*29. Jonghii (Libon ex G. Koch) (Trinidad) Uncommon 35, 279, <sup>locally common</sup>
    - ~~\*30. macrostachya (Bello) (Trinidad) Uncommon~~
    - \*31. paniculata (L.) (Trinidad) Rare 192, 271, <sup>ringens (Griseb.)</sup>
    - \*32. platynema Gaudich. (Trinidad) Uncommon 36, 164, 165
    - \*33. procera (Mart.) (Trinidad) Common 168, 255,
    - \*34. rubra (R. & P.) (Trinidad) Uncommon 99, 100, 101, 280,
    - \*35. simplex (Vell.) (Trinidad) Rare

Tobago TAGA. Aug 63

- 4. Vriesia 17, 23, 113, 301,
  - \* 36. splendens (Brong.) var. longibracteata (Baker) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common.
  - \* 37. Splitgerberi (Mez) (Trinidad) ~~Rare~~ <sup>Uncommon</sup> 37, 114, 222, 233, 263, 304,
- 5. Guzmania
  - \* 38. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 234, 256,
  - \* 39. megastachya (Baker) (~~Trinidad~~ Tobago) Locally common
  - \* 40. monostachya (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common 76, 77, 80, 189,
  - \* 41. sanguinea Andre (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common 38, 257,
- 6. Catopsis
  - \* 42. Berteroniana (Schult. f.) (Trinidad) Uncommon 72, 111, 112, 117, 136, 176, 184,
  - \* 43. floribunda (Brong.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common 27, 28, 29, 57, 185, 218  
228, 230, 239, 258,
  - ~~44. nutans (Sw.) (Trinidad) Rare~~
  - \* 45. sessiliflora (R. & P.) (Trinidad & Tobago) <sup>Locally common</sup> ~~Uncommon~~ 32, 48, 157, 238,
- 7. Bromelia
  - \* 46. chrysantha Jacq. (Monos & <sup>Gaspar Grande</sup> ~~Gaspar Grande~~ Islands) Uncommon
  - \* 47. humilis Jacq. (Chacachacare Island) Locally common 140?, 272,
  - \* 48. karatas L. (Trinidad & Tobago) Locally common 78, 79, 102, 235,
- 8. Araeococcus
  - 49. micranthus Brong. (Trinidad & Tobago) Rare <sup>Seen in Aripo Valley but not collected JHP</sup>  
<sup>Collected in Paria Bay near Meso Seco - Maitia</sup>
- 9. Hohenbergia
  - \* 50. stellata Schult f. (Trinidad & Tobago) Uncommon 19, 51, 103,
- 10. Gravisia
  - \* 51. aquilega (Salisb.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 63, 106, 244, 245, 276, 277, <sup>278</sup>
  - \* 52. <sup>Aechmea</sup> aripensis N.E. Brown (Trinidad) Uncommon 61, 62, 305,
- 11. Aechmea bromeliifolia
  - \* 53. bromeliifolia (Rudge) (Trinidad) Uncommon 58, 107, 175,
  - \* 54. dichlamydea (Baker) (Tobago) Common 87, 88, 89, 109, 254, 66, 74, 75, 253,
  - \* 55. dichlamydea (Baker) var. trinitensis L.B. Smith (Trinidad) Locally common  
Downsiana Pitt. (Trinidad) Rare
  - ~~56. fulgens Brong. (Trinidad introduced) Rare~~
  - \* 57. lingulata (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) <sup>locally common</sup> ~~Uncommon~~ 85, 242, 243, 250,
  - 58. magdalenae (Andre) (Trinidad, I.C.T.A., introduced) Rare
  - \* 59. Mertensii (Meyer) (Trinidad) Uncommon
  - \* 60. nudicaulis (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago) Common 25, 52, 93,
  - \* 61. <sup>Fendleri Andre</sup> portecoides Britton (Trinidad) Locally common
- 12. Ananas
  - 62. comosus (L.) (Trinidad & Tobago, introduced)
- 13. Billbergia
  - \* 63. pyramidalis (Sims) (Trinidad introduced) Uncommon 190,
  - ? 64. rosea Beer. (Trinidad introduced) Rare

Note: Asterisk (\*) signifies species has been collected by the Trin. Regional Virus Lab.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 14, 1959

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port of Spain  
Trinidad

Dear Tommy:

I am sorry to disappoint you with my decisions, but like the umpire, I have to call them as I see them. Unlike an umpire, though, I can always change my mind when I have more evidence. So do not give up the fight; time may prove me wrong and if so, it will not be the first time.

Vriesea splitgerberi I believe we have settled for the time being. I have looked again at my material of Vriesea capituligera and find this much difference, the material from Trinidad, Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador retains some orange or red coloration in the primary bracts, while that from Cuba (type locality), Jamaica, and Hispaniola, shows no evidence of the primary bracts being anything but green. More than that I cannot see, but I will be glad to lend you some of each to form your own conclusions.

I enclose a rough tracing of your number 271. The distichous nature of the flowers of the lower branches is obscure because they are so short and crowded, but there can be no doubt of those on the terminal spike. Further there is the very unusual character of the warty or verrucose rhachis just below each floral bract.

Vriesea jonghii is a good example of why I do not claim to be infallible. I now realize that I was in error in recording V. macrostachya from Trinidad at all. It is all V. jonghii and I have so written in the final manuscript. Incidentally, I asked Professor Purseglove to have you and Will Downs look it over.

Do not "bow to my decisions." I will not learn nearly so much as if you go on trying to prove me wrong. Meanwhile I shall keep an eye out for evidence to convince you that I am right. Fasciculata-compressa and dichlamydea-trinitensis are knotty problems and I will not guarantee to see them next year as I do now, but I am forced to a decision by the "Flora of Trinidad and Tobago." Once it is published we can start correcting it and adding to it.

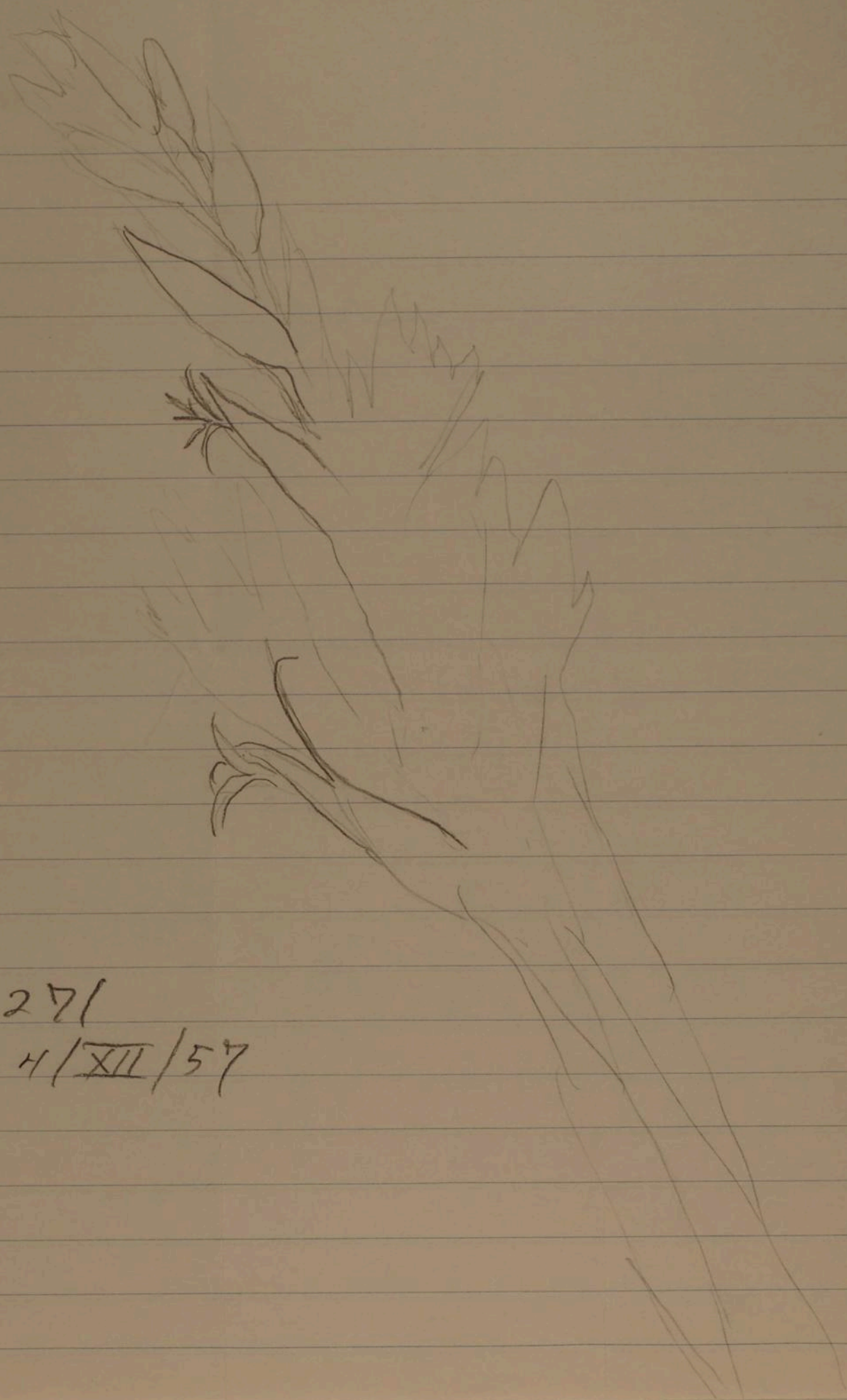
I am very sorry you will not be coming through Washington on your trip as I should dearly love to discuss all this with you with the specimens.

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman.*

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

Enclosure



11

#271

4/XII/57

W.G.

6th April, 1959.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

I'm a little disappointed in your reply, as you took all the wind out of my sails and left my arguments high and dry. But it shows that a landlubber like myself has no business venturing into the botanists' field.

I had a feeling I was reversed on my splitgerberi and capituligera, but I can't see you have satisfactorily explained the orange spotted "capituligera" which you identified for us long ago, spec. #39 (photo #22,23) from Aripo Cave 20 March 1955 and spec. #60 (photo #56,57) from Cerro del Aripo, 24 May 1955. Could this be the "newcomer" ringens, although I fail to see the two ranked flowers in the photo. ? spotted

Incidentally, I'm happy to learn we have confirmed the presence of ringens here, but I can't remember what plant spec. #271 looks like. (By the way the date of collection should be 4/XII/57). I can remember the Grenada ringens specimen but I don't recall anything with an inflorescence like that from Trinidad.

Apparently you misunderstood me regarding the Jamaican platynema. The specimen I referred to in my last letter was one I saw in the Jamaica Institute herbarium. I have sent you all my Jamaican material except the one spathe of capituligera, which I'm sorry now I didn't include with the other material.

I note another specimen of Vreisia Jonghii turned up in this last lot. I had confused it with macrostachya. I've decided now that all the Vriesia up in the big Saman tree at St. Pats are jonghii and not macrostachya. I have a nice specimen in a pot at my home and got night-time flowering records on it last year.

I bow to your decisions on fasciculata-compressa and dichlamydeatrinensis. Nothing lost in trying.

We had a nice visit with Cowan and the others. I urged him to collect bromels on the Main Ridge of Tobago as well as up the islands.

I leave tomorrow for the States and American Mosquito Control Association meetings in Salt Lake City (Hotel Utah) 13-15 April. Sorry I won't be coming to Washington.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:he

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

April 2, 1959

WGH

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
Wrightson Road  
Port of Spain, Trinidad

Dear Tommy:

The bromeliads announced in your letter of March 24, have arrived and I held my manuscript until I could see them. It was well I did. I enclose a list of determinations that mostly agree with yours.

Now I can answer the questions in your letter of March 7.

1. You have Vriesea capituligera and V. splitgerberi just reversed. Vriesea capituligera has the short broad heads and V. splitgerberi the relatively long spikes. The only difference I can see in my Jamaican material of V. capituligera is the color of the bracts and that hardly seems a specific difference. Your third element, as you can see from the list, is V. ringens. Note the two-ranked flowers. Incidentally this is a very welcome specimen as it verifies the otherwise dubious record of the species from Trinidad.

2. Jamaica is the type locality of Tillandsia fasciculata but actually your 285 from Trinidad looks more like the type than your 290 from Jamaica. This species is about the worst mess in the whole family. It is difficult even to distinguish varieties so extreme yet so gradual are the variations. Sometime I should like to show you what I have here in the herbarium. What you call T. compressa is indeed that, but I should like to have you point out where this ends and T. fasciculata begins. Incidentally, the sepals are never free nor the inflorescence always simple, Mez to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. Catopsis nutans in Trinidad was an error of mine which I have corrected.

4. Tillandsia canescens is dubious for Trinidad, but I feel I should cite it as a possibility. Please note that Guzmania megastachya and Vriesea ringens were also dubious until you verified them. Negative statements on distribution are very dangerous.

5. Vriesea platynema varies considerably but is not nearly as bad as Tillandsia fasciculata. I should be glad to check your Jamaican specimen if you care to lend it to me. Eventually I should like to see all your Jamaican specimens that are not duplicated in Proctor's herbarium, as I am writing the Bromels for the Flora of Jamaica.

As to making Aechmea dichlamydea var. trinitensis a species, I was once in favor of it but have gotten cold feet since Pittendrigh turned up an intermediate variety in Venezuela.

I am forwarding your carbon and publication to Pittendrigh and also a carbon of this letter. Thank you for the copy of your publication and especially for this last lot of bromels which are exceedingly helpful.

Cordially yours,

Lyman

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

Enclosure

cc - Prof. C. S. Pittendrigh

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
Bromeliaceae of Trinidad and the West Indies

---

- 58 Aechmea bromeliifolia (Rudge) Baker  
64 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
78 Bromelia karatas L. (on basis of notes by T. H. G. Aitken).  
80 Guzmania monostachia (L.) Rusby  
82 Tillandsia bulbosa Hook.  
83 Tillandsia usneoides (L.) L.  
85 Aechmea lingulata (L.) Baker  
86 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
87 Aechmea dichlamydea Baker var. dichlamydea  
88 Aechmea dichlamydea Baker var. dichlamydea  
93 Aechmea nudicaulis (L.) Griseb.  
99 Vriesea rubra (R&P.) Beer  
136 Catopsis berteroniana (Schult.) Mez  
140 Bromeliaceae - sterile stolon?  
157 Catopsis sessiliflora (R. & P.) Mez  
158 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
159 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
168 Vriesea procera (Mart. ex Schult.) Wittm.  
184 Catopsis berteroniana (Schult.) Mez  
189 Guzmania monostachia (L.) Rusby  
191 Tillandsia utriculata L.  
192 Vriesea ringens (Griseb.) Harms  
226-A Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
235 Bromelia karatas L.  
237 Tillandsia gardneri Lindl.  
244-5 Gravisia aquilega (Salisb.) Mez  
250 Aechmea lingulata (L.) Baker  
252 Tillandsia anceps Lodd.  
256 Guzmania lingulata (L.) Mez  
257 Guzmania sanguinea (André) André ex Mez  
260 Tillandsia spiculosa Griseb. (T. micrantha Baker)  
262-A Tillandsia complanata Benth.  
267 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
270 Tillandsia flexuosa Sw.  
271 Vriesea ringens (Griseb.) Harms - this should be 4/xii/57!  
272 Bromelia humilis Jacq.  
276 Gravisia aquilega (Salisb.) Mez  
277 Gravisia aquilega (Salisb.) Mez  
279 Vriesea jonghii (Libon ex C. Koch) E. Morr.

- 283 *Vriesea amazonica* (Baker) Mez  
284 *Tillandsia elongata* var. *subimbricata* (Baker) L. B. Sm.  
285 *Tillandsia fasciculata* Sw.  
288 *Pitcairnia integrifolia* Ker-Gawl  
289 *Pitcairnia integrifolia* Ker-Gawl  
290 *Tillandsia fasciculata* Sw.  
291 *Tillandsia fasciculata* Sw. var. *venosispica* Mez (*T. compressa* Bert.)  
294 *Tillandsia spiculosa* Griseb.  
297 *Vriesea johnstonii* (Mez) Sm. & Pitt.  
299 *Vriesea johnstonii* (Mez) Sm. & Pitt.  
300 *Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora* Mez  
301 *Vriesea splendens* var. *longibracteata* (Baker) L. B. Sm.  
302 *Vriesea capituligera* (Griseb.) Sm. & Pitt.  
303 *Vriesea glutinosa* Lindl.  
304 *Vriesea splitgerberi* (Mez) Sm. & Pitt.  
305 *Aechmea aripensis* (N. E. Brown) Pittendrigh.

WGD		WGD
THGA		
LS		LS
EAB		EAB

24 March, 1959

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
U. S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

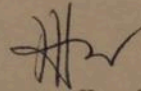
We are shipping you today (airfreight) one cardboard carton containing 91 sheets of pressed bromels.

I hope these are not arriving too late to be of use to you in the Trinidad paper.

We met your associate Dr. Cowan last evening. Wil and I had dinner with him at Angus Simmonds', and afterwards heard him talk to the College group on his expedition to the Lost World country of Venezuela.

A list of herbarium specimens is inclosed.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:mr

Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory

Herbarium Specimens

sent L.B. Smith, March '59

58. Aechmea bromeliaefolia ✓  
 64 A,B Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 78 Bromelia karatas ✓  
 80 Guzmania monostachia ✓  
 82 Tillandsia bulbosa ✓  
 83 ~~Ibidem usneoides~~  
 85 A,B, Aechmea lingulata ✓  
 86 Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 87 A,B,C, Aechmea dichlamydea ✓  
 88 A,B,c Ibidem ✓  
 93 A,B Aechmea nudicaulis ✓  
 99 A,B Vriesia rubra ✓  
 136 Catopsis berteroniana ✓  
 140 Bromelia chrysantha — ? this was a sterile stem, probably of humilis.  
 157 Catopsis sessiliflora ✓  
 158 Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 159 Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 168 A,B Vriesia procera var. rubra? ✓  
 184 Catopsis berteroniana ✓  
 189 Guzmania monostachia ✓  
 191 A,B Tillandsia utriculata? ✓  
 192 A,B,C ~~Guzmania~~ Vriesia ringens (Grisch.) Harms the should be 4/11/57  
 226A Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 235 Bromelia karatas ✓  
 237 Tillandsia gardneri ✓  
 244-5 Gravisia aquilega ✓  
 250 A,B Aechmea lingulata ✓  
 2525 Tillandsia anceps ✓  
 256 Guzmania lingulata ✓  
 257 Guzmania sanguinea ✓  
 260 Tillandsia ~~mierantha~~ spiculosa Griseb. (T. micrantha)  
 262 A Tillandsia complanata ✓  
 267 Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 270 Tillandsia flexuosa ✓  
 271 Vriesia ~~splitgerberi?~~ ringens (Grisch.) Harms  
 272 Bromelia humilis ✓  
 276 A,B Gravisia aquilega ✓  
 277 A,B Ibidem ✓  
 279 A-E Vriesia ~~macrostachya?~~ jonghii (Lilom ex C. Krod) E. Harms.  
 283 A,B Vriesia amazonica ✓  
 284 A-C Tillandsia elongata var. <sup>sub</sup> imbricata ✓  
 285 Tillandsia fasciculata ✓

Herbarium specimens (cont.)

- 288 A,B Pitcairnia integrifolia ✓  
289 Ibidem ✓  
290 Tillandsia fasciculata ✓  
291 Tillandsia compressa var. venosispica Mez (T. compressa Benth.)  
294 Tillandsia ~~micrantha~~ spiculosa Gussch.  
297 A,B Vriesia johnstonei ✓  
299 A,B Ibidem ✓  
300 A-D Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora ✓  
301 A,B Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata ✓  
302 Vriesia ~~splitgerberi?~~ capituligera  
303 A-D Vriesia glutinosa  
304 A-C Vriesia ~~capituligera?~~ splitgerberi  
305 A-C Gravisia aripensis  
Aechmea.

WGD		WGD
THG		
LS		LS
EAD		EAD

7th March, 1959.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington 25, D.C.,  
U.S.A.

Dear Lyman,

Thank you for the corrections noted in the Tobago bromel paper. I have written to Overton to make the necessary changes.

With reference to your remarks on introduced species, I am in accord with the possible exception that concerning Aechmea magdalenae. We have scoured the northern half of the island pretty thoroughly and have failed to find this species - except for the plants growing out at the College. Of course, it might exist here, particularly down south, but I have great doubts.

Now to get on to other points, of which there seem to be so many, I don't know where to begin.

(1) Vriesia capituligera and V. splitgerberi:

I'm afraid I've gotten very confused over these two concepts and rather than change my labels, will leave it for you to do.

While in Jamaica last November, Proctor identified a <sup>Jamaican</sup> plant I collected as capituligera, and it is now in our collection. Possibly I'm mistaken, but didn't he tell me Jamaica was the type locality? Anyway, the inflorescence was very rigid with closely-packed stiff flower fascicles. I remarked at the time that this inflorescence was much stouter and harder than anything seen in Trinidad. The color was pale green, resembling what I have been calling splitgerberi here. If the Jamaican thing is capituligera, I have seen nothing here resembling it.

You have identified for us splitgerberi (Spec. #37, 114) and capituligera (Spec. #39, 60). Now the latter two specimens have bright reddish-orange inflorescences and we have seen it only on top of the Northern Range. The splitgerberi, on the other hand, have pale green inflorescences like the Jamaican capituligera. Amongst the "splitgerberi" seen by you and others which I shall send, you will find some with long-branched fascicles (splitgerberi type) and others with aborted branches (capituligera type). I have rather come to the following conclusion. We have three species here, none of which resembles the Jamaican thing. Species #1, pale green inflorescence with long-branched fascicles (splitgerberi). Species #2, pale green inflorescence with short-branched fascicles (capituligera-like? possibly new) and Species #3, bright orange inflorescence (species new?). With reference to species #3, I don't know what the flowers look like because I think our specimens were both immature. Anyway, I hope you can muddle out of this one.

(2) Tillandsia fasciculata

Again Jamaica rears its "ugly" head. Proctor introduced me to T. fasciculata and T. compressa, and, knowing nothing about geographical variation in these concepts, I'm convinced that our "fasciculata" is not the same as either of the two from Jamaica. The two Jamaican species seem to have different areas of distribution for one thing - the narrow-spiked "fasciculata" preferring the dry Vere area on the south coast. Jamaican fasciculata has very narrow spikes, with many digits, 8-12, and is bright red. Compressa comes closest to Trinidad "fasciculata" but the spikes are very much fatter and are bright red. Trinidad "fasciculata" has flattish spikes (usually about 2-3 in number, sometimes single) and are never bright red; they take on a faint pinkish hue when flowering, but as soon as anthesis is past, the spike turns yellow green - whereas compressa remains bright red for a long time. The flower of compressa has entirely dark purple petals with exserted dark purple stamens and black-bordered yellow anthers (primarily black), pistil and stigma dark purple - subequal to stamens in length. In contrast, Trinidad "fasciculata" has light purple petals becoming quite pale apically; also the pistil is pale purple, almost white and stigma yellow; moreover 3 of Trinidad "fasciculata" stamens are longer than pistil whereas they are subequal in compressa. On basis of above, I would say that compressa does not occur in Trinidad and Trinidad "fasciculata" requires a new name. I have pressed flowers of both for you. Also am enclosing two drawings (colored) which I would like returned.

(3) I saw Catopsis nitans in the Jamaican herbarium and can state definitely I have never seen it in Trinidad. I am wondering if you have bona fide records for here.

(4) Tillandsia canescens

I note you have no definite record for this species in Trinidad, and I query its existence here. Proctor's description of the Jamaican plant - bright pink inflorescence with purple flowers - and, of course, fairly short (2 dm), is like nothing I've seen here.

(5) Vriesia platynema

An herbarium specimen of this species in Jamaica showed an inflorescence much more slender and delicate than the Trinidad form.

Specimens to be sent to you include the following:

(1) From Chacachacare island: Pitcairnia integrifolia, Til. flexuosa. Have sent you previously Gravisia aquilega and Bromelia humilis. Saw but couldn't reach - Til. utriculata - good sight record.

(2) From Patos island, Venezuela (formerly belonged to Trinidad) - Til. flexuosa, Bromelia humilis, Gravisia aquilega.

(3) From Jamaica: Til. fasciculata, Til. compressa. (Am retaining the V. capitulifera as I assume you have plenty of Jamaican material.)

(4) From Tobago: Bromelia karatas, Gravisia aquilega, Guz. lingulata, Guz. sanguinea, Til. bulbosa, Til. flexuosa, Til. usneoides.

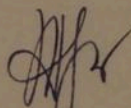
(5) From Trinidad, various species including many from Chaguaramal, an isolated peak in front of Aripo (where we went looking for Colin's new Aechmea). One of the interesting finds here were huge plants of Vriesia glutinosa (as big as Glomeros) growing on limestone outcrops. Heretofore I had always associated this species with

waterfalls and the only two known localities on Tucuche.

At the risk of becoming too discursive and tiring I'll mention one more point. You recall I talked to you in Washington about the status of Aechmea dichlamydea and Aechmea d. trinitensis. Possibly you have already done something about this, but if you haven't I'm inclosing a list of major differences between the two which I feel warrant raising trinitensis to specific rank. If you haven't done anything about it, but agree with my ideas, perhaps there would still be time to get out a note.

I'm sending this in duplicate in case you want to forward a copy to Colin.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas V. G. Aitken

THGA:he  
Encl.

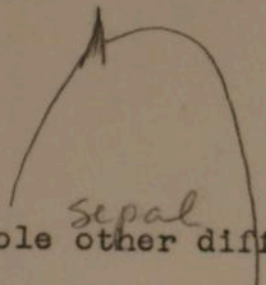
- P.S. (1) Tell Colin I have his Guzmania sanguinea notes in case he still wants them.
- P.S. (2) Am inclosing two reprints (one for Colin) on epiphytes in the botanic gardens. Please note Bromel sp #17 (p. 30).

flexible (not rigid)

Differences in living plants

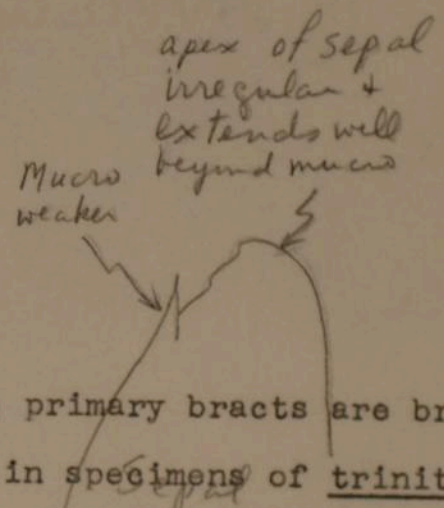
Aechmea dichlamydes

1. Scape flexuous, drooping, slender.
2. Branching occupies about 65% of scape.
3. Primary bracts relatively short, less than 1/2 length of spike stems (pedicels) except for terminal 4-5 spikes.
4. Spike stems, long flexuous - representing 40-50% of spike length of basal spikes.
5. Spike having fertile portion essentially greenish white (greener centrally along rachis and lighter laterally) but with some mauve shading distally.
6. Flowers shorter?, approximately 22mm. from sepal base to petal tip.
7. Stigma extends just beyond tip of petal.
8. Sepal having evenly rounded apical margin which does not extend beyond assymmetrically placed strong mucro.



Aechmea trinitensis

1. Scape semi-erect, stout.
2. Branching restricted to about 50% of scape.
3. Primary bracts of basal 2-3 spikes almost as long or longer than spikes, always longer than spike stem.
4. Spike stems sessile, or short and rigid - representing 10-20% of spike length.
5. Spike having fertile portion azure and white, with basal portion of rachis magenta (blue and white effect caused by azure sepals and floral bracts having white bases). With age, blues turn purplish and more magenta appears.
6. Flowers longer?, approximately 32mm. from sepal base to petal tip.
7. Stigma reaching 1mm. short of petal tip.
8. Sepal having irregular apical margin, which extends well beyond assymmetrically placed weak mucro.



One possible other difference: In dichlamydes, primary bracts are bright coral red until long after flowering, whereas in specimens of trinitensis I have seen, primary bracts at anthesis are dried and papery. More observations would be better on this point.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

U. S. A.



Dr. Thomas H. G. Atken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain), B. W. I.

AIR LETTER • AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SECOND FOLD

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

Washington 25, D. C., U. S. A. March 2, 1959

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain), B. W. I.

Dear Tommy:

Many thanks for your letter of February 24. It is in plenty of time to catch my final ms. The Guzmania megastachya I shall handle by inserting "obs." after your name as I have already done for some of Colin Pittendrigh's.

In going over your ms. for the Bromeliad Bulletin again, I note two minor corrections:

Page 3, last paragraph read: Thecophyllum.  
Page 4, in list read: 18. Aechmea lingulata (L.) Baker.

I will change your labels as you indicate. It does not affect my ms. though so far as I can see.

The Surinam paper is on its way to Downs. I certainly wish him to have a copy, but will be grateful for the duplicate back if it ever turns up.

As I just wrote Pittendrigh, it seems best to drop Tillandsia morreniana and Aechmea fulgens from the text and cover them by a note in the introduction. Billbergia rosea I am keeping because Trinidad is the only record for it and B. pyramidalis since it has a record of naturalization elsewhere in the West Indies. Aechmea magdalenae could be native so I am keeping that, too.

I guess at this point Erdtman will make better use of your pickled flowers than I. Anyway I am eager to see him investigate as many genera and species as possible.

With best regards,

Lyman.

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 26, 1959

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain), B. W. I.

Dear Tommy:

I just realized that I need not have bothered you about data on your recent collections in Tobago since the information was all there in the carbon of the paper you sent to the Bromeliad Bulletin. I have inserted all the citations in my manuscript, and if I do not hear from you before the typing is complete, I shall simply send it along to Professor Purseglove and you can check there in Trinidad.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

24th February, 1959.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Division of Phanerogams, U. S.  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lyman,

Thank you for your kind remarks about the Tobago m.s.

With reference to Guzmania megastachya, I should make myself clear. I didn't actually collect this species as it was too high up, but there was plenty of it up on the ridge. You may remember, after seeing it, I developed the theory it and V. Splitgerberi were all the same. It was only after you showed me the differences in Washington, I decided they were different and assumed the Tobago thing was megastachya.

I'm sorry about this confusion. Had I realized megastachya from Tobago was based on a dubious record, I would have made every effort to collect it. That will get top priority on my next trip.

I suppose, under the circumstances, I should ask Mr. Overton to modify the ms in the final paragraph to say, "Specimens of all collected species have or will be deposited in the U.S. National Museum".

My boy is mounting the last of the herbarium specimens and as soon as labelled and catalogued, will ship them North.

Before I forget it, Angus Simmonds called my attention to a lapsus on our part with regard to our labels - namely that they give the impression of being a part of the series of the Flora of Trinidad. This is not true as our collections are separate from those of the Herbarium of I.C.T.A. Therefore I suggest you modify our labels accordingly: "~~Trin. Bog. Virus Lab.~~<sup>Herb.</sup> No. - ". I will also have new labels made in this manner. *Trin. Bog. Virus Lab at bottom of label identifies herbarium.*

Downs tells me he never received your Surinam paper, so if you can spare a copy he would most appreciate it. If by chance a second comes along, it would be returned.

Am still grinding away on the annual report and am fighting a battle with the flu this week.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:he

P. S. Purseglove called the other day to say you had been making inquiries about Tillandsia Morreniana. I told him I had never seen it. For that matter I've never seen Aechmea fulgens or Billbergia rosea. Of the introduced species mentioned by you in your earlier paper, the only ones I know to be here are Billbergia pyramidalis and Ananas comosus. Aechmea magdalenae is now growing in the botanical gardens at I.C.T.A. and Horace Gillette has a number of exotic species growing in his garden. I've brought back a few things from Jamaica. Under the circumstances I wonder how you plan to treat the exotic species.

Do you want pickled flowers? I had saved a number for sending to the chap in Sweden, but will send to you if you prefer.

WV

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

February 4, 1959

Mr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad (Port of Spain), B. W. I.

Dear Tommy:

Thank you very much for giving me a preview of your interesting paper on Bromels in Tobago. I find nothing which I wish to change, but I do find some welcome information, especially the verification of *Guzmania megastachya* in Tobago. Until now it has rested on a single old and somewhat dubious record.

Colin Pittendrigh and I have our manuscript for the Trinidad and Tobago bromels completed, but I would very much like to include your latest collections. As soon as you are free of your annual report, could you send me these or the label data that goes with them?

According to my records, I have already sent the Surinam paper to Wil Downs. Will you please check carefully as I have only three copies left and I am hoarding them accordingly. I will, of course, be very glad to send him one if his first never arrived.

As Mrs. Foster may have written you already, she has turned over her editorship of *The Bromeliad Bulletin* to Mr. Frank H. Overton, 1348 Winchester Avenue, Glendale 1, California. However, I forwarded your manuscript to her as I think she will be much interested to read it. One other thing, I hope you had a photograph or two to go with this article.

Cordially yours,

*Lyman*

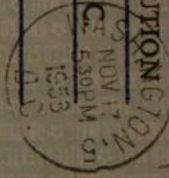
Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

1984

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

U. S. A.



AIR LETTER  
AÉROGRAMME

VIA AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

RECEIVED 20 NOV 1958

Dr. T. H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 161  
Port of Spain, Trinidad

NO TAPE OR STICKER MAY BE ATTACHED  
IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER  
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

SECOND FOLD

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

Washington 25, D. C., U. S. A.

November 17, 1958

Dr. T. H. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port of Spain, Trinidad

Dear Tommy:

We know  
D.H.

Colin Pittendrigh has just been down here helping me iron out the kinks in the Bromels of Trinidad and Tobago, and as a result I have an embarrassing confession to make. Your photos No. 12 and No. 28 are Catopsis sessiliflora (R. & P.) Mez and not C. nutans as I first determined them.

Colin has a couple of preliminary papers on the way and we are hoping to wrap the whole job up before too long. However, there will still be several months for you to squeeze in additional records.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Lyman

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

States of TRVL Bromel. herbarium  
before Jamaica trip = Nov '58

1. *Bechmea bromeliifolia* — 3
2. " *dichlamydea* — 5 (Tob) Sit of 3 to ICTA (109 ABC)
3. " " var. *trinitensis* — 3 + 1 (LBS) (sit of 2 to ICTA) <sup>75 AB</sup>
4. " *lingulata* — 3 + 1 (Tob)
5. " *nudicaulis* — 1 (Tob) + 2 (LBS)
6. *Billbergia pyramidalis* — 1
7. *Bromelia chrysantha* — 1 (Geoparce)
8. " *humilis*
9. " *karatas* — 1 (leaf) + 1 (Tob)
10. *Catopsis heteromiana* — 7 (3 to ICTA)
11. " *florifunda* — 4 + 3 (LBS) + 3 (Tob to LBS) (2 to ICTA) <sup>#27+185</sup>
12. " *sessiliflora* — 3 + 1 (LBS)
13. *Gravisia arigensis* — 1 + 1 (LBS)
14. " *aquilega* — 1 + 1 (Tob) + 1 (LBS)
15. *Juzmania lingulata* — 1 + 1 (Tob)
16. " *monostachia* — 3 + 1 (Tob)
17. " *sanguinea* — 1 (Tob) + 1 (LBS)
18. *Hohenbergia stellata* — 1 + 1 (leaves) + 1 (LBS)
19. *Pitcairnia integrifolia* — 2 + 1 (LBS)
20. *Tillandsia anceps* — 4 + 2 (LBS) (1 to ICTA #55)
21. " *bulbosa* — 4 + 1 (Tob) (2 to ICTA #24+31)
22. " *complanata* — 3 (1 to LBS) <sup>262A</sup> (1 to ICTA 2 (2B))
23. " *elongata* — 1
24. " *fasciculata* — 1
25. " *flexuosa* — 2 + 4 (Tob) + 2 (Chac.) + 1 (LBS) (1 to ICTA) <sup>#226B</sup>
26. " *gardneri* — 2
27. " *juncea* — 2 + 1 (LBS) (1 to ICTA #231)
28. *Digitized by the* *mucronata* — 3 (1 LBS)

29. *Tillandsia monadelphica* - 1 + <sup>3</sup>2 (LBS)
30. " *stricta* - 2 + 1 (LBS)
31. " *usneoides* - 2 (Tob)
32. " *utriculata* - 1
33. *Vriesia amazonica* - 1 + 2 (LBS)
34. " *broadwayi* - 3 + 1 (Tot to LBS) (To ICTA #2A+B)
35. " *didistichoides* - 1 + 2 (LBS)
36. " *johnstonei* - 1 + 1 (LBS)
37. " *platyneura* - 2 + 1 (leaf) + 1 (LBS) (To ICTA #164AB, 166)
38. " *proscera* - 2
39. " *rubra* - 3 (1 to ICTA #101A+B)
40. " *splendens* - 2 (1 to ICTA #23)
41. " *splitzgeri* - 3 + 1 (LBS) (To ICTA #222AB)
42. *Tillandsia deppeana* - 1 (LBS)
43. *Vriesia jonghii* - 1 (LBS)
44. " *capituligera* - 2 (LBS)
45. " *glutiosa* - 1 (LBS)

COPY

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION  
49 WEST 49TH STREET  
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

16 July, 1958

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith,

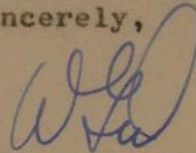
I am most interested to hear from your letter of July 8 that you and Pittendrigh propose to issue a section on the Bromeliaceae of Trinidad and Tobago.

Dr. Aitken is at present on leave and I have forwarded your letter to him.

I can assure you, speaking for Dr. Aitken and myself that we should be honored and pleased to collaborate with you on an illustrated paper. I believe that you already have many of our photographs. If there are additional ones you believe would be of interest, possibly natural habitat shots of some of the species, please give me an idea of what you would think appropriate and we'd do our best to furnish it.

I wish to draw to your attention that Dr. Aitken has been working much more seriously with Bromeliaceae in recent years than have I, and he has now on hand what must be a truly unique body of information, highly interesting, on the actual hours (in some cases hour) of flowering and duration of blossom, scent, etc., of a number of the local species. Would it be appropriate to have observations such as these incorporated in the Bromeliaceae section, or might they better be placed in a chapter in the illustrated paper? Also possibly as part of the illustrated paper, you might persuade Dr. Aitken to contribute some observations on mosquito fauna of Trinidad bromeliads.

Sincerely,



Wilbur G. Downs

WGD:mr  
c.c Dr. T.H.G.Aitken

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 8, 1958

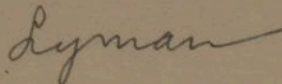
Dr. W. G. Downs  
Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Dear friends:

Recently Prof. Purseglove asked me to prepare the Bromeliaceae for the "Flora of Trinidad and Tobago" and I agreed on condition that I could have Pittendrigh's help on the manuscript and that I could acknowledge the help I have received from all your observations and collections. I understand that the part on the Orchidaceae is now in press and that for the first time a separate supplementary illustrated paper is being published. It strikes me that you are particularly well to situated prepare such an illustrated paper and I hope you will be interested. Please let me know what you think of it.

Enclosed is a list that is as complete and correct as I have been able to make it. I would greatly appreciate any additions or corrections you can give me.

Sincerely yours,



Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

lbs

BROMELIACEAE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

\*Added since Broadway & Smith - 1933 (page references to Broadway & Smith)

*Aechmea*

- *aripensis* (N. E. Brown) Sm. & Pitt. ined. (*Gravisia aripensis*

N. E. Brown p. 181)

*Bromeliifolia* (Rudge) Baker p. 185

*dichlamydea* Baker var. *dichlamydea* p. 184

var. *trinitensis* L. B. Sm. p. 185 ? distinct species

*fulgens* Brongn. p. 183 cult. *have never seen*

*lingulata* (L.) Baker (*Wittmackia lingulata* (L.) Mez p. 180)

\**magdalenae* (André) André ex Baker

*mertensii* (Meyer) Schult. p. 183

*nudicaulis* (L.) Griseb. var. *nudicaulis* p. 185

*portecoides* Britton p. 184

*Ananas*

*comosus* (L.) Merrill (*A. sativus* Schult. p. 186)

(*sativus* Schult. p. 186) *A. comosus* (L.) Merrill

*Araeococcus*

*micranthus* Brongn. p. 179

*Billbergia*

*pyramidalis* (Sims) Lingl. p. 187 cult.?

*rosea* Beer p. 187

*Bromelia*

*chrysantha* Jacq. p. 178

*humilis* Jacq. p. 178

*karatas* L. p. 178

## Catopsis

berteroniana (Schult.) Mez p. 176

floribunda (Brongn.) L. B. Smith (C. nutans sensu Broadway &  
Smith p. 176)

nutans (Sw.) Griseb. (sepals 15 mm. long)

(nutans sensu Broadway & Smith, p. 176) *C. floribunda* (Brongn.)  
L. B. Smith

sessiliflora (R. & P.) Mez p. 177 (excluding C. nitida given as  
a synonym by Broadway and Smith)

## Glomeropitcairnia

erectiflora Mez p. 157

## Gravisia

aquilega (Salisb.) Mez p. 182

(aripensis N. E. Brown p. 181) *Aechmea aripensis* (N. E. Brown)  
Sm. & Pitt. ined.

## Guzmania

lingulata (L.) Mez p. 174

megastachya (Baker) Mez p. 175

monostachya (L.) Rusby p. 174

\*sanguinea (André) André ex Mez

## Hohenbergia

(oligosphaera (Baker) Mez p. 180) *H. stellata* Schult.

*stellata* Schult. (H. oligosphaera (Baker) Mez p. 180)

## Pitcairnia

integrifolia Ker-Gawl. p. 156

## Thecophyllum

(capituligerum (Griseb.) L. B. Smith) *Vriesia capituligera*

(Griseb.) Sm. & Pitt.

(johnstonei Mez) *Vriesia johnstonei* (Mez) Sm. & Pitt.

(splitgerberi (Mez) Pittendrigh) *Vriesia splitgerberi* (Mez)

Sm. & Pitt.

## Tillandsia

*anceps* Lodd. p. 169

*bulbosa* Hook. p. 163

*canescens* Sw. p. 163

*complanata* Benth. p. 166

? *compressa* Bert. p. 169 cf. *T. fasciculata* Sw.

*cyanea* Linden ex K. Koch cult. (*T. morreniana* Regel p. 169)

*deppeana* var. *latifolia* (Griseb.) L. B. Smith (*T. rubra* sensu

Broadway & Smith p. 165)

(*didistichoides* Mez p. 166) *Vriesia didistichoides* (Mez) L. B. Smith

*elongata* var. *subimbricata* (Baker) L. B. Smith (*T. subimbricata*

Baker p. 165)

*fasciculata* Sw.

*flexuosa* Sw. p. 161

*gardneri* Lindl. p. 167

*juncea* (R. & P.) LeC. p. 162

*micrantha* Baker p. 164

*monadelpha* (E. Morr.) Baker p. 168

(*morreniana* Regel p. 169 cult.) *T. cyanea* Linden ex K. Koch

## Tillandsia (continued)

pulchella Hook. p. 167

(rubra sensu Broadway & Smith p. 165) T. deppeana var. latifolia  
(Griseb.) L. B. Smith

stricta Soland. p. 167

(subimbricata Baker p. 165) T. elongata var. subimbricata (Baker)  
L. B. Smith

subulifera Mez p. 163

triticea Burch. p. 164

usneoides (L.) L. p. 169

utriculata L. p. 161

## Vriesia

(albiflora Ule p. 172) V. rubra (R. & P.) Beer

\*amazonica (Baker) Mez

broadwayi L. B. Smith p. 172

\*capituligera (Griseb.) Sm. & Pitt. (Thecophyllum capituligerum  
(Griseb.) L. B. Smith

chrysostachys E. Morr. p. 171

didistichoides (Mez) L. B. Smith (Tillandsia didistichoides Mez  
p. 166)

glutinosa Lindl. (V. stenostachya (Baker) Mez p. 170)

\*johnstonei (Mez) Sm. & Pitt. (Thecophyllum johnstonei Mez)

\*jonghei (Libon ex C. Koch) E. Morr.

(longibracteata (Baker) Mez p. 171) V. splendens var.

longibracteata (Baker) L. B. Smith

macrostachya (Bello) Mez p. 172

this is all jonghei  
according to LBS

## Vriesia (continued)

(paniculata sensu Broadway & Smith, p. 173) V. ringens (Griseb.)

Harms

\*platynema Gaud.

procera (Mart.) Wittm. p. 173

He got this  
in Ariz.  
TRVL 271

ringens (Griseb.) Harms (V. paniculata sensu Broadway & Smith p. 173)

rubra (R. & P.) Beer (V. albiflora Ule p. 172)

simplex (Vell.) Beer p. 171

splendens var. longibracteata (Baker) L. B. Smith (V. longibracteata  
(Baker) Mez p. 171)

\*splitgerberi (Mez) Sm. & Pitt. (Thecophyllum splitgerberi (Mez)  
Pittendrigh)

(stenostachya (Baker) Mez p. 170) V. glutinosa Lindl.

## Wittmackia

(lingulata (L.) Mez p. 180) Aechmea lingulata (L.) Baker

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 6, 1958

AIR MAIL

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Dear Tommy:

A copy of my Bromeliads of Colombia is on its way to you with my compliments.

I am glad to know that Colin Pittendrigh is active again in malaria and bromeliads. Tell him hello from me if he is still there.

I am very glad to get any corrections you can send me on my bromeliad publications, especially as I have begun a complete monograph of the family. I think maybe your notes on Aechmea dichlamydea and its var. trinitensis would make a good note for the Bromeliad Bulletin, especially if it were accompanied by a line drawing or a close-up photograph showing the appropriate characters.

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman*

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

2 May, 1958

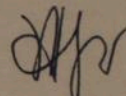
Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Doctor Smith,

I understand your "Bromeliads of Colombia" is now in print. A copy would be greatly appreciated if you can spare one, otherwise let me know to whom I should write.

Colin Pittendrigh visited us recently and we had some good bromeliad talks. He had been invited down by the Malaria Division to advise on the bromeliad work.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:mr

October 21, 1957.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Doctor Smith:

This is to advise you that I shall be in Washington 28 and 29 October, and while there I hope to find the opportunity of visiting you. Most of the time, I'm afraid, will be spent with the entomologists (Drs. Stone, Wirth, etc).

I am coming up through Miami and will be spending Saturday night and a good part of Sunday with the Fosters in Orlando.

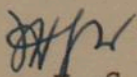
We again spent our two weeks local leave this summer in Tobago. I was able to do some more collecting and came up with three new island records: Guzmania sanguinea, Vriesia Broadwayi and Catopsis floribunda. Herbarium specimens have been made of all three. The Vriesia record is particularly interesting.

Two unusual plants (epiphytes) seen at the 3½ mile post (near top of ridge) on the Roxborough-Parlatuvier trace had me puzzled. Could they possibly be bromeliads? They were too high in a tree to reach. The leaves were very long and slender (like a sedge), about ¾" wide and three feet or more long; couldn't see if they were spiny edged. Many old inflorescences hung down about 14", consisting of a thin stem terminating in a lot of fine branchlets resembling roots. Relatively fresh inflorescences had red stems and branchlets and small blue berry-like fruits.

Note:  
After seeing Smith  
- work + looking at  
specimens, it appears  
that the plants  
may have been  
Arecaceae  
microstachya

I hope when I see you to be able to resolve the differences between Vriesia Splitgerberi and Guzmania megastachya. The chances are that these are very different. We have a species in Trinidad which I have taken to be Splitgerberi. Then when I went to Tobago, I saw high in the trees on the Main Ridge what I took to be the same plant. As the description of megastachya could well apply to the plant I call Splitgerberi and as only megastachya occurs in Tobago, it occurred to me that my Splitgerberi was in reality megastachya. I have brought back young plants without inflorescences of the Tobago species, so should be able to resolve the question eventually.

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas H. G. Aitken

THGA:ac

P.S. I hope to bring some plants to Mr. Foster.

Bromeliads of  
Isla Margarita  
~~Johnstone~~  
Aechmea Fendleri  
Ananas sativus = common  
Bromelia pinguin  
Chevalieria sp = Aechmea  
Gleichenia pectinata  
Guzmania aquilega  
Guzmania lingulata  
Guz. tricolor = monostachia  
Thecophyllum Johnstonei Mez.  
Tillandsia Lescaii  
T. recurvata  
T. utriculata  
Vriesea longibracteata  
Vr. scalans  
Wittmochia lingulata

July 3rd, 1956.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

This is  
*Billbergia pyramidalis*

Dear Doctor Smith,

A new bromeliad has just come to hand, but as yet we do not know if it is a native. It was seen growing in a basket (in earth) in a Sangre Grande garden. On questioning the woman owner, she informed our man that she got the plant from another woman who brought it from Fort Read, a wartime base of the U.S. Army near Valencia and the Aripo Savannah. So, at the moment its origins are still in doubt.

The plant resembles somewhat *Aechmea Mertensii* from its leaves (I haven't seen the entire plant yet). The leaf margins are weakly toothed and the leaf itself emerald green in color. The inflorescence is said to have protruded about an inch beyond the foliage. When seen, the flowers had already faded and the floral bracts were a pale tan color. I have pickled a couple of flowers, and the rest of the inflorescence and a few leaves are being pressed.

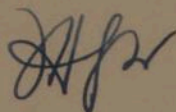
The inflorescence is simple. The sepals and petiole are subequal in length, each about 19 mm. long. The dried petals appear to have been equal to the sepals and petiole combined. The sepals are obtuse, non-mucronate, nerved and covered with a powdery bloom (as are also the petioles). The floral bracts are about 16 in number and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " long and are arranged below the flower clump. The scape is roughly 10" long.

The plant fits nothing in the Broadway - Smith key. In your Brazilian key, assuming it to be an *Aechmea*, it runs to *A. mitis*, but the sepals of our plant are longer. Also we note that *mitis* seems to be a unique.

We are aware that Pittendrigh found a new Aechmea; Downs thinks it came from the Northern Range on the ridge between Arima and Lopinot Valleys. We know nothing of Pittendrigh's plant. The inclosed sketch may give you some idea of it; *i.e. a new plant.*

We fly to the States 9 July on leave. I will be in Washington at the Museum 12 July and hope I can see you to say hello.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:eat  
Incl. 1

*P.S. The Bromeliad Society Bulletin arrived this A.M. Thanks very much.*

June 7th, 1956.

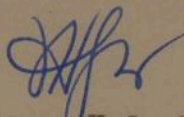
Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Doctor Smith,

The day your letter of the 29th arrived, I also heard from Mr. Foster, so all is well. Doubtless you have had a reply to your letter. It seems Pan Am. held up the shipment inexcusably long. While some of the smaller plants died, apparently a few of the larger ones survived, and I hope all goes well.

Many thanks for the information on importing live orchids, also for the Bromeliad Society Bullitin. By the way, Mr. Foster is also sending literature. You should have warned me who I was corresponding with. I gather he must be one of the big bromeliad dealers in the States and must be active in the Society.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:eat

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 29, 1956

AIR MAIL

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, Port of Spain, B.W.I.

Dear Dr. Aitken:

I can not understand what can be the matter with Mulford Foster and am writing to find out. It is quite out of character for him to be so unresponsive.

Under separate cover I am sending you a duplicate copy of a number of "The Bromeliad Society Bulletin." I will be glad to answer any of your questions that this does not settle. Again I am surprised that Mulford has not responded to the opportunity to enlist another member.

For bringing in your live orchids, write to

Mr. George C. Becker  
Import and Permit Section  
209 River Street  
Hoboken, New Jersey

Ask him for an import permit and tell him what you are bringing in, its origin and ultimate destination, port of entry and date of arrival at that port. I understand the plants are fumigated at the port of entry and then handed over to you or forwarded as your schedule necessitates.

My measurements of the sepals of *Vriesia platynema* are based on herbarium specimens mostly without dissection. That means that your living material would measure proportionately considerably larger. You could make a very worthwhile contribution by figuring how much my "herbarium" measurements should be expanded to fit live material.

Give my regards to Shirley when you see her. It is quite a spell since I met her--from being a newlywed to being a grandfather.

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman B. Smith*

Lyman B. Smith  
Associate Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

May 25th, 1956.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Doctor Smith,

Thank you for your confirmation of the tentative Vriesia platynema identification in your letter of 4 May.

You failed, however, to clarify our minds on the point regarding the interpretation of floral measurements and descriptions (my paragraph 3 of 25 April). Are the measurements based on dissected flowers or approximate in situ measurements? Perhaps the large size of our platynema specimen threw me off on the sepal measurements. If this is so, the range of platynema sepal length should be modified in your keys and descriptions.

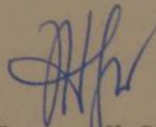
Regarding Pittendrigh's Bromelia humilis reference (Evolution, 2 (1): 58, 1948), I had forgotten about his observations on the rooting habit at the time I was on Chacachacare, so I can't be sure of how they are being nourished. I assumed they were rooted in the ground, as rhizom-like structures were in the soil when I pulled up a few plants to bring back. These, incidentally, have been planted in the ground and I'll keep an eye on their growth.

By now you are aware that I shipped Mulford Foster the Vriesia glutinosa. Strangely enough I have had no word from him. I sent a night letter a few days in advance of the shipment to warn him of its imminent arrival and followed this up with another cable detailing flight time, etc. plus a letter of which you received a copy. The USDA yellow and green tag furnished by you was used on the package and everything was in order at this end. I can't imagine what has happened.

By the way, can you let me know how I can come by more of those USDA tags. I was hoping I might bring up a few of the local miniature orchids this summer (7 July) for my sister-in-law (Shirly Cross Gale), but I don't know procedure on such introductions.

At the last Horticultural Club meeting, I proposed that next years Flower Show be expanded to include a section on bromeliads (cultivated or otherwise). The idea seemed to be favorably received and I was asked to submit the proposal in writing. I understand there is a bromel society in the States. I asked Mr. Foster for information and literature but as yet I have heard no word. If you have access to information or literature on the society, I would appreciate knowing about it.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:eat

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 4, 1956

AIR MAIL

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Trinidad, B. W. I.

Dear Dr. Aitken:

That key I gave you for Vriesia macrostachya and V. platynema might be improved by adding "sepals subacute" to the first and "sepals broadly rounded" to the second. Comparing your sketches with the specimens here, it is fairly certain that your plant must be V. platynema although close to the maximum size for that species.

I am much interested in your finds of Guzmania sanguinea and Bromelia humilis as I know very little about either. Does Bromelia humilis have any connection with the ground? Colin Pittendrigh told me of one Bromelia in which the roots all grew into the leaf-cup so that you could pick a whole plant up by the tip of one leaf. However, I can not find the reference at the moment.

Sincerely yours,

Lyman B. Smith

Lyman B. Smith  
Associate Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

April 25th, 1956.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Doctor Smith,

The other day Downs and I were up on the Cumaca road (Northern Range),  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mile post and about 1200 feet elevation. We brought down a big clump of Vriesia probably platynema but possibly macrostachya.

From your Brazilian key we have eliminated longhii. We then resorted to your modified key to Vriesia included in your letter to WGD 6 May 1955, but are stumped in the interpretation of your differentiating complet:

"Floral bracts nearly or quite equalling the sepals; sepals ovate, 42 mm. long \_\_\_\_\_ V. macrostachya

"Floral bracts much shorter than the sepals; sepals elliptic, 25 - 35 mm. long \_\_\_\_\_ V. platynema"

I might say that our Cumaca plant resembles our photo #47 (platynema). In situ, the floral bract is much shorter than the sepals (see inclosed drawings of actual outline tracings). I would also consider the sepal elliptic. However, if one disects a flower and measures the length and width of the floral bract and 3 sepals, one obtains figures more or less corresponding to those of macrostachya, viz:

Sepals:

1. Length (external surface from tip to junction with petiole)  
41, 40, 38 mm.
2. Width (external surface, maximum) - 23, 23 & 20 mm.

Floral bract:

1. Length \_\_\_\_\_ 49 mm.

2. Width \_\_\_\_\_ 42 mm.

(Note: The lowermost flower on the scape was used for these measurements.)

The floral bracts, incidentally, are pale green becoming yellowish apically. Likewise the sepals (green) become yellow-green apically. The inflorescence, as well as some leaves, are being pressed and we hope to establish the plants at St. Pats. I have seen clumps of what is apparently this same species high in the trees in several valleys of the Northern Range at fairly low elevations this year and I had tentatively considered them to be longhii. I think this species can be easily ruled out, but would appreciate your opinion regarding the other two.

In the same locality we also ran into Guzmania sanguinea and Pitcairnia integrifolia - both interesting finds, as I had considered the former rare (and here it was abundant and I had overlooked it two years ago when I first embarked on a study of bromels) and the latter essentially a coastal species.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:eat  
Encl:

P.S. Last month I had occasion to go on an excursion out to Chacachacare Island in the Bocas. Only three species of bromels were seen: Gravisia aquilega, Tillandsia flexuosa and Bromelia humilis. The latter was of interest to me as I had never seen it before and I brought back several plants to try and establish here. I note in your description mention of the inner leaves usually being tinged with red or purple. I believe this condition occurs only during and shortly after the flowering time, as most of the plants seen were entirely green. As I recall, I saw only two or three plants with red centers and on checking I found dead inflorescences at their bases. Another thing, at this time, these inner leaves also flatten down, presumably to expose the flower; at other times, the inner leaves are uniformly erect.

TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY

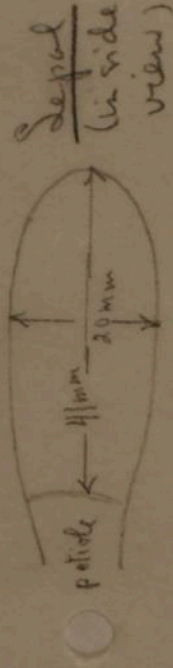
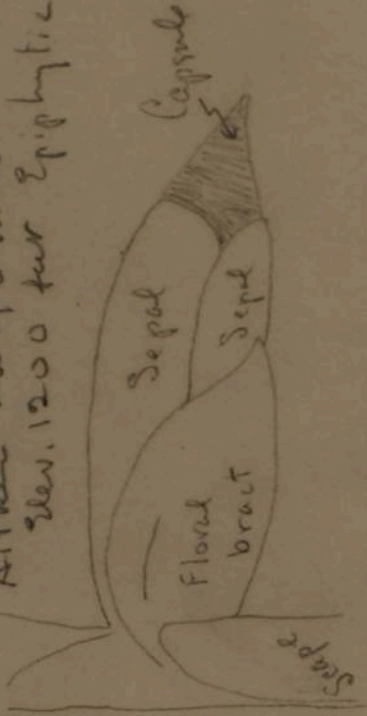
(MAINTAINED JOINTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION)

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D., M.P.H., DIRECTOR

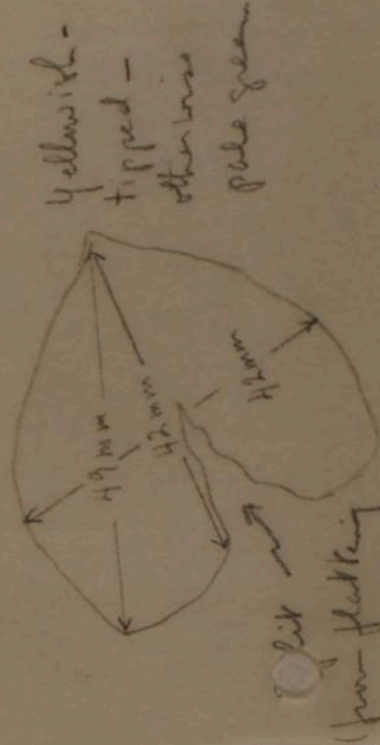
WRIGHTSON ROAD

MAIL: P. O. Box 164  
TELEPHONE: PoS 7763  
CABLE: ROCKFOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

Viésia sp.  
Cumaca, 6 1/2 miles post, Trinidad  
B.W.I., 20 April 1956. T.H.G.  
Aitken + W.G. Downs  
Elev. 1200 feet Epiphytic



Yellowish green apically,  
other wise green



Floral Bract

Drawing are tracing to  
actual plant parts. This is  
lowermost flower on scape. W.H.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 13, 1956

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port of Spain, Trinidad

Dear Dr. Aitken:

I appreciate your encumbered situation, because right now we are entangled in shifting the herbarium.

As I understand the shipping problem on Vriesia glutinosa its chances are better dry than moist, because it will rot if it is shut up moist. I certainly appreciate your trying to send some. Yes, they should just be wrapped in paper.

Dr. A. C. Smith, our phanerogams curator here, is going to be in Trinidad from March 7 to 12 waiting to start on a collecting trip in the West Indies. Al has already made arrangements to stay at the New York Zoological Society lab in Arima Valley, but hopes he can meet you and Dr. Downs. He has had many years of travelling and collecting in the tropics in South America and Fiji and I think you should have many interests in common.

Sincerely,

*Lyman B. Smith*

Lyman B. Smith  
Curator, Associate  
Division of Phanerogams

File

Rec.  
17/E/56  
JW

February 1, 1956.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Associate Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

Your letter of 13 January to Dr. Downs has gone unanswered until now as we have been (and still are, I might add) in the throes of the annual report and inundated by visitors.

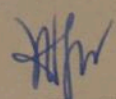
Your letter was written just two days before Wil and I, with our respective wives made an assault on Tucuche. Our principal objective was the flowers of Vriesia Broadwayi and V. Johnstonei. We were too late last year (27 March). Flowering was barely beginning and we were successful with Broadwayi, and I may still be able to do something with Johnstonei. I have a plant at home with a young spathe which I am coaxing along. I have some Broadwayi flowers for you in alcohol. The petals are greenish white and barely open sufficiently to expose the stamens for pollination. The flower opens and fades in a matter of hours, just like amazonica, and it is only after seed formation is taking place, that the second position is achieved (same in amazonica).

As for Vriesia glutinosa, we will make an attempt to get plants for Mr. Foster, but I can't guarantee the time as at the moment we are busy. We saw glutinosa on our hike, high up under the waterfall, with two or three plants with lovely orange spikes. This spot is the only place where I know the species to occur; the plants are constantly bathed by spray from the waterfall and are located in a spot very difficult of access.

We would like more information about shipping partially dried plants. Won't this treatment kill them? Should they just be wrapped in paper? Would Mr. Foster want ~~any~~ other species?

We have a glutinosa plant out at St. Pats (Arima Valley), which we brought down last year and it seems to be doing all right. I have been hoping it would flower and I was going to try and get seeds for you.

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas H. G. Aitken.

THGA:ac

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 5, 1955

AIR MAIL

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164, Trinidad

Dear Dr. Aitken:

Your specimens numbered 25, 28, 29, 34, 36, 43, 45, 48, 51, 52, 56, 57, 59, 61, 63, 64, and 65 were all correctly identified before I examined them. I should have been more specific in my previous letter, but I have just now verified them individually to be doubly sure.

Assigning the red-bracted plant to the typical variety of Vriesia platynema was an arbitrary piece of business because evidence of the color of the type is lacking. I simply had to take what is the common color form in the region from which the type came.

The case of Tillandsia deppeana is another one where I have to use circumstantial evidence. I have been unable to locate any material of the type, so I have to follow Mez (DC. Monogr. Phan. 9: 703) in calling it the Mexican plant with long-stipitate erect spikes. The much commoner and more widespread plant then has to be var. fendleri. This is not a new addition to the Trinidad list but takes the place of Tillandsia rubra on page 165 of my old Trinidad Bromel paper. As I found later Tillandsia rubra does not apply to this species but is Vriesia rubra which takes the place of V. albiflora on page 172.

From the above you will be able to believe me when I say that a leading New York lawyer became a botanist and that a leading botanist became a professor in Harvard law school.

Sincerely yours,

Lyman B. Smith

Lyman B. Smith  
Acting Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

zle  
BHW

November 29, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Acting Curator,  
Division of Phanerogams,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith,

Many thanks for your letter of 21 November and the enclosed photo of Vriesia jonghii. It was a pleasant surprise to learn that we have finally come up with a species new to the local flora.

As time permits we shall investigate the relationship of jonghii and macrostachya. Actually our St. Pats jonghii locality is quite close to your Las Lapas macrostachya locality, the former being near the bottom of the valley, about 1,100 feet difference in altitude. It would seem to me that the two probably have overlapping habitats. The thing to find out will be if macrostachya is restricted to the ridge of the northern range. Incidentally, I believe the jonghii plant from which the spathe and leaf (our #35) came is still in our St. Pats bromeliad garden, along with the Guzmania sanguinea plant (our #38) and many other interesting things. I don't get out to St. Pats very often these days, but the plants aren't forgotten.

I noticed in your Brazilian bromeliad book, p. 130, that your key calls for typical platynema to have red floral bracts. This is not my recollection of what I saw on the one plant of ours which bloomed (spec. #36, photo. #47); it seems to me the bracts were green. I'll bear this in mind. I believe we still have this plant also growing at St. Pats. It is an uncommon species which we have seen to recognize only the once.

Many thanks for the list of identifications. We note the var. fendleri of Tillandsia deppiana as being a new addition to the Trinidad list. Does this mean that we don't have the typical form? Are you aware that the spikes of the inflorescence are a rosy tint? I can't remember the details now, but I'll make a note to record the color the next time I see a plant in flower. I believe I also called your attention some time back to the color variation in the inflorescence of Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata; in some plants the inflorescence is red and in others yellow.

Continued . . .

Continuation of letter to:

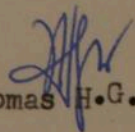
Dr. Lyman B. Smith

Dated:

29 November, 1955.

You failed to comment on the following plant specimens: 25, 28, 29, 34, 36, 43, 45, 48, 51, 52, 56, 57, 59, 61, 63, 64 and 65. Were our identifications correct?

Very truly yours,

  
Thomas H.G. Aitken

THGA:kdh

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 21, 1955

AIR MAIL

Dr. T. H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port of Spain  
Trinidad, B. W. I.

Dear Dr. Aitken:

It certainly was a very happy surprise to find that all that good Trinidad bromel material was mine to keep. Being mounted and all I assumed it was a loan. My very great thanks to you and Dr. Downs.

I have sent you a copy of my "Bromeliaceae of Brazil." It looks as if we might find a use for it immediately as I can not distinguish your number 35 from Vriesia jonghei of southern Brazil.

The loan of V. macrostachya came from Harvard and I verified my citation of that species from Trinidad and compared with your 35. Until now the ranges of V. macrostachya and V. jonghei have appeared widely disjointed and it has been easy to regard them as distinct species although there is not much difference except the size of the sepals and floral bracts. Now that both are known from Trinidad it will be interesting to see if you can compare them in the field. Do they have the same habitat? Do they intergrade indicating they are varieties rather than species?

I enclose a photo of your 35 which I had made when I thought I must return it. It may serve to verify what sort of material you gave me of this species. I hope you can find this in flower. Also it would be of interest to know the coloration of the leaf-sheath. I find this group of species around V. platynema most difficult and believe that it can be well understood only from field work.

I am interested in your color distinctions for Vriesia capituligera and V. splitgerberi and am going to try to verify them with material from other countries.

Your 38 is Guzmania sanguinea (André) André ex Mez. It is a most decorative plant when in flower. See plate number 6765 if there is a file of Curtis Botanical Magazine at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. I think the red bases may have faded out with age or possibly you have a variety. It could not be G. megastachya anyway as that species has an elongate scape and inflorescence.

The leaf sheath of  
which plant from S. B. W. I.  
plant, but still I  
take to be  
macrostachya is  
sent from  
27/11/55

Rec. 25/XI/55  
JH/W

I had meant to report on your dried specimens by labelling them but since I may keep them I will note the additions and corrections to your list as follows:

- 18 *Tillandsia deppeana* var. *fendleri* (Griseb.) L. B. Smith ined.  
(I hope to publish this early next year).
20. *Tillandsia monadelpha* (E. Morr.) Baker
- 21 *Tillandsia monadelpha* (E. Morr.) Baker
- 22 *Vriesia amazonica* (Baker) Mez -- inflorescence abnormal and possibly diseased. Note characteristic "drip tip" of leaf.
- 35 *Vriesia jonghei* (Libon ex C. Koch) E. Morr.
- 37 *Vriesia splitgerberi* (Mez) L. B. Sm. & Pitt.
- 38 *Guzmania sanguinea* (André) André ex Mez
- 39 *Vriesia capituligera* (Griseb.) L. B. Sm. & Pitt.
- 47 *Tillandsia juncea* (R. & P.) Poir.
- 49 *Tillandsia stricta* Soland.
- 50 *Tillandsia monadelpha* (E. Morr.) Baker
- 53 *Vriesia didistichoides* (Mez) L. B. Smith
- 54 *Vriesia didistichoides* (Mez) L. B. Smith
- 60 *Vriesia capituligera* (Griseb.) L. B. Sm. & Pitt.
- 66 *Aechmea dichlamydea* var. *trinitensis* L. B. Smith

On the photos I would say that 58 and 59 look like *Tillandsia gardneri*, but am not absolutely certain. Numbers 63, 64 and 65 are obviously the var. *trinitensis* of *Aechmea dichlamydea*.

With many thanks for all the fine material,

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman B. Smith*

Lyman B. Smith  
Acting Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

12th November, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institute,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

Your letter of 29 October was awaiting my return from a brief trip to the States.

From your notes I feel now that the Vriesia capituligera mentioned in my last letter (30 Sept.) and which, incidentally, is from the Heights of Guanapo, is really splitgerberi. It has an elongate spike (about 43 in.) with about 17 distinct inflorescence spikes coming off at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 inch intervals spirally; the lower spikes are about three inches long with the primary bract extending out about four inches. The entire inflorescence is pale greenish. We will send photographs when available and will also make a dried specimen.

On the other hand the Aripo Caves specimen (#39), as well as others taken on top of Cerro del Aripo (#60) must be Vriesia capituligera (see photos. 22, 23, 56 & 57). While these may represent immature spathes, I don't think they can open much more than what is shown in photos 22 & 23; moreover the spathe and bracts are red.

Reference Vriesia macrostachya and our plant #35. I shall try and work at getting a plant with fresh flowers. I believe it is in the trees at our St. Pats station, so there should be no difficulty. Certainly it is different from platynema (our plant #36).

With regard to the material sent you, we do not want any of it back. As long as you are able to name them, I believe we will remember the specimens sufficiently well to be able to identify others with the possible exception of specimens #22 and 37. We are interested only in maintaining a reference collection here, and duplicates other than those sent to you will go into the herbarium of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. If there are any species you are particularly anxious to have more material, please let us know.

Continued . . .

Continuation of letter to:

Dr. Lyman B. Smith

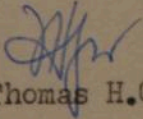
Dated:

12th November, 1955.

We were wondering if plant #38 (photo #17) might be either Guzmania megastachya or else sanguinea, although in respect to the latter, there were no leaves with red bases.

Wil Downs showed me your memoir on Brazilian bromeliads. I would be happy to have a copy if you have one to spare.

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas H.G. Aitken.

THGA:kdh

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 29, 1955

AIR MAIL

Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitken  
Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory  
P. O. Box 164  
Port of Spain, Trinidad, B. W. I.

Dear Dr. Aitken:

Please excuse the delay in replying to your interesting letter. I have been trying to finish a bromel manuscript for the Flora of Suriname and other studies have suffered in consequence. However, the bromels collected by you and Dr. Downs make good comparison with those from Suriname.

*Aripo Cave*  
I have most of them verified now but as always there are a few tough problems that prevent me from returning the loan quickly. Downs 39 for instance is probably Vriesia capituligera but it is so young that I can not wholly exclude the possibility of its being V. splitgerberi. If the collection you made was mature I imagine you have it correctly named. So far as I can tell from dried specimens the two species differ only in the degree of elongation of the axis of the spike, it being well developed in V. splitgerberi and almost completely aborted in V. capituligera so that the flowers are fasciculate.

*SK.P.T.*  
Another problem is your number 35 tentatively labelled Vriesia macrostachya. Its flowers are decidedly small for that species but its floral bracts are large for V. platynema. I am going to borrow some material for comparison before I decide. However, I hope to return the herbarium specimens before long.

If it is all right with you and Dr. Downs I should like to keep the bottled material enough longer to go over certain problems with Colin Pittendrigh this winter when he is in Washington. If I may keep one or two flowers of a few species of special interest like Gravisia aripensis and Vriesia didistichoides I can send the lot back sooner.

Sincerely yours,

*Lyman B. Smith*

Lyman B. Smith  
Acting Curator  
Division of Phanerogams

30th September, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

I have been intending to write for some time, but pressure of other work has prevented me from doing so.

While in Tobago back in July, I tried to gather up specimens of all the local bromeliads, but I missed out on one or two. Species collected and pressed include: Tillandsia utriculata (flowers in alcohol), T. usneoides, T. flexuosa, T. bulbosa, Aechmea lingulata, A. dichlamydea, A. nudicaulis (flowers same as those in Trinidad), Guzmania monostachea and Bromelia Karatas. The latter is an addition to your reported list. Seen but not collected were Gravisia aquilega and Tillandsia fasciculata.

I had hoped to obtain Guzmania megastachya but failed. Possibly it occurs up on top of the central range where I could not go. After seeing Aechmea dichlamydea in Tobago, it is obvious that trinitensis is certainly a good variety. Additional notes on the typical form are: spathe stem, sterile bases of inflorescences and primary bracts bright red. The inflorescence itself is whitish. Unfortunately I could find no plants with fresh flowers. In the case of trinitensis (from Sans Souci, Trinidad) the inflorescences are whitish to pale pink medianly and the floral bracts are magenta to purple colored, as are also the sepals apically. The petals are blue. I don't recall the color of the spathe and the sterile bases of the spikes (will check next year), but I hardly think they were the striking red of the typical form. Another point is that the primary bracts of trinitensis are mostly longer than the sterile bases of the spikes.

I have been able to make a few additional collections this summer, notable among these were Vriesia rubra, Vriesia capituligera ( I assume my identification is correct; have flowers in alcohol) and Catopsis Berteroniana (flowers in alcohol); all of these have been photographed. The Berteroniana is something we have had around for over a year; finally I got the thing to bloom. The flower is open for only a few hours in the morning, the sepals barely opening to permit a tiny view of the white petals and the aperture into the interior.

Continued . . .

COPY

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Continuation of letter to:

Dated:

Dr. Lyman B. Smith

30th September, 1955.

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKFORD, PORT OF SPAIN

WILSON G. DOWNS, M.D.

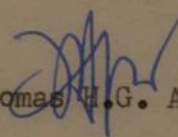
Vriesia amazonica is another strange one. I assumed our plants to be this species even though the immature flowers were not secund. Really, only after maturation, do the flowers twist around on the stem to the secund position. The flower of this species also is open for only a few hours in the morning (petals pale creamy yellow); flowers have been preserved in alcohol.

Reference to Downs' letter of 20 July, I'm sorry the specimen which I take to be Tillandsia stricta did not go along with the others to you. It was there in the press all along but my idiot technician failed to see it.

One or two distributional records are of interest. We have Tillandsia micrantha from St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley, at the base of the Northern Range at an elevation of 500-600 feet. After previously seeing it only on the top of the Northern Range, I had come to think of it as a higher mountain species. Of course, this might be an escape. We also have Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata from the Melajo Forest near Sangre Grande - almost at sea level. This too is a mountain species, but apparently it has followed the rainfall down to lower elevations in this area as the northeastern corner of Trinidad gets the most rain. I have also seen Aechmea portecoides in this area and it too is a mountain species.

We are expecting Wil Downs back next week. I am looking forward to hearing a report on the material we sent up with him to you in July.

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas H.G. Aitken.

THGA:kdh

P.S. My sister-in-law (Shirley Gale Cross) was amused to learn that we have been in contact.

COPY

Page - 2  
THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Dated:

Continuation of letter to:  
Dr. Warren J. Warren, M.D., Director  
NEW YORK

30th September, 1955

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D.

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKFOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

REPRESENTATIVE IN TRINIDAD  
TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY  
P.O. Box 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

*Vriesea amazonica* is another strange plant to be this species even though the immature flowers are not the same. Really, only after maturation, do the flowers turn the same as the stem to the second position. The flower of this species also is open for only a few hours in the morning (petals pale creamy yellow); flowers have been preserved in alcohol.

Reference to Downs' letter of 20 July, I'm sorry the specimen which I take to be *Tillandsia stricta* did not go along with the others to you. It was there in the press all along but my idiot technician failed to see it.

One or two distributional records are of interest. We have *Tillandsia micrantha* from St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley, at the base of the Northern Range at an elevation of 500-600 feet. After previously seeing it only on the top of the Northern Range, I had come to think of it as a higher mountain species. Of course, this might be an escape. We also have *Vriesea splendens* var. *longipetala* from the Melajo Forest near Sangre Grande - almost at sea level. This too is a mountain species, but apparently it has followed the rainfall down to lower elevations in this area as the northeastern corner of Trinidad gets the most rain. I have also seen *Aechmea portulacastris* in this area and it too is a mountain species.

We are expecting Wil Downs back next week. I am looking forward to hearing a report on the material we sent up with him to you in July.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas W. G. Aitken

THGA:kdb

P.S. My sister-in-law (Shirley Gale Cross) was amused to learn that we have been in contact.

W G D	✓	WGD
I R A		IRA
TAGGA		TAGGA
25		25

20 July, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

Enclosed are photographs #58 to 65 inconclusive and a list of them. Also enclosed is a list of pressed plants which I am taking to New York with me on July 22. These plants will be forwarded to you from there. Also, several jars of alcohol preserved flowers will be forwarded to you and a listing of these specimens accompanies this letter.

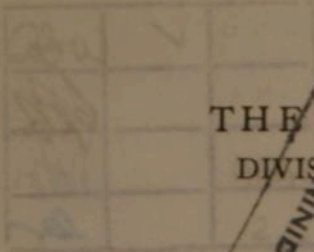
In replying to your letter of June 27, we examined Tillandsia didistichoides flowers and they do have distinct scales at petal bases. So you'll probably be transferring this to Vriesia. Flowers in alcohol are on their way to you.

The Aechmea dichlamydea from Sans Souci would appear to us to be A.d.d. and not A.d. var trinitensis, since we would judge the sterile bases of the spikes to be rather slender, rather than short and stout. But you can judge for yourself on the dried specimens.

Are dried specimens #25 and 52 both Aechmea nudicaulis? #25 would appear more like mertensii but the stalk is long for that species.

Examined flowering Guzmania monostachea recently and it differed from your description on p. 175. "The Bromeliaceae of Trinidad and Tobago" in the following: fertile flowers were in the bright red floral bracts as well as in the more basal pale green striped bracts. Fertile flowers extended out nearly to the tip of the inflorescence, through about three rows of red bracts and only the terminal row or two held no fertile flowers. In numerous red bracts, flowers had withered and development of ovary was well advanced.

Continued . . .



THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION  
DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

ANDREW J. WARREN, M.D., DIRECTOR  
NEW YORK

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D.  
REPRESENTATIVE IN TRINIDAD  
TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY  
P. O. Box 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

T'DAD REGIONAL VIRUS LAB.  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT-OF-SPAIN  
TRINIDAD.

T'DAD REGIONAL VIRUS LAB.  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT-OF-SPAIN  
TRINIDAD.

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKFOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

Enclosed are photographs 575 to 582 inclusive and a list of them. Also enclosed is a list of pressed plants which I am taking to New York with me on July 27. These plants will be forwarded to you later. Also, several jars of alcohol preserved flowers will be forwarded to you and a listing of these specimens accompanies this letter.

In reply to your letter of June 27, we examined *Platanus didactyloides* flowers and they do have distinct scales at their bases. So you'll probably be transferring this to *Platanus*. Flowers in alcohol are on their way to you.

The *Acacia* displayed from your good friend would appear to us to be *A. f. A.* and not *A. f. B.* var. *trinitensis*, since we would judge the sterile bases of the spikes to be rather slender, rather than short and stout. But you can judge for yourself on the dried specimens.

Two dried specimens 575 and 582 both *Acacia* (undoubtedly) would appear more like *acutifolia* but the stalk is long for that species.

Examined flowers *Passiflora* *sp.* recently and it differed from your description on p. 175. The corolla lobes of *Passiflora* and *Tobago* is the following: *Passiflora* flowers were in the bright red floral bracts as well as in the more usual pale green striped bracts. *Passiflora* flowers extended out nearly to the tip of the inflorescence, through about three rows of red bracts and only the terminal row or two had no *Passiflora* flowers. In numerous red bracts, flowers had advanced and development of ovary was well advanced.

Continued . . .

Continuation of letter to:

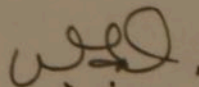
Dr. Lyman B. Smith

Dated:

July 20, 1955

Photograph #58 much resembles Tillandsia stricta, but the leaves of #58 are much more lax and limp than those of stricta. The plant of which photo #58 was taken was pressed, but THGA lugged it off to Tobago in a press he took over there, so we can't send the plant to you at this time.

Sincerely yours,



Wilbur G. Downs, M.D.

WGD:kdh

encl. - photographs & list  
list pressed plants  
list alcohol preserved flowers

P.S. Also included is photo of the red  
tuberculated ?? fungus ?? from St. Pauls.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION  
DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

ANDREW J. WARREN, M.D., DIRECTOR  
NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKEOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D.  
REPRESENTATIVE IN TRINIDAD  
TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

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TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LAB  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

*Downs*

Wilbur G. Downs, M.D.

Photograph of leaf  
The ground plant  
That showed characteristic flowers

*Photograph of leaf  
The ground plant  
That showed characteristic flowers*

LIST OF BROMELIAD SPECIMENS  
SENT TO  
L.B. SMITH AS PRESSED PLANTS

TRVL Botanical Specimen Serial Number	Species	Locality	Date	Collector
18	<i>Tillandsia deppeana</i>	Cumaca, Trin. alt. 1200 ft.	June 23'54	WGD
20	<i>Tillandsia</i>	Charuma Forest, Trinidad	Aug. 10'54	WGD
21	<i>Tillandsia anceps</i> ?	Cat's Hill Reserve, Trin.	Aug. 24'54	WGD
22 A & B	<i>Vriesia</i> sp.	Cat's Hill Reserve, Trin.	Aug. 24'54	WGD
25	<i>Aechmea nudicaulis</i>	St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley, Trin.	July 5'54	WGD
28	<i>Catopsis floribunda</i>	Cumaca, Trin.	July 9'54	WGD
29	<i>Catopsis floribunda</i>	Charuma Forest, Trinidad	Oct. 20'54	THGA
34	<i>Tillandsia anceps</i>	Maracas Falls, Trinidad	Oct. 30'54	WGD
35	<i>Vriesia macrostachya</i>	St. Patrick Estate, Arima Valley, Trin.	Oct. 1954	THGA
36	<i>Vriesia platynema</i>	Charuma Forest, Trinidad	Nov. 17'54	THGA
37	<i>Vriesia</i> sp.	Heights of Platanal, Northern Range, Trinidad	Dec. 1'54	THGA & WGD
38	Sp.	Morne Bleu, Northern Range, Trinidad	Mar. 9'55	THGA
39	<i>Vriesia</i> sp.	Aripo Cave, Northern Range, Trinidad	Mar. 20'55	WGD

Continued . . .

Continuation of:

Dated:

List of Bromeliad Specimens Sent to  
L.B. Smith as Pressed Plants20th July, 1955

TRVL Botanical Specimen Serial Number	Species	Locality	Date	Collector
43 A,B,C,	<i>Vriesia glutinosa</i>	El Tucuche, Northern Range, Trinidad	Mar. 27'55	THGA & WGD
45	<i>Vriesia Johnstonei</i>	El Tucuche, Northern Range, Trinidad	Mar. 27'55	THGA & WGD
47	<i>Tillandsia</i>	Ortinola, Maracas Valley, Trinidad	Mar. 27'55	THGA & WGD
48	<i>Catopsis sessiliflora</i>	Cunaripo, Trinidad	Apr. 3'55	WGD
49	<i>Tillandsia</i>	Cunaripo, Trinidad	Apr. 3'55	WGD
50	<i>Tillandsia</i>	Charuma Forest, Trin.	Apr. 5'55	THGA
51 A & B	<i>Hohenbergia stellata</i>	Charuma Forest, Trin.	Apr. 6'55	THGA
52	<i>Aechmea nudicaulis</i>	Morne Bleu, Northern Range, Trinidad	Apr. 9'55	THGA & WGD
53	<i>Tillandsia didistichoides</i>	Morne Bleu, Northern Range, Trinidad	Apr. 9'55	THGA & WGD
54	- i d e m -			
56 A & B	<i>Tillandsia anceps</i>	Charuma Forest, Trin.	May 4'55	THGA
57	<i>Catopsis floribunda</i>	Sangre Grande, Trin.	May 7'55	THGA
59	<i>Tillandsia micrantha</i>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin.	May 24'55	THGA & WGD
60	<i>Vriesia</i>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin.	May 24'55	THGA & WGD
61	<i>Gravisia aripensis</i>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin.	May 24'55	THGA & WGD
63	<i>Gravisia aquilega</i>	Brasso, Trin.	May 25'55	THGA
64 A & B	<i>Tillandsia flexuosa</i>	Toco, Trinidad	July 3'55	THGA & WGD
65 A & B	<i>Pitcairnia integrifolia</i>	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3'55	THGA & WGD
66 A & B	<i>Aechmea dichlamydea</i>	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3'55	THGA & WGD

WGD/kdh  
Trinidad  
20/7/55

Supplement to  
List of Photographs of Trinidad Bromeliads

<u>Photo. #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
58	Tillandsia	Maraval, Trinidad	June 1955	THGA
59	Tillandsia	Maraval, Trinidad	June 1955	THGA
60	Pitcairnia integrifolia	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD
61	Pitcairnia integrifolia	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD
62	Guzmania monostachea	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD
63	Aechmea dichlamydea	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD
64	Aechmea dichlamydea	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD
65	Aechmea dichlamydea	Sans Souci, Trin.	July 3, 1955	THGA & WGD

WGD/kdh  
Trinidad  
19/7/55.

ALCOHOLIC SPECIMENS OF TRINIDAD  
BROMELIAD FLOWERS

(per T.H.G. Aitken & W.G. Downs)

Bottle #1

1. Vriesia Johnstonei, El Tucuche, 27/III/55, THG Aitken & WG Downs (TRVL #45).
2. Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora, El Tucuche, 27/III/55.  
THG Aitken & WG Downs - Elev. 3070 feet.
- 3.. Vriesia platynema, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite, 17/XI/54, THGA (TRVL #36).
4. Vriesia sp. ?, Aripo Caves, 20/III/55. WGD. (TRVL #39).
5. Guzmania lingulata, La Laja Trace. 5/VI/55. THGA.
6. Pitcairnia integrifolia, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
7. Aechmea dichlamydea, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
8. Guzmania monostachea, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
9. Tillandsia flexuosa, Toco, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
10. Hohenbergia stellata, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite, 6/IV/55. THGA (TRVL #51 A,B).

Bottle #2

1. Gravisia aripensis, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #61 & 62).
2. Vriesia sp. ?, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #60).  
(Note: Same species as TRVL #39 from Aripo Caves.).
3. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge.  
24/V/55. THGA & WGD  
(Note: Floral bracts red).
4. Tillandsia flexuosa, Tabaquite, 20/X/54, THGA (TRVL #30).
5. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge,  
24/V/55, THGA & WGD (Note: Floral bracts red).
6. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge,  
24/V/55. THGA & WGD (Note: floral bracts yellow).
7. Vriesia glutinosa, El Tucuche, 27/III/55. THGA & WGD (TRVL #43).

Continued . . .

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION  
DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

ANDREW J. WARREN, M.D., DIRECTOR  
NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS: ROCKFOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D.  
REPRESENTATIVE IN TRINIDAD  
TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY  
P. O. Box 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LAB  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT-OF-SPAIN  
TRINIDAD

Continuation of:

Alcoholic Specimens of Trinidad  
Bromeliad Flowers

Bottle #2 - Continued -

8. Tillandsia micrantha, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55. THGA & WGD (TRVL #59).
9. Gravisia aquilega, Brasso, 25/V/55, THGA (TRVL #63).
10. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge, 24/V/55.  
THGA & WGD. (Note: Floral bracts yellow).
11. Tillandsia flexuosa, Sangre Grande, 23/V/55. THGA.
12. Tillandsia utriculata, Point Fortin, 12/VII/54 WGD. (TRVL #26).
13. Tillandsia bulbosa, Moruga, 25/X/54. WGD.
14. Pitcairnia integrifolia, Tembladora (Carenage), 26/VI/55. THGA.
15. Tillandsia pulchella?, Cunaripo, 3/IV/55. WGD. (TRVL #49).
16. Tillandsia anceps (Note: This is probably monadelpha), Charuma  
Forest, Tabaquite, 6/IV/55. THGA (TRVL #50).

Bottle #3

1. Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora, Cerro del Aripo, 24/III/55, THGA &  
WGD. (Elev. 3,085 ft.) (Specimens loose in bottle).
2. Aechmea nudicaulis, Morne Bleu, 9/IV/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #52).
3. Tillandsia flexuosa, Sangre Grande, 23/V/55. THGA.
4. Tillandsia ditistichoides, Morne Bleu, 9/IV/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #53).
5. Catopsis nutans = floribunda, Simla, 7/IV/55. THGA.
6. Catopsis floribunda, Sangre Grande, 7/V/55. THGA. (TRVL #57).

THGA:kdh  
12/VII/55.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION  
DIVISION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

ANDREW J. WARREN, M.D., DIRECTOR  
NEW YORK

WILBUR G. DOWNS, M.D.  
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TRINIDAD REGIONAL VIRUS LABORATORY  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

MAIL ADDRESS: ROCKFOUND, PORT OF SPAIN

T. D. D. REGIONAL VIRUS LAB.  
P. O. BOX 164  
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD.

- 1. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 2. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 3. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 4. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 5. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 6. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 7. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 8. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 9. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 10. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 11. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 12. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 13. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 14. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 15. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 16. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 17. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 18. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 19. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 20. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 21. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 22. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 23. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 24. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 25. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 26. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 27. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 28. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 29. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.
- 30. *Alphavirus (Group 1)*, *Port of Spain, Trinidad*, 1952.

ALCOHOLIC SPECIMENS OF TRINIDAD  
BROMELIAD FLOWERS

(per T.H.G. Aitken & W.G. Downs)

(sent to L.B. Smith, U.S. National Museum,  
Washington, D.C., % W.G. Downs, July 1957).

Bottle #1

1. Vriesia Johnstonei, El Tucuche, 27/III/55, THG Aitken & WG Downs (TRVL #45).
2. Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora, El Tucuche, 27/III/55.  
THG Aitken & WG Downs - Elev. 3070 feet.
- 3.. Vriesia platynema, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite, 17/XI/54, THGA (TRVL #36).
4. Vriesia sp. ?, Aripo Caves, 20/III/55. WGD. (TRVL #39).
5. Guzmania lingulata, La Laja Trace. 5/VI/55. THGA.
6. Pitcairnia integrifolia, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
7. Aechmea dichlamydea, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
8. Guzmania monostachea, Sans Souci, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
9. Tillandsia flexuosa, Toco, 3/VII/55. THGA & WGD.
10. Hohenbergia stellata, Charuma Forest, Tabaquite, 6/IV/55. THGA (TRVL #51 A,B).

Bottle #2

1. Gravisia aripensis, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #61 & 62).
2. Vriesia sp. ?, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #60).  
(Note: Same species as TRVL #39 from Aripo Caves.).
3. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge.  
24/V/55. THGA & WGD  
(Note: Floral bracts red).
4. Tillandsia flexuosa, Tabaquite, 20/X/54, THGA (TRVL #30).
5. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge,  
24/V/55, THGA & WGD (Note: Floral bracts red).
6. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge,  
24/V/55. THGA & WGD (Note: floral bracts yellow).
7. Vriesia glutinosa, El Tucuche, 27/III/55. THGA & WGD (TRVL #43).

Continued . . .

Continuation of:

Alcoholic Specimens of Trinidad  
Bromeliad Flowers

Bottle #2 - Continued -

8. Tillandsia micrantha, Cerro del Aripo, 24/V/55. THGA & WGD (TRVL #59).
9. Gravisia aquilega, Brasso, 25/V/55, THGA (TRVL #63).
10. Vriesia splendens var. longibracteata, Cerro del Aripo ridge, 24/V/55.  
THGA & WGD. (Note: Floral bracts yellow).
11. Tillandsia flexuosa, Sangre Grande, 23/V/55. THGA.
12. Tillandsia utriculata, Point Fortin, 12/VII/54 WGD. (TRVL #26).
13. Tillandsia bulbosa, Moruga, 25/X/54. WGD.
14. Pitcairnia integrifolia, Tembladora (Carenage), 26/VI/55. THGA.
15. Tillandsia pulchella ?, Cunaripo, 3/IV/55. WGD. (TRVL #49).
16. Tillandsia anceps (Note: This is probably monadelpha), Charuma  
Forest, Tabaquite, 6/IV/55. THGA (TRVL #50).

Bottle #3

1. Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora, Cerro del Aripo, 24/III/55, THGA &  
WGD. (Elev. 3,085 ft.) (Specimens loose in bottle).
2. Aechmea nudicaulis, Morne Bleu, 9/IV/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #52).
3. Tillandsia flexuosa, Sangre Grande, 23/V/55. THGA.
4. Tillandsia ditistichoides, Morne Bleu, 9/IV/55, THGA & WGD (TRVL #53).
5. Catopsis nutans = floribunda, Simla, 7/IV/55. THGA.
6. Catopsis floribunda, Sangre Grande, 7/V/55. THGA. (TRVL #57).

THGA:kdh  
12/VII/55.

Dr. Cutken

SUPPLEMENT TO  
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF TRINIDAD BROMELIADS

<u>Photo. #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
#47	<u>Vriesia</u>	Charuma Forest, Tabaquite	17/11/55	THGA
	(Plant measured 112 cm. from "root" base to spathe tip. Outer leaves are 61 cm. long, and 10 cm. wide at base and 7 cm. wide 14 cm. from tips. Leaf edges smooth. Leaf tip blunt because of withered point. Penultimate floral unit removed for preservation in alcohol as had matured flower).			
#48	<u>Tillandsia didistichoides</u>	Morne Bleu slopes, 11 mi. post, Blanchisseuse Road. (elev. 1,900 ft.)	9/IV/55	THGA & WGD
	Preanthesis. Spathe salmon-red. Flowers subsequently obtained and pickled in alcohol.			
#49	<u>Catopsis floribunda</u>	Arima Valley, near Simla	7/IV/55	J. Crane
	(Flowers in alcohol).			
#50	<u>Tillandsia didistichoides</u>	Morne Bleu slopes, 11 mi. post, Blanchisseuse Road. (elev. 1,900 ft.)	9/IV/55	THGA & WGD
	Post Anthesis. Collected at same time as Photo. #48.			
#51	<u>Gravisia aripensis</u>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 3,000 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD
#52	<u>Gravisia aripensis</u>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 3,000 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD
#53	<u>Gravisia aripensis</u>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 3,000 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD
#54	<u>Gravisia aripensis</u>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 3,000 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD
#55	<u>Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora</u>	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 2,800 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD
#56	Sp. #2 (ref. photos. #22, 23 and 57)	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (elev. 2,800 ft.)	24/V/55	THGA & WGD (past anthesis)

Note: The spathe was broken in dropping the plant from a high tree. It has been photographed "wired in place" and closely approximating natural appearance.

Continued . . .

<u>Photo. #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
#57	Sp. #2 (ref. photos. #22, 23 and 56)	Cerro del Aripo, Trin. (alt. 2,800')	24/V/55 (past anthesis)	THGA & WGD

Note: The spathe was broken in dropping the plant from a high tree. It has been photographed "wired in place" and closely approximating natural appearance.

TUSA

22nd June, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.,  
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Smith:

We have received your letter of June 9. I shall be coming north in July, and shall bring plant material with me. Unfortunately, I shall not be able to go to Washington at that time, but shall get the plant specimens forwarded on to you.

I think we have the Tillandsia stricta vs. Tillandsia juncea problem resolved along the lines you suggest. We also saw a pressed T. stricta in the I.C.T.A. collection.

Also we have succeeded in resolving the Tillandsia anceps - Tillandsia monadelpha problem with your character of the capsules in relation to the sepals making the differentiation very clear.

With your sketches, we know we have collected Aechmea bromeliifolia (we didn't know but what the post-anthesis head we saw, with white cottony patches was a malformed head of some other species attacked by a mold). However, we haven't seen Araeococcus micranthus yet, and shall have to haunt the Aripo Valley until we get it.

Am enclosing a further group of photographs. The photos #56 and #57 I am sure will interest you. Is #47 V. platynema?

Sincerely yours,

Wilbur G. Downs, M.D.  
Director

WGD:kdh  
Encl.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF TRINIDAD BROMELIADS

(Taken at Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory)

<u>Photo. #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
38	<u>Tillandsia micrantha</u>	El Tucuche, Trinidad (Elev. 3000')	Mar. 27/55	THGA & WGD
39	<u>Vriesia broadwayi</u>	El Tucuche, Trinidad (Elev. 3000')	Mar. 27/55	THGA & WGD
40	<u>Vriesia broadwayi</u>	- idem -	- idem -	- idem -
41	<u>Vriesia johnstonei</u>	El Tucuche, Trinidad (Elev. 3000')	Mar. 27/55	THGA & WGD
42	Sp. 6 <u>Tillandsia</u> <sup>juncea?</sup> <u>puchella</u>	Ortinola, Maracas Valley	Mar. 27/55	THGA & WGD
43	Sp. 9 <u>Tillandsia</u> <sup>stricta?</sup> (plant pressed and flowers in alcohol)	Cunaripo, Trinidad	Apr. 14/55	WGD
44	Sp. 9 <u>Tillandsia</u> <sup>stricta?</sup>	- idem -	- idem -	- idem -
45	Sp. 10 <u>Tillandsia</u> <sup>monodelpha?</sup> <u>anceps</u> (plant pressed and flowers in alcohol)	Tabaquite, Trinidad	Apr. 6/55	THGA
46	Sp. 10 <u>Tillandsia</u> <sup>monodelpha?</sup> <u>anceps</u>	- idem -	- idem -	- idem -

THGA

LIST OF ORCHID FLOWERS PRESERVED IN SPIRITS  
SHIPPED TO DR. R.E. SCHULTES  
BOTANICAL MUSEUM  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
OXFORD STREET  
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.  
ON MAY 20, 1955

<u>Species #</u> (in W.G.Downs List)	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Collector</u>
1	<u>Epidendrum patens</u>	Matelot, Trin.	WGDowns
5	<u>Rodriguezia secunda</u> Plant #76	Cumato, Trin. Mar. 9/55	WGD
5	<u>Rodriguezia secunda</u> Plant #63	Tamana, Trin. Mar. 9/55	WGD
5	<u>Rodriguezia secunda</u> Plant #50	Biche, Trin. Mar. 3/55	WGD
10	?	Cumaca, Trin. Mar. 7/55	WGD
13	<u>Pleurothallus</u> sp.	Aripo Cave, Trin. Mar. 20/55	WGD
14	<u>Gongora maculata</u>	Platanal, Cumaca, Trin. Nov. 30/54	THGAitken
18	<u>Maxillaria</u> sp.	Melajo Forest, Trin. Mar. 27/55	ex Coll. THGA
19	<u>Epidendrum fragrans</u>	Cumaca, Trin. Dec. 1954	WGD
21	?	Aripo Heights, Trin. Mar. 20/55	WGD
23	? Plant #47	Biche, Trin. Mar. 3/55	WGD
23	?	Sangre Grande, Trin. Mar. 5/55	WGD
26	?	Biche, Trin. Mar. 5/55	WGD
27	?	Cumaca, Trin. Mar. 5/55	THGA & WGD
28	? Plant #77	St. Patrick's Estate Arima, Trin. Mar. 8/55	THGA & WGD

Continuation of:List of Orchid Flowers Preserved  
In Spirits and shipped to Dr. R.  
E. Schultes, Cambridge 38, Mass.Dated:

May 20, 1955

<u>Species #</u> <u>(in W.G. Downs List)</u>	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Collector</u>
28	?	Cunaripo, Trin. Mar. 31/55	WGD
29	<u>Ionopsis utricularioides</u> Plant #74	Caratal, Trin. Mar. 5/55	WGD
30	<u>Epidendrum hartii</u> Plant #38	St. Patrick's Estate Arima, Trin. Mar. 8/55	THGA & WGD
31	<u>Scaphyglottis</u> sp. Plant #81	Cumaca, Trin. Mar. 18/55	THCA
32	<u>Pleurothallus ruscifolia</u>	Aripo, Cave, Trin. Mar. 20/55	WGD
33	<u>Pleurothallus</u> sp.	Aripo Cave Region, Trin. Mar. 20/55	WGD
34	<u>Pleurothallus</u> sp.	El Tucuche, Trin. Mar. 27/55	WGD
38	<u>Trichocentrum</u> sp.	El Tucuche, Trin. alt.circa 2,000' Mar. 27/55	WGD
39	?	El Tucuche, Trin. alt.circa 2,500' Mar. 27/55	THGA
41	<u>Oncidium</u> sp.	Spring Hill, Arima Valley, Trin. Mar. 27/55	H.N.Wright
42	?		WGD
45	<u>Jacquinella</u> sp. Plant #139	Cumaca, Trin. Nov. 1954	WGD
46	?	Morne Bleu, Trin. April 9, 1955	WGD
47	<u>Pleurothallus</u> sp.	Morne Bleu, Trin. April 9, 1955	WGD
48	<u>Epidendrum</u> sp. Plant #163	Cumaca, Trin. May 1, 1955	WGD

TKGA *DKW*  
This is your copy

19th April, 1955.

Dr. Lyman B. Smith,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
U.S. National Museum,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

We much appreciated your letter of April 4th with interesting notes on some of the Trinidad bromeliads.

Enclosed is a list of species we have drawn up, taken from the paper of Broadway and Smith, plus additional species referred to by Pittendrigh (The Bromeliad-Anopheles-Malaria Complex in Trinidad I The Bromeliad Flora, in Evolution 2, 58-89, 1948). If you could possibly send us papers which include species not in your key and listing, or can send us "tips" on how to recognize the species not in your keys, we would be most grateful. Also we would be most grateful for reprints of any of your papers carrying data about Trinidad bromeliads. You have already sent me a copy of "The Bromeliaceae of Trinidad and Tobago" and Dr. T.H.G. Aitken would very much appreciate a copy if you can spare another. If you could send other reprints covering Trinidad material in duplicate, we'd be grateful.

Also enclosed is a listing of photographs to date. We have sent you #1 through 17 and with this letter are photographs 18 through 37. You may be expecting more. This listing answers your request for collection data, and you will be able to number and identify the earlier photographs you have already received.

We are confused about Catopsis. The photograph (#12) which we labelled "Catopsis" you identify in your letter of April 4, 1955 as C. nutans. The photo (#13) labelled "sp" you identify as C. floribunda. Pittendrigh (vide supra) makes the following statement on page 60, "The Trinidad plant given in 1933 as Catopsis nutans (Sw.) Griseb., is Catopsis floribunda (Brongn.) L.B. Smith.

Furthermore, in the 1933 list of Broadway and Smith, p. 176, C. nutans is represented as having acuminate leaves, yet the specimen photographed in picture #2 would appear to have leaf rounded-mucronate. The species in photo #13 (C. floribunda) apparently does have acute leaves.

Continuation of letter to:

Dr. Lyman B. Smith

Dated:

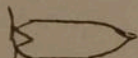
19th April, 1955.

If you can give us some help with this Catopsis group it will be appreciated.

We have flowers of Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora in alcohol, and shall make up a shipment to you of this plus various other alcohol preserved flowers we have accumulated. We have also been pressing bromeliad material and shall have a collection of dried mounted material to send to you. Not being botanists by profession or training, we are quite stumped by the problem of making a satisfactory mount of such things as a Gravisia or Hohenbergia flowering stalk.

We'd appreciate hints on how to handle this bulky and spiny material.

We have checked Aechmea nudicaulis from Morne Bleu and from the Maracas Valley. Both had short broad floral bracts, of size and shape herewith sketched.



We shall be awaiting eagerly what identifications you can make on the enclosed photographs.

By the way, can you give me any advise on literature on native orchids of Trinidad. I'd much appreciate any publications the Smithsonian might have which would help me with identification of local species. Do you know anyone who would be interested in the Trinidad orchids?

Sincerely yours,

*Wilbur G. Downs*  
Wilbur G. Downs, M.D.

WGD:kdh  
Encl.

P.S. Data on species #3 (photos 24,25,26) height of plant 62" from root to tip of bright red flower stalk. Leaves broad and smooth edged, green with prominent dull red marking. The plant was one of a large clump apparently rooted in the soil, from beneath a waterfall, exposed to spray at all times. *We have flowers.*

Data on Glomeropitcairnia erectiflora - height from root to tip tip of flower stalk - 81".

THGA *DM*

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF TRINIDAD BROMELIADS

(Taken at Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory)

<u>Photo . #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
1	<u>Tillandsia flexuosa</u>	Maraval, Port-of-Spain	March 1955	T.H.G. Aitken
2	<u>T. elongata</u> var. <u>imbucata</u>	Caroni	Mar. 11/55	<del>THGA</del> WGD
3	<u>T. fasciculata</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 9/55	THGA
4	<u>T. utriculata</u>	Caroni	Mar. 11/55	W.G. Downs
5	<u>T. deppeana</u>	Morne Bleu (Elev. 1800')	Mar. 9/55	THGA
6	<u>Aechmea nudicaulis</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 9/55	THGA
7	<u>A. portecoides</u>	Cumaca (Elev. 1000')	Mar. 7/55	THGA
8	<u>A. lingulata</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 9/55	THGA
9	<u>A. Mertensii</u>	St. Pats Estate, Arima	Mar. 9/55	THGA
10	<u>Guzmania lingulata</u>	Cumaca (Elev. 1000')	Mar. 7/55	THGA
11	<u>Gravisia aquilega</u>	Caroni	Mar. 11/55	WGD
12	<u>Catopsis nutans</u>	Simla, Arima Valley	Mar. 3/55	THGA
13	<u>C. floribunda</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 9/55	THGA
14	<u>Vriesia splendens</u> var. <u>longibracteata</u>	Cumaca (Elev. 1000')	Mar. 7/55	THGA
15	<u>V. procera</u>	Biche	Mar. 3/55	THGA & WGD
16	<u>V. amazonica</u>	Biche	Mar. 3/55	THGA & WGD
17	Sp. ? #1 (with a mass of seeds)	Morne Bleu (Elev. 1800')	Mar. 9/55	THGA
18	<u>Glomeropitcairnia</u> <u>erectiflora</u> - view of tank -	El Tucuche (Elev. 3000')	Mar. 27/55	THGA & WGD
19	<u>Gl. erecti</u> - close up of stalk -	idem.		
20	<u>Gl. erecti</u> - full view -	idem.		
21	<u>Gl. erecti</u> - full view -	idem.		
22	Sp. #2 <u>Thecophyllum</u> sp?	Aripo Caves (Elev. 2500')	Mar. 20/55	WGD

<u>Photo. #</u>	<u>Bromeliad Species</u>	<u>Collection Locality</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Collector</u>
23	Sp. #2 <u>Thecophyllum</u> - close up -			
24	Sp. #3 - view of tank <del>at</del> <del>waterfall</del> -	El Tucuche (Elev.2300') at waterfall	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
25	Sp. #3 - full view -			
26	Sp. #3 - close up of flower stalk -			
27	Sp. #4 - prob. <u>Thecophyllum</u> -	El Tucuche (Elev.3000')	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
28	<u>Catopsis nutans</u>	Simla, Arima Valley	Mar.3/55	THGA
29	<u>Tillandsia bulbosa</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 1955	THGA
30	<u>Tillandsia deppeana</u>	Morne Bleu (Elev.1800')	Mar.9/55	THGA
31	<u>Vriesia amazonica</u>	Biche	Mar.3/55	THGA & WGD
32	<u>Tillandsia bulbosa</u>	Arima Valley	Mar. 1955	THGA
33	Sp. #5 - <u>Tillandsia</u>	El Tucuche, (Elev.2000')	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
34	Sp. #5 - <u>Tillandsia</u>	El Tucuche, (Elev.2000')	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
35	Sp. #6 - <u>Tillandsia</u>	Ortinola, Maracas Valley	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
36	Sp. #7	El Tucuche (Elev.3000')	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD
37	Sp. #8	El Tucuche (Elev.3000')	Mar.27/55	THGA & WGD